

Nandini

ISSUE 2

APRIL 2007

Voice For The Deprived

Dedicated to the cause of marginalised and downtrodden

VOL XII

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - Rs. 100/-

RS.10/-

**“Pump the poor
with liquor,
make them weaker
and incapacitate them
from revolting
against deprivation.”**

Swami Vivekananda speaks

SRI RAMAKRISHNA PARAMAHAMSA

Each nation has its own peculiar method of work. Some work through politics, some through social reforms, some through other lines. In India, religion is the only ground along which people can move.

The Englishman can understand religion even through politics. Perhaps, the American can understand religion even through social reforms. But the Hindu can understand even politics only when it is given through religion; sociology must come through religion, everything must come through religion. For that is the theme and the rest are the variations in the national life. And that is in danger.

It seemed that we were going to change this theme in our national life, that we were going to exchange the backbone of our existence, as it were, that we were trying to replace a spiritual by a political backbone. And if we could have succeeded, the result would have been annihilation. But it was not to be. So this power became manifest.

The highest ideal of our scriptures is the Impersonal and ideally everyone of us here should be high enough to realise that Impersonal ideal; But, as that cannot be, it is absolutely necessary for the vast majority of human beings to have a Personal ideal; and no nation can rise, can become great, can work at all, without enthusiastically coming under the banner of one of these great ideals in life.

Political ideals, personages representing political ideals, even social ideals, commercial ideals, would have no power in India. We want spiritual ideals before us. We want enthusiastically to gather around great spiritual names. Our heroes must be spiritual. Such a hero has been given to us in the person of Ramakrishna Paramahansa. If this nation wants to rise, take my word for it, it will have to rally enthusiastically around this name.

It does not matter who preaches Ramakrishna Paramahansa, whether I, or you or anybody else. But, Him I place before you and it is for you to judge and for the good of our race, for the good of our nation, to judge now, what you shall do with this great ideal of life.

One thing we are to remember, that it was the purest of all lives that you have ever seen or let me tell you distinctly, that you have ever read of. And before you is the fact that it is the most marvellous manifestation of soul-power that you can read of, much less expect to see.

Within ten years of his passing away, this power has encircled the globe; that fact is before you for the good of

our race, for the good of our religion. I place this great spiritual ideal before you.

Judge him not through me. I am only a weak instrument. Let not his character be judged by seeing me. It was so great that even if I, or any other of his disciples, spent hundreds of lives, we could not do justice to a millionth part of what he really was. Judge for yourselves; In the heart of your hearts may He, the same Ramakrishna Paramahansa, for the good of our nation, for the welfare of our country and for the good of humanity, open your hearts, make you true and steady to work for the immense change which must come, whether we exert ourselves or not.

For the work of the Lord does not wait for the like of you or me. He can raise His workers from the dust by hundreds and by thousands. It is a glory and a privilege that we are allowed to work at all under Him.

CONQUER THE WORLD

We have to conquer the world. That we have to! India must conquer the world and nothing less than that is my ideal.

It may be very big, it may astonish many of you, but it is so. We must conquer the world or die. There is no other alternative. The sign of life is expansion; we must go out, expand, show life, or degrade, fester and die. There is no other alternative. Take either of these, either live or die.

Now, we all know about the petty jealousies and quarrels that we have in our country. Take my word, it is the same everywhere. The other nations with their political lives have foreign policies. When they find too much quarrelling at home, they look for somebody abroad to quarrel with and the quarrel at home stops.

We have these quarrels, without any foreign policy to stop them. This must be our eternal foreign policy, preaching the truths of our Shastras to the nations of the world. I ask you who are politically minded, do you require any other proof that this will unite us as a race? This very assembly is a sufficient witness.

Desperate Calls

*You can enjoy your prosperity
only if you share your income with the Deprived
and thus discover the satisfaction that it provides*

Disabled lady needs job

Ms.V.Vasantha, age 27 years, is a disabled lady and she has studied upto 12th std. She has completed training course at Government Industrial Training Institute (W), Cuddalore for draughtsman (Civil) and underwent the Diploma in Co-operation course in Dr.M.G.R. Institute of Co-operative Management at Cuddalore. She has also undergone training in computer operation.



Ms.Vasantha requests for a suitable job.

Contact address:

Ms.V.Vasantha, D/o.Sri.L.Venkatesan,
Devianandal, Eswarakandanallur (Post)
Ulundoorpet (Tk) Villupuram -607 204. Tamil Nadu

Disabled person needs support for self employment

Sri.Bchaiyappan is a married disabled man and he has two children. He lost his legs in an accident

Sri Bchaiyappan requests kind hearted persons for financial help for starting a business.

Contact address:

Sri.Bchaiyappan, S/o.Sri.Balasundaram,
Poondi, Vemp(PO), Villupuram, Tamil Nadu

Visually impaired person needs job

Sri.K.Murugan age 29 years, is a married visually impaired person and he has studied upto 10th std. He has one girl child.

Sri.K.Murugan requests for a job.

Sri.K.Murugan,
S/o.Sri.G.Kaliya Perumal

No.160, K.V.K.Kuppam, Ernavour, Chennai-600 057

Poor girl student needs support for education

Ms.R.Sinduja is studying 1st year Bachelor of Commerce (Computer Application in Trinity College for Women, Namakkal).

Ms.Sinduja requests financial help for the payment of college fees.

The cheque may be drawn in favour of Trinity College for Women, Namakkal and sent to the following address:

Ms.R.Sinduja
D/o.Sri.Rajaraman,
55/69, Anna Street, Yerumapatti (Post),
Namakkal, Tamil Nadu.

Poor lady needs old Computer System

Ms.P. Ramya hails from a poor family and she has studied upto 12th std. She knows computer operations.

Ms.Ramya requests for donation of used computer for her self employment.

Ms.P.Ramya
D/o Sri.M.Pichaikuppan (Late),
Poondi, Vempi (Post),
Villupuram, Tamil Nadu

Poor disabled person needs envelop making machine

Sri.K.Velmurugan is a poor disabled person. He is making envelopes manually himself and selling the envelopes for his sustenance.

Sri.Velmurugan requests for donation of envelope making machine to meet his envelope orders.

Contact Address

Sri.K.Velmurugan,
S/o.Sri.Kubendran,
Gingee Main Road,

Poondi (Village), Vempi (Post), Villupuram, Tamil Nadu

Poor lady needs Sewing Machine

Ms.S.Muthulakshmi is a poor lady and she is doing tailoring work in a small shop .

Ms.Muthulakshmi requests for donation of sewing machine for starting a tailoring shop.

Contact address:

Ms.S.Muthulakshmi, D/o.Sri.Samikannu,
Pillaiyar Koil Street, Ulagalampoondi (Village),
Kotiyampoondi (Post), Villupuram, Tamil Nadu

Poor lady requests for sewing machine

Ms.C.Gomathi is a poor disabled lady and she has studied upto 7th std. She has undergone 6 months tailoring course.

Ms.Gomathi requests for donation of sewing machine for her self employment.

Ms.C.Gomathi,
D/o.Sri.A.Chinakalai, 15/2C,
Nallampatti,
Adiyanuthu Village, East Street,
Dindugal-3, Tamil Nadu



Poor man needs help for medical treatment

Sri.Sashikant Desale is suffering from vertigo, acute head pain and unable to see the light or any shining objects from the year 2006 onwards.

Now he is suffering from ankle swelling and pain in his ankle and surrounding areas in his left leg and it is found that there is pus deposition and it may be bone kochis.

Estimated cost of the medical treatment is Rs.20,000/-

Mrs.Anusaya Sashikant Desale is a house wife and at present she is working as servant maid in some houses and running the family

Mrs.Anusaya Sashikant Desale requests for financial help for her husband's treatment.

Contact address:

Mrs.Anusaya Sashikant Desale,
Nandivali Road, Bhopar Gao, Near Vittal Mandir,
Dombivli (East) 421 201, Post nilje,
Tal Kalyan,Dist.Thane,Maharashtra

Disabled person needs tri cycle

Sri.M.Subramani lost his both legs due to polio attack. He is doing artificial diamond cutting and polishing work.

Sri.M.Subramani requests for donation of tri-cycle for carrying out his self employment activity

Contact address:

Sri.M.Subramani, S/o.Sri.Muniappan,
Vee. Poosaripatti(Post), Manchampatti (Via),
Manaparai, Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

Disabled person needs job

Sri G.Jones Das is a disabled man and he has studied upto 12th std.

Sri G.Jones Das requests for a job.

Contact address;

Sri G.Jones Das, S/o.Sri.George,
Serathanoor (Village), Middle Street,
Madapattu (Post), Ulundoorpet (Tk),
Villupuram District, Pin:607 207, Tamil Nadu

Disabled lady needs sewing machine

Mrs.G.R.Kavitha is a poor disabled lady and she has studied upto 12th std.She has undergone tailoring course.

Mrs.Kavitha requests for donation of sewing machine to become self employed.

Contact address:

Mrs.G.R.Kavitha,
W/o.Sri.Jeya Mohan, 226,
Indira Colony, Aalamarathupatti (PO),
Dindigul, Tamil Nadu.



Disabled lady needs support and encouragement

Ms.T. Sangeetha (age 24 years) suffered from polio attack when she was 8 months old baby.She is now severely disabled and cannot walk and can move only in sitting posture. She uses wheel chair and tri cycle. She has passed B.Com and Diploma in Computer Application. She has good typing knowledge in English and Tamil, apart from knowledge in basic computer operation



Her parents secured a computer system for her self employment in view of her physical disability. She needs support by way of some assignment that she can execute from her home using her computer.She needs support and guidance.

Contact address:

Ms.T.Sangeetha, No.12/21, Charles Nagar, 3rd Street,
Tiruvottiyur, Chennai-600 019

Visually impaired woman needs help

Ms.Meenakshi Sundari age 40, is a visually impaired woman and a post graduate. She is running a PCO and the income is steadily falling due to competitive conditions. She speaks excellent English and needs suitable job.

For details please contact Editor, Nandini Voice for the Deprived.

Poor boy needs self-employment support

Sri S. Senthilkumar age 26, has studied upto 8th standard. He suffers from intestinal complications and has been operated several times. He is not in a position to do any heavy work. He wants to set up a petty shop and needs financial support.

Contact address

Sri S. Senthilkumar,
No 711, 21st street,
B.V. Colony, Vyasarpadi,
Chennai-600 039.



Disabled person needs wheel chair

Sri. T. Nagarajan is a severely disabled person and he has self employed himself by selling the products made by disabled persons, sitting on platform in Adyar in Chennai. He needs wheel chair.

For more details, please contact:

The Editor,
Nandini Voice For The Deprived

Readers' forum

Readers' forum provides space for the enlightened readers to give expression to their views on a variety of socio economic issues that is of relevance to the society.

Further enrichment of the journal with your thoughtful inputs would certainly go a long way in promoting the cause that the journal seeks to espouse.



Unthinkable heights of horse trading

Dear Sir,

A former Governor of Madras once said in a speech that he would give a firm promise that he would never take bribes but could not assure that he would not give bribes because the evil act cannot be avoided if one wants to accomplish things. How many present day administrators are prepared to give at least such an assurance?

A former minister of Madras in a speech said that any MP could become a prime minister if he could spare 3 crores of rupees meaning that by bribing MPs with one lakh each he can be assured of a majority backing. Of course, it was 4 decades ago. Now perhaps Rs.300 crores are required to do the trick. Horse trading has reached unthinkable heights these days!

A former senior minister of Madras when charged in a corruption case dismissed it with scant regard saying that it cannot be proved easily and if declared guilty by a lower court, he would appeal to the high court and if the verdict would be confirmed there also, he would approach the apex court and by the time all the trials would be over and the final verdict would be given, at least 10 to 15 years would have elapsed before which he would have expired. His prophesy came true!

Corruption and delayed justice have taken firm roots in the country.

Chennai

M.R.Pillai

Terrorist methods in Sri Lanka

Dear Sir,

LTTE is an internationally banned terrorist organisation. India too banned it. It is unfortunate that in Tamil Nadu, some state politicians are having attraction towards the LTTE on the plea of helping the Tamil speaking people of Sri Lanka.

It is a cruel fact that the LTTE was responsible for the assassination of former premier Shri Rajiv Gandhi; which did not make any impact among such supporting political parties here

The violent programme of LTTE will never solve the problem of the Tamil people in Sri Lanka.

Chennai

D.Vedamuthu

Give good quality rice to the poor instead of TVs

Dear Sir,

Rs.2 per kg ration rice is now the vote catching subject of the ruling politicians in Tamil Nadu, who have never tested or tasted the ration rate.

I am an admirer of this rice which offers economic relief to people below poverty line. But the hurdle in handling the rice is in separating the impurities soaked in the supply. Instead of giving free televisions and gas stoves, the poor persons will be greatly helped, if good quality rice would be provided in the ration shops.

Chennai

K.N.Narayana Pillai

Sri Thinnai Swami - Can there be a 'thinnai mami'?

Dear Sir,

Please refer the article on Sri Thinnai Swami in the March issue.

Without a whisper of sacrilege, I wonder whether there could be or could have been 'Thinnai Mami' who could have taken to spirituality after a stretch of family life and non-challantly told her husband who came to sustain her, that he can now go and take care of the children!

Chennai

N.Dharmeshwaran

Media in bad light

Dear Sir,

All right thinking citizens will agree with the views expressed in the article Shame on Indian Media (Nandini March 2007 issue).

Justifiable charges were leveled against Indian media for giving out of proportion coverage to actor Sanjay Dutt's trials while giving minimal news about the valiant fighter Major Pitambara who killed terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir and in the process laid down his life as a martyr. Surely the standard of reporting in Indian media is very poor.

Here in Tamil Nadu, both the print and electronic media do great disservice to the public by their distorted news very often.

They also lower the tastes of public especially the youth by telecasting vulgar dance numbers of films. The print media is keen on sensationalising frivolous cases,

publish semi nude photos of voluptuous poses of actresses in plenty to improve their circulation.

Whenever any news concerning top political leaders or advertisements about their participation in government functions are published, their photos occupy half the page not to speak of their titles .What a colossal waste of public money.

Simplicity, truth, honesty and ethics have no place in the media regime.

Chennai

M.R.Pillai

My experience on 10th december 2006

Dear Sir,

I am a disabled person. I can not express my delightful and unforgettable experience in a few words as I visited the Exhibition cum Sale of Products Made by Disabled Persons conducted by Nandini Voice For The Deprived on 10th December 2006 at Vijayaraja Thirumana Mandapam, Chennai-20.

Many disabled persons from different parts of Tamil Nadu participated in the exhibition cheerfully with their own self made products.

Many people visited the exhibition and purchased the products made by the disabled persons and appreciated their ability and encouraged their efforts. One Inspector General of Police and one actor turned MLA also visited the exhibition and encouraged the disabled persons.

Nandini Voice For The Deprived is also running Seven free Computer Schools in Tamil Nadu for the upliftment of boys and girls from lower income group. I also had the opportunity to study in one of the Nandini Computer Schools in Chennai.

I request everyone to kindly consider the disabled persons also as human beings with feelings and aspirations and extend helping hand for their future.

Chennai

S.Kumaran

Disgusting photograph in the press

Dear Sir,

Recently, there was a photograph in the press of M.K.Stalin, the Tamil Nadu Minister being garlanded with currency notes, as part of his birth day celebrations.

This obviously shows as to how insensitive and self centred are the politicians and more so those in ministerial positions.

With large section of countrymen reeling under poverty, poor health conditions and insecured living style, it is tragic that we have minister who enjoys being garlanded with currency notes. Obviously, the minister has permitted and even encouraged his sycophants to indulge in such practices.

Compare the politicians of these days who control the nation's destiny with stalwarts like Kamaraj and Rajaji who lived in this state.

Name withheld on request

Reservation within reservation

Dear Sir,

I am a visually impaired lady with post graduate qualification. I am unable to get any government job for the last several years, possibly due to the fact that I belong to the so called forward community.

Is it correct to differentiate between the so called backward and forward community, while providing employment in reserved quota even for visually impaired people? Who can be a forward and backward when the person is visually impaired?

Chennai

A. Meenakshi sundari

IS LIFE OF THE DOG LESS IMPORTANT THAN THAT OF HUMAN?

In Bangalore, a few children were bitten by street dogs and the children died. As a result of the public uproar over the unfortunate incident, the Government of Karnataka has taken steps to catch all the street dogs in Bangalore city. It is reported that the government is extending an incentive of Rs.50/- for each dog caught by the public.

The animal activists who are concerned about the fair treatment to the animals are protesting that inhuman treatment are being extended to the street dogs.

All the street dogs do not bite the children. Only a handful of them do. Is it fair to catch everyone of the dogs, whether they bite or not? It is not clear what the Government would do with the dogs? Will they be mercilessly killed and slaughtered or left in some distant places?.

When one or two dogs bite the children,all the dogs are chased and caught. Human beings also kill fellow human beings. For the sake of a few human beings who kill others, do we condemn the entire humanity?

God created dogs and human beings. In what way the life of the dog is less important than that of the human?.



IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION FOR GOVERNANCE

No ethic can hang on itself. It must hang on a faith, a theory about the Universe.

However exhaustive the physical explanation of the phenomena of the Universe may be, there is still the residual question of the origin of it all. We seek causes at every step in the physical sciences. We refuse to rest until we find them. How can we suddenly stop that urge when we reach the stage beyond which we cannot travel?

This residual question is not answered by the discovery of unqualified and unchangeable order in the Universe. It must remain unanswered. It is the basis of the humility called religion.

Man cannot, he will not, give up religion as long as we all agree that self control is essential for happiness — one's own true happiness as well as the welfare of others around us.

Therefore, we come to the conclusion that government must support religion. They need not and should not support a particular religion but should support all religions that are not wedded to immorality. The Upanishads saw this and laid it down. The Gita did the same. Ashoka did it in his edicts.

Governments cannot afford to be 'secular'. Their impartiality and refusal to support particular religions need not have been given this wrong name. 'Secular' does not express the position of positive support to all religions alike. It is out of faith that spiritual values flow and faith, if it is broadly identical among a large mass of people, is religion.

In the days of infant science, religions included many branches of material knowledge also. The Veda of the Hindus was an encyclopaedia of knowledge in all departments. Specialisation took place gradually and the growing knowledge of the world of matter was finally extricated from religion. This led to religion being gradually freed from the incubus of departments of knowledge subject to development and change and from the consequential contradictions, that for a long time discredited and puzzled piety.

Today, these sources of contradictions must be wholly removed from the field of religion. It is not good for religion to have its own astronomy or physics or medicine, while the sciences of astronomy, physics and medicine are making rapid strides forward giving up old theories and adopting new ones. Religion must confine itself to its own proper field thereby giving no room for contradictions with science. Science would then not come into conflict with religion which belongs to a region outside science altogether.

The use of which science is to be put is not a matter of science but a question of right conduct which must fall within the bounds of ethics and therefore of religion.

The nature of bacteriological or nuclear poison is a matter of science. But the use of it in war would be an ethical or religious question. All the means and strategies employed in war are science but the limits to which means and strategies could go and the manner in which wars may be conducted, are matters of conduct falling within the field of morality and religion. The oft-mentioned conflicts between religion and politics, religion and science are all products of confusion in this respect, pure fallacies.

There can be in the matter of conduct no two standards, one to be actually followed in politics or commerce and another to be regarded as religious ideals without being followed in worldly transaction. All conduct must accept and follow the restraints enjoined in religion, be it the Gita or the Bible or any other scripture. The ethical restraints of human conduct cannot be treated as something different from worldly affairs, to be kept apart from human conduct itself.

It is futile to imagine that the affairs of a people do not fall within the jurisdiction of the codes of religion regarding human conduct. Nations are individuals living together and combining their individual efforts. Their rights and duties are not of a class different from the rights and duties of individuals. It would be merely a trick of evasion to make such a distinction.

The human conduct such as is sought to be controlled by the codes of various religions is not merely the personal conduct of some (a small or large member of) individuals but the conduct of every individual and therefore of them all combined. The whole cannot escape from the restraints placed on the component parts. Nations cannot, therefore, claim to be free from the ethical principles that are good for the component individuals. India has a mission in this respect. May the guidance she gets be in furtherance of this mission.

SRI MURUGANAR

POET & DEVOTEE OF RAMANA MAHARISHI

Courtesy: Mountain Path, October-December 2006

Muruganar was a poet and great devotee of Bhagavan Ramana maharishi. He spent large part of his life at Ashram in Tiruvannamalai and enjoyed the love and affection of Bagavan Ramana Maharishi.

There are such personalities with great wisdom and understanding of life content who lived in this country and who lives even today.

But, the country recognizes only those who are media savvy and maintain excellent public relation qualities.

The story of Muruganar should be read with interest, particularly by youth.

Muruganar regularly visited Ramanasramam between 1923 and 1926. On these occasions, he sometimes found it impossible to leave Ramana's presence and though he got as far as the railway station, he walked up and down the platform of the railway station until his train had left. Then he walked back to the ashram and with a childlike expression on his face explained that he was not able to board the train. Because this occurred regularly, Ramana Maharishi would send an attendant along at the time of departure in order to watch Muruganar get into the train.



After his mother passed away in 1926, Muruganar gave up his work as Tamil teacher and settled down in Thiruvannamalai. He lived the rest of his life at the feet of holy Arunachala as a sadhu.

Sri Bhagavan once said: "He alone truly knows me, who knows me as I know myself."

After being blessed by the glance of Sri Ramana Maharishi, Muruganar surrendered himself completely to Him and the eternal peace of abiding the Self stayed with him for ever.

His humility was noticed particularly from his accepting whatever name by which he was addressed — Muruganar for example or by some as simply Swami or Sir and it made no difference to him.

Muruganar said that the greatest prayer he can do to Sri Bhagavan is simply to repeat his name 'Om Sri Bhagavan'. He said that it was simple and straight and that this would take root in the Heart and the mind would be less driven by unwanted thoughts. Self-enquiry becomes easier with the study of Sri Bhagavan's teachings on the nature of Self-enquiry.

Muruganar never liked people praising him. If a visitor indulged in that beyond a few words, he would withdraw politely from him and take a walk around Sri Bhagavan's shrine or the Ashram itself. So great and true was his self

effacement in this regard. At the same time, he could be found to be a man enjoying humour and the sound of his characteristic hearty laugh could be heard from far away when someone had narrated a humorous event or story. Sometimes, people not even knowing Tamil, also joined in the laugh as his laugh was so childlike and infectious!

He said "Have no fear or doubt; Sri Bhagavan who has called you to him, will always be with you. He would never abandon you to your old traits. Slowly and steadily, without fail, he would reveal himself as the Truth within you. All you need is to be patiently doing the sadhana with the best of your ability, without judging or evaluating the programme but with deep love and faith in Sri Bhagavan. In due course all will be well."

Muruganar in whom was to be found all the best of the qualities as an exemplary Sri Bhagavan devotee, was no doubt much appreciated and loved by Sri Bhagavan and he showered his benevolent grace consistently upon Muruganar who had surrendered fully to Sri Bhagavan.

Sri Muruganar composed most of Sri Ramana Sannidhi Murai, a work that praises Bhagavan in a series of long poems, written in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

'Upadesa Tiruvahaval', the eight poem of this sequence is a single continuous verse of just under 200 lines in which Muruganar includes both the story of how he came to Bhagavan and many key teachings that Bhagavan gave him. 'Ahaval' is the Tamil metrical form in which the poem was written, so the title can be translated as 'The Holy Ahaval of Teachings'.

In his poem he asks, "Why are you worried and doubting your ability to pursue the sadhana? With unshakable faith in Sri Bhagavan, just fully give yourself and all will be well for you forever!"

It means, gather together all your efforts and then give yourself to Him!

DUTY EXEMPTION FOR JUSTICE KRISHNA IYER'S LAND DEAL !

In a rare and generous gesture, the Kerala Government has decided to waive the entire stamp duty for the re-registration of the property in the heart of Ernakulam city owned by retired justice V R Krishna Iyer.

The re-registration became necessary after Krishna Iyer decided to take back about 15 cents of land including the building 'Satgamaya', which he had earlier donated to the Sarada Math, Dakshineswar, Kolkata.

An order dated December 22, 2006 issued by the Taxes (E) Department (No.2017, GO(P) No.132/2006/TD), states that the government will remit the stamp duty for the lease deed in respect of 6.75 areas of land owned by Justice V R Krishna Iyer in Kanayannur Taluk.

The approximate market value of the property would be Rs.3 crore and by waiving the duty, Iyer will get a benefit of around Rs.40 lakh, provided the true market value is documented.

The deed signed between Krishna Iyer and Sarada Math in 1999 entrusts the Math as the sole authority of the property owned by Krishna Iyer after his death. The Math's plan was to construct a working women's hostel in the donated land.

But for some reason, the Math had decided to hand over the building and property back to Krishna Iyer in early 2006. Justice Krishna Iyer sent a request to the government for a waiver of stamp duty.

Though the previous Kerala government led by Oommen Chandy did not take a decision, the V S Achuthanandan government had decided in favour of the request after weighing the pros and cons of the issue.

It is said that there had been tremendous pressure on the Taxes Department to issue an order in favour of Krishna Iyer.

Stamp duty waivers are usually given only for charitable organisations.

One would be surprised to learn that the Government of Kerala has thought it fit to waive the entire stamp duty for the re-registration of the property in the heart of Ernakulam city owned by retired Justice V.R.Krishna Iyer.

One wonders as to what is the basis for Government of Kerala to extend this benefit to Justice V R Krishna Iyer and as to how this judge has thought it proper to accept this benefit from the Government of Kerala.

This is a totally wrong precedent and person like Justice Krishna Iyer should know better and should not have asked for or accepted such a benefit.

Law and regulation are the same for every citizen.

The problem of intellectuals in this country is that they are not honest and scrupulous when it concerns their own personal interests.

Justice Krishna Iyer shows that even judges are not exception to this unfortunate situation.

SHOW ROOM FOR THE PRODUCTS MADE BY DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS

Nandini Voice For The Deprived, a voluntary organization based in Chennai, has set up "JAYAM", a show room for the products made by differently abled persons.

The products displayed in the show room include wooden show pieces, batik paintings, acrylic paintings, plastic wire baskets, Tanjore paintings, telephone mats, soft dolls etc. The above products have been made by persons who are orthopaedically disabled, hearing/speech impaired and mentally ill. They belong to lower income group.

The objective of setting up this show room is to exhibit the products made by differently abled persons and give an opportunity to the members of the society to see such products, appreciate the efforts of the differently abled persons, buy the products and provide support and encouragement to them.

The show room is looked after by Sri. S.Kumaran, who is a graduate and is a severely differently abled person himself.

This show room will go a long way in providing a marketing outlet for the products made by differently abled persons and motivate more number of differently abled persons to acquire skill and involve themselves in self employment activity.

The photographs of some of the products and of the disabled persons who have made the products can be seen in www.nandinivoice.org

Kindly visit the show room, buy the products made by differently abled persons and support the cause. The products can also be despatched to other places in India and abroad.

The show room functions at following address

JAYAM

Sale Centre for Products of Differently Abled
No.209,9th Street,
TNHB Colony,
Korattur, Chennai - 80.
Cell No.9444805180

PROMOTION OF LIQUOR SALE BY THE GOVERNMENT

It is reported that Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation Ltd (TASMAC) had a turnover of Rs.7,401 crore for the ten month period in 2006-07 (ended January) as against Rs.7.315 crore for 2005-06. This record sales contributed much to the revenue of Prohibition and Excise Wing that stood at Rs.5,599 crore for 10-month till January, a whopping jump from Rs.4,922 crore for the whole of 2005-06.

With nod from the government to tap fully the unutilised capacity, the IMFS (Indian Made Foreign Spirit) units produced 3.95 lakh cases up to August 2006 yielding an additional revenue of Rs.37.49 crore.

While the government is earning enormous money by way of liquor sale, it is not concerned that the peace and harmony in the families, particularly in the lower income group, are being seriously disturbed and the women are subjected to suffering and harassment, apart from several youth in the formative age group becoming liquor addicts.

It is unfortunate that taking of liquor now has been socially accepted due to the "helpful policy" of the government and the fact that the government has provided sanction of the law for liquor consumption without limits. By this process, the excellent work carried out by the great national leaders of the past, who advocated the concept of prohibition and brought up a generation of citizens not fallen to the habit of drinking, have been wiped out.

The only beneficiary of the rapidly increasing sale of liquor is the Government of Tamil Nadu. For this ill gotten income earned in unethical and improper way, any government should feel ashamed. What sort of welfare state are we building with the government earning revenue at the cost of welfare of the people.

Government says that it is using part of the liquor income for providing televisions, cycles and gas stoves to the poor people. It is really trying to win popularity amongst them and later on votes during the election.

This practice of providing freebies such as television sets to the poor people using the liquor money got from the deprived people will be judged by the historians in the long run, as the worst form of anachronistic and ill conceived policy measure of any welfare government in the world.

There are two benefits that the government gets by its liquor policy. Firstly, it gets huge income. Secondly it buys peace with poor persons, though the poor citizens continue to face extreme distress conditions.

Normally, suffering poor persons are expected to revolt and protest in the face of distress conditions. But most of them have now taken to liquor in a big way and therefore, are losing their strength and stamina to live and fight. This is the most disturbing and unfortunate aspect of Tamil Nadu Government's liquor policy.

Enforce Prohibition

Contributed by 'Garland' N. Rajagopalan, I A S (Retd)

PMK founder leader S. Ramadoss has done immense and laudable service to the society in exposing the double-faced, demeaning, destructive conduct of the Tamil Nadu Government legally wedded to the lawful enforcement of Prohibition but in spirit and practice acting entirely to the contrary. He has cited the statement of the Chief Minister that 'the revenue from liquor had increased substantially and would double in the next five years'. As stated by the PMK leader, "It is not something to be proud of, as claimed". It is the lives of poor people and their families that are ruined.

It is widely believed that the enforcement of Prohibition is lax, regrettably lax and positively poor. The Government machinery could act and act with effectively provided there is the unseen **Political Will**, which is *sin quo non*.

What is the use of stoves and television when human bodies stand shattered? Of course, the government may not be concerned if the society commits *hara - kiri*. It shall go on its own terms as one sees.

It is clear that the Government of the day has no belief in the effective enforcement of Prohibition.

THE RAVE PARTY IN PUNE AND WHAT DOES IT INDICATE?

287 young people including students, air hostesses and call centre employees assembled together to enjoy rave party in Pune. The police raided the premises and arrested the young men and women since they were using marijuana and other form of drugs.

The police deserve appreciation for their initiatives, though section of the press have criticised the police for what it calls as "moral policing".

Section of the media and the press called the raid by the police on rave party in Pune as "culture war between generation".

One need not be surprised by the reaction of section of the press and television media, since they are promoted and controlled by the business interests and managed by the persons who view journalism as mere business oriented profession to multiply money and income. Journalism is no more viewed by these promoters as society building activity and therefore any effective step to curtail permissive life style would be considered to be against their business interests.

One newspaper while defending the youth who indulged in rave party in Pune went to the extent of stating that one would hardly think of better poster boy for Valentine's Day than Lord Krishna.

Youth constitute the largest section of the national population today. Future of this country lies in the hands of the youth and therefore their behaviour and their level of commitment to the ethical and moral values are vitally important. If media thinks that there is nothing wrong in

everyone blindly copying the methods of the youth of the western countries, then the country can as well do without such "progress".

While the view of section of the media can be rejected and ignored with the contempt that it deserves, one has to carefully examine as to what is the reason for section of the youth in the country involving themselves in such permissive life style and taking to drugs in a big way. The obvious reason is that they lack role models.

In the formative stage of their life in schools and colleges, children and youth suffer due to the visible fall in the quality of the teachers and managements. Now a days, too frequently, we come across tragic events like teacher molesting the girl students etc even at school levels.

The responsible citizens of the country should see the writing on the wall and put forth special attention to build the character among youth. There are disciplined and brilliant boys and girls in the country who understand the wisdom and the need for good conduct. But, even a small section of the mis directed youth can cause havoc.

NEHRU'S APOLOGY TO QUEEN

Dignity in public life and acceptance of mistakes was the great attributes of political leaders in the Gandhian era. Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru had no hesitation in apologising to Queen Elizabeth for a mistake.

In present times, politics has become a subject of exploitation and hatred. In such conditions, it would be refreshing to read about the conduct of the erstwhile leaders of the country.

Prime Minister Nehru on March 6 1957 offered his apologies to Queen Elizabeth of Britain for a "wholly intemperate" editorial note, which appeared in the fortnightly Economic Review, published by the All-India Congress Committee.

The note, strongly criticising the visit of the Queen to Portugal, had described it as "birds of the same feather flocking together on the eve of (their) doom."

Mr. Nehru, in a statement, said "My attention has been drawn to a note in the Economic Review on Queen Elizabeth's visit to Portugal. I was greatly disturbed to read this note. On enquiry, I found that the Editor, Mr. Shriman Narayan, had been away from Delhi and this number was issued in his absence and without his knowledge. I deeply regret the publication of this note, which is wholly intemperate and in very bad taste. I am particularly disturbed that the Queen's name should have been brought into this and I should like to offer my apologies to her."

HANG CORRUPT PERSONS IN PUBLIC: SAYS SC JUDGE BUT, THIS SHOULD BE APPLICABLE TO JUDGES ALSO

Observing that everyone wants to loot this country, the Supreme Court has said that the only way to rid the country of corrupt elements was to hang a few of them on lamp posts.

"The only way to rid the country of corruption is to hang a few of them on a lamp post. Unfortunately the law does not permit us to do that," a Bench of Justices S B Sinha and Markandeya Katju remarked during arguments put forth by counsel for an accused.

As counsel R Singh tried to make some submission Justice Katju further said, "Everywhere we have corruption, Everybody wants to loot this country. The only solution to this menace is to hang some people in public as a deterrent to others."

The Bench's scathing observations came during the hearing of bail application moved by one Braj Bhushan Prasad, an employee of the Bihar Government dismissed for his alleged involvement in the Rs.1000 crore fodder scam in which Railway Minister Lalu Prasad's name also figured prominently.

The counsel's submission that Bhushan was a mere budget accounts officer further infuriated the Bench which went on to observe, "Look at that! You are supposed to audit the funds, but see what have been done."

Bhushan was sentenced to five year's imprisonment by a special court in Jharkhand in connection with the fodder scam.



The Bench also rejected the counsel's plea for a direction to the Jharkhand High Court to dispose of the criminal appeal filed by Bhushan against his conviction.

While the above observations of the supreme court judges should satisfy many persons in India concerned about the high level of corruption in public life, one cannot miss the fact that number of judges themselves have been accused for dishonest and corrupt practices in recent time. The conduct of several judges are disturbing. The recent incident of two judges who quarrelled in Gujarat show the level of deterioration in judiciary.

Nandini Voice For The Deprived published an article in the last issue "The Guidelines for Judges - Lack of It", stressing the need for guidelines for the judges.

The judges should certainly punish the criminals severely and at the same time ensure that the judiciary practices in the country are maintained at high level.

JUDGE ARRESTED IN GUJARAT



Sessions court judge Nishit Thakker was arrested at night on the charge of forcing his wife to commit suicide for dowry in Rajkot in Gujarat.

The police said a case against the judge and his family members had been filed on a complaint from his mother-in-law. She claimed that her daughter, Archana, was mentally and physically tortured by her in-laws for dowry.

Archana allegedly set herself ablaze on January 1 and died in hospital. Following the complaint, Mr. Thakker's father, aunt and three sisters who were also made party in the alleged torture secured anticipatory bail from the Gujarat High Court.

The judge was arrested after clearance from the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court.



ASPIRATION OF VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSON

Sri Chezhan (age 34 years) is a visually impaired person and he is a Post Graduate . He had normal vision in his childhood until he was studying in 11th std. He gradually lost his vision then and medical treatment could not save his eyes.

Person belonging to lower income group due to poverty condition and not having adequate medical treatment losing the health and vision is not uncommon in this country.

Chezhan is now undergoing a special education course for carrying out voluntary services in Centre for Social Initiative and Management (CSIM) in Alapakkam, Chennai.

In spite of being a visually impaired person and hailing from a deprived family, Chezhan is undergoing training in voluntary activity with the objective of helping and supporting the other disabled persons in the society, particularly the visually impaired persons. He has no resources but has high targets and hopes.

Chezhan says after completing this course, he would go to his village near Tiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu and start a school for providing free computer education to the poor boys and girls and also start tailoring school for them. Chezhan believes that this would provide self-employment avenues for the poor people and enable them to live with dignity.



Chezhan says that such self-employment avenues are now very important for the poor people and more so for the disabled people since jobs have become difficult for them to get. Though the reservation for jobs exist for disabled persons in banks and government services, in effect the vacancies are rarely filled on the pretext that suitable persons are not available.

Chezhan says that there is nothing wrong in the government policies and programmes but the quality of implementation of the government schemes are very inadequate and unsatisfactory. The lack of commitment to the cause on the part of the bureaucrats and government staff is the major issue. Chezhan is also highly critical of the banks and financial institutions, who seldom provide loan to the disabled people for self employment activities.

Persons like Chezhan needs support and encouragement from responsible society.

Contact address:

Sri.S.Chezhan, M.A., M.Phil

Mercy Social Trust

5/36, Kammalar Street,

Kadaladi, Porur Tk

Tiruvannamalai Dist 606908, Tamil Nadu.

Cell:9943163345

SPIRIT - A MOVEMENT FOR PROMOTING COMMUNITY DEMOCRACY

Contributed by K. N. Narayana Pillai

In Chennai, an innovative movement titled SPIRIT has been launched. It is rooted in Gandhiji's grass root democracy. Inputs to this national mission are solicited from every nook and corner of the country.

Community democracy is focussed on a social pyramid representing equal status for men and women from every home and every institution.

The objective of SPIRIT is that a representative from every home should participate in community service during leisure time and holidays. From village level upwards, volunteers and office bearers would be trained by experts in community service and social work. Talented persons in all spheres, in any field are encouraged to form community cells on different disciplines to initiate self reliance at all levels, providing hopes to dejected, deprived and marginalised people. Social forces would be the outcome.

A vital feature of SPIRIT is flexibility in tenure of office of the functionaries . After expiry of the tenure, the next batch of office bearers would take over administration without fuss or fury. Continuity of administration is thereby ensured. The next batch of office bearers would be elected well in advance. Most distinguishing aspect is that the elected representatives are trained.

Its watch words are to blow the wind of change, the wind of reform, the wind of progress and the wind of future.

Contact address:

Sri.Kalkulam Madhu, Secretary General, SPIRIT

C-6/2, Thiruvalluvar Nagar, Alandur, Chennai-600 016

Phone:044-22320942 Cell:9444943091

NATIONAL SHORTAGE OF EMPLOYABLE ENGINEERS

There is now said to be an army of technologists and engineers in the country, created due to the large number of engineering colleges that have been set up all over India during the last ten years. In Tamil Nadu alone, there are more than 220 engineering colleges with intake capacity of around 72,000 students. In Tamil Nadu, there are reported to be around 50,000 engineers who pass out every year. The number of engineers passing out from all the states all over India is a mind boggling figure.

Good percentage of engineers passing out of the colleges do not get suitable jobs and many of them take up jobs which has no relation to the engineering studies that they have undergone. A recent study carried out in Tamil Nadu indicate that around 20,000 engineers go without suitable jobs every year and take non engineering jobs or under employ themselves and many remain unemployed for several years.

While this is the scenario of unemployment amongst fresh engineers, many of the industries and engineering organisations complain that they face extreme difficulties in getting suitable engineers, who are adequately qualified and competent to take up positions, with requisite experience and knowledge. They say that even repeated advertisements in the press spending lakhs of rupees in the process could not get them suitable applicants. One wonders as to what is happening.

It appears that substantial number of cream of engineers with good academic performance simply go abroad for jobs and higher studies and return to the country only for vacations. Other reasonably well equipped engineers do get placement but they mostly go to software companies and BPO where they get fat salaries, though the jobs may not have any relation to the engineering education that they have undergone. They take up such jobs along with other persons who could be science graduates or even management or arts graduates in some cases. In a period of three to four years of being employed in such software and BPO companies, these engineers lose their touch with engineering subjects and may not anymore be suitable for jobs in engineering organisations. This is a serious loss of talent.

There are other less talented engineers available but they are fit only for routine functions such as sales, purchase or production.

The severe problem in getting suitable engineering candidates for job is really faced by organisations who are involved in functions such as consultancy, design and detailed engineering work, research and development activities, corporate planning, teaching etc, where the content of the job are challenging and requiring persons with good acumen and intelligence level.

Lured by the glamour of BPO and software jobs, good engineers surrender their advantages of engineering

knowledge for the sake of immediate financial gain and deny themselves and the industry the professional prospects.

The other unfortunate aspect is that the lure of money is so much that engineers hop from one job to another switching companies after a short stint. It is not uncommon to find engineers who have switched two or three jobs in a period of three to four years even in their twenties

In a recent discussion, a representative of a leading manpower consultancy organisation said that his organisation is often confronted by employers, for whom candidates have been recommended by this manpower consultancy and such candidates often leave even within four to five months to taking up jobs. All these conditions have created a sense of uncertainty for the industries and employers and represent an unhealthy and counter productive trend in the engineering manpower scenario in the country.

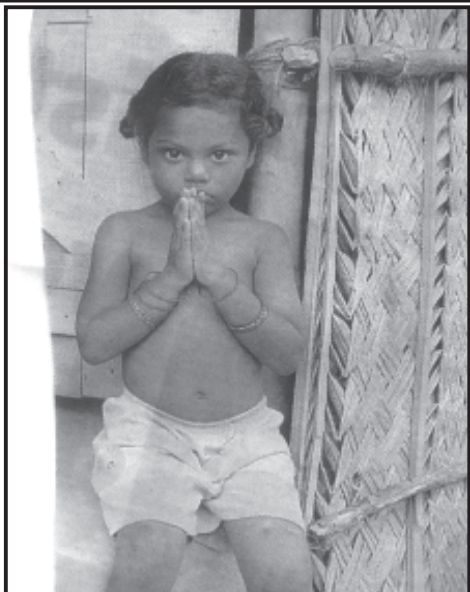
This problem can be solved, only if the engineering colleges would improve the quality of education that they provide and the examination system for awarding grades in the examination would be made more stringent, so that all the engineers passing out of colleges would be of employable standards in engineering organisations. While intake capacity for engineering education in the country is adequate, the output of number of engineers in terms of quality levels is far from desirable standards.

In today's complex situation of managing industries and projects, it would take several months for anyone to fully understand the complexities involved in the job functions and start performing at good standards. People leaving jobs just within two years should be considered as those who are not fit enough to be given responsible positions. The manpower consultants have a big role to play in bringing some sort of stability and sense in the employment market for the engineers.

Perhaps, as an immediate step to bring some stability in the employment market for engineers, the engineering organisations should discuss the problem between themselves and arrive at a consensus not to entertain applications from frequent job hoppers, who often do so without any rhythm or logic except for a few hundred rupees of more salary.

ADVERTISEMENT

Regd No. TN/CC(S)Dn/205/06-08 LICENCED TO POST WPP NO.TN/CC(S)Dn/123/06-08
REGD. WITH THE REGISTRAR OF NEWSPAPER FOR INDIA UNDER R.No.63900/96



**Distribute
the national wealth
and
give her good life**

PLEASE SUPPORT NANDINI VOICE FOR THE DEPRIVED

Nandini Voice For The Deprived, provides you a meaningful forum to help the cause of the deprived. Please subscribe for the journal and support the efforts.

Thanks
N.S. VENKATARAMAN
Chief Editor

Annual Subscription : Rs.100/- for twelve issues

Advertisement tariff :

Full Page	Half Page	Quarter Page
Rs.1500/-	Rs.1000/-	Rs.700/-

Discount 40% for twelve consecutive insertions
and 25% for six consecutive insertions

We look forward to your support and encouragement.

DD should be drawn in favour of :

NANDINI VOICE FOR THE DEPRIVED

and sent to: M60/1, IV Cross Street,
Besant Nagar, Chennai - 600 090.

Tel : 2496 1792 Fax.:(044) 2496 1346

E-mail : nandini@giasmd01.vsnl.net.in,

nsvenkat@md4.vsnl.net.in

Website : nandinivoice.org

Nandini Voice For The Deprived

If undelivered, please return to

PUBLISHERS

Nandini Institute of Chemical Industries

M-60/1, 4th Cross Street, Besant Nagar, Chennai - 600 090.

PERIODICALS

Edited and Published by N.S. Venkataraman on behalf of **Nandini Institute of Chemical Industries**, M60/1, IV Cross Street, Besant Nagar, Chennai - 600 090.
Phone : 24916037 and Printed by Mervena Printers, (Old 21/B), 18, T.M.M. Street, Thiruvanniyur, Chennai - 600 041. Editor : **N.S. Venkataraman**