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# MADRAS IN 1944

(OUTLINE OF THE ADMINISTRATION)

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1944



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# MADRAS IN 1944

## (OUTLINE OF THE ADMINISTRATION)

### CHAPTER I—GENERAL

#### The Executive

His Excellency Captain the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Oswald James Hope, G.C.I.E., M.C., continued to hold office as Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George throughout the period.

There was no change in the personnel of the Advisers to His Excellency the Governor except that—

**Mr. G. W. Priestley, C.I.E., I.C.S.**, was appointed Adviser to His Excellency the Governor during the absence on leave of **Sir Norman Strathie, K.C.I.E., I.C.S.**, from the 1st to the 31st July 1944 and of **Mr. T. Austin, C.I.E. (now Sir Thomas Austin, K.C.I.E.), I.C.S.**, from the 1st to the 31st August 1944 and continued to be Adviser consequent upon the deputation of **Mr. S. V. Ramamurty, C.I.E., I.C.S.**, to the Government of India and of **Sir Hugh Hood, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S.** to the Government of Bengal.

**Mr. E. M. Gawne, C.I.E. (now C.S.I.), I.C.S.**, was appointed Adviser to His Excellency the Governor from the 15th July 1944 to 31st August 1944 consequent upon the deputation of **Mr. S. V. Ramamurty, C.I.E., I.C.S.**, to the Government of India for appointment as Member of the Famine Enquiry Commission. **Mr. Gawne** was again appointed Adviser to His Excellency the Governor during the absence on leave of **Sir Hugh Hood, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S.**, on the 17th and 18th October 1944 and continued to be Adviser consequent upon the deputation of **Sir Hugh Hood** to the Government of Bengal for appointment on the Rowlands' Committee, up to the 11th December 1944 when **Mr. S. V. Ramamurty, C.I.E., I.C.S.**, resumed charge as Adviser to His Excellency the Governor.

On the 31st December 1944, the allocation of the business of Government among the Advisers to His Excellency the Governor was as follows :—

**Sir Norman Strathie, K.C.I.E., I.C.S.—**

Public Department.

Finance Department.

Revenue Department—Excise, Registration and Commercial Taxes.

Post-war Reconstruction (Co-ordination) Department.

**Mr. T. Austin, C.I.E. (now Sir Thomas Austin, K.C.I.E.), I.C.S.—**

Education and Public Health Department.

Legal Department.

Local Administration Department.

Public Works Department (excluding Irrigation; Industrial and Labour disputes; Labour and Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department; and Factories and Trade Unions).

**Mr. S. V. Ramamurty, C.I.E., I.C.S.—**

Development Department.

Public Works Department—Irrigation.

**Mr. G. W. Priestley, C.I.E., I.C.S.—**

Revenue Department (excluding Excise, Registration and Commercial Taxes).

Home Department.

Public Works Department—Industrial and Labour disputes; Labour and Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department; and Factories and Trade Unions.

NOTE.—'Irrigation' does not include 'Hydro-electricity'.

### The Legislature

There have been no meetings of the Legislative Chambers since 30th October 1939 when the Congress Ministry resigned and His Excellency the Governor assumed to himself all executive and legislative powers.

During the year six vacancies occurred in the **Legislative Assembly**, two by resignations and four by deaths of members.

In the **Legislative Council** one elected member died and another elected member vacated his seat on accepting an office of profit under the Crown.

All the vacancies remained unfilled.

### Legislation

Twenty-two Acts were made by His Excellency the Governor in exercise of the legislative powers assumed by the Proclamation issued under section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935.

**The Criminal Tribes (Madras Amendment) Act, 1943**, substitutes the expression 'notified tribe' for 'criminal tribe' in the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924. It enables the Government to issue a notification applying only certain provisions of the main Act to persons addicted to the commission of non-bailable offences, gives the District Magistrate discretion to hold in abeyance any direction requiring a registered member of a notified tribe to report himself at fixed intervals and also amends the main Act in certain other respects.

**The Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1943**, provides for the application of the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, to individual habitual offenders so that, where necessary, restrictions may be placed on the movements of such offenders or a duty laid on them to notify their residence, etc., as provided in the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924.

**The Madras Debt Conciliation (Second Amendment) Act, 1943**, authorises the Government to direct (a) that a Debt Conciliation Board should not receive fresh applications after a specified date and (b) that applications received after a specified date and not disposed of before the date referred to in (a), should not be proceeded with.

**The Madras Estates Land (Temporary Amendment) Act, 1944**, provides for the temporary assignment, subject to certain conditions, of ryoti land situated in an estate and not already in the possession of a ryot or tenant, for periods ranging from 3 to 5 years for the purpose of raising food crops during the present emergency.

**The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1944**, provides for the removal of difficulties experienced in the administration of district municipalities and local boards in cases where the Chairman or Vice-Chairman, or the President or Vice-President is not likely to exercise or discharge some or all of his powers and duties. In such cases the Act provides that the Collector of the district shall have power to appoint a member of the municipal council or local board, as the case may be, to exercise and discharge all the powers and duties of the office-holder concerned for a specified period.

**The Madras City Municipal and District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1944**, amends section 82 (2) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, with retrospective effect from the date of commencement of the Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1930, so as to make it clear that the deduction of 10 per cent made from the gross annual rent of lands and buildings, when assessing them to property tax, should be allowed only in respect of the building and not in respect of the site on which it stands or of adjacent lands occupied as an appurtenance thereto. A similar amendment is also made in section 100 (2) of the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, with retrospective effect from the date of commencement of the Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1936, as the language of the relevant portion of that section is identical with that of section 82 (2) of the District Municipalities Act.

**The Madras Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1944**, makes separate provision in the principal Act for the treatment and control of leprosy, where the disease has reached the stage when the bacilli can be demonstrated by recognized standard methods of examination. Local authorities are required to make arrangements for the free diagnosis and treatment of leprosy and for the prevention of infection.

Persons suffering from leprosy are prohibited from accepting employment in occupations which involve deleterious contact with persons who are not suffering from the disease. The Government have been given power to declare any area as a 'Special Area' for leprosy, and notify any area as a "Segregation Area".

**The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, 1944**, provides for (i) the abolition of Temple Committees, (ii) the appointment of Assistant Commissioners to discharge certain duties previously performed by Temple Committees, (iii) the raising of the contribution payable by all institutions to a maximum of 3 per cent of their annual income, and (iv) the grant of certain additional powers to the President of the Board to improve its working.

**The Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1944**, amends section 80 (1) of the main Act to empower District Collectors to require landholders and sub-landholders in proprietary estates to furnish lists of the lands held by them in the fasli years 1350, 1351 and 1352 for the purpose of fixing the rent value of such lands for the triennium comprising the fasli years 1353, 1354 and 1355.

**The Madras Commercial Crops Markets (Amendment) Act, 1944**, provides for the postponement of elections to market committees for the period of the present war in view of the labour and expenditure involved in the preparation of electoral rolls and holding of elections and also the present acute shortage of paper.

**The Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1944**, enables the Government to direct such of the municipal councils as are levying the property tax at comparatively low rates to raise the tax to a reasonable level.

**The Madras Regulation of the Sale of Cloth (Repeal) Act, 1944**, repeals the Madras Regulation of the Sale of Cloth Act, 1937, with effect from the 1st April 1944 as the labour involved in the administration of the Act was out of all proportion to the revenue derived from the licensing fees levied under it.

**The Madras General Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1944**, amends the principal Act with effect from the 1st April 1944, firstly, to provide that dealers whose annual turnovers are between Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 15,000 should pay at the rate of Rs. 8 per month and those with turnovers between Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 20,000 at the rate of Rs. 12 per month and, secondly, to withdraw the exemption of sales of bullion and specie from the tax.

**The Andhra University (Amendment) Act, 1944**, amends section 15, Class III, clause (4), of the principal Act to enable the headmasters of recognized secondary schools in areas which originally formed part of the Ganjam district, but were transferred to the Vizagapatam district consequent on the formation of the Orissa Province, to take part in the election of two members to the Senate of the University.

**The Madras Tobacco Taxation of Sales and Licensing (Repeal) and General Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1944**, repeals the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Licensing) Act, 1939, and excludes all forms of tobacco from the provisions of the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, as the Government of India, who have been levying the excise duty on tobacco with effect from the 1st April 1943, have agreed to compensate the Provincial Government for the loss of revenue from this source.

**The Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams (Amendment) Act, 1944**, amends section 36 of the principal Act to authorize the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Committee to establish and maintain a first-grade residential college at or near Tirupati.

**The Legal Practitioners (Madras Amendment) Act, 1944**, amends the principal Act to provide for the constitution, where necessary, of a committee of legal practitioners for a taluk at any place other than the taluk headquarters or for more than one taluk.

**The Andhra University (Second Amendment) Act, 1944**, amends the principal Act to give effect to the recommendation of the Senate that the Maharaja of Jeypore should have the right to nominate two members to the Senate, that the Chancellor should nominate two members to the Syndicate on the recommendation of the Maharaja and that one of the latter should also be nominated to the Finance Committee.

**The Andhra University (Third Amendment) Act, 1944**, amends section 22 (ii) of the principal Act so as to enable the Academic Council to co-opt members from the staff of University Colleges.

The Perundurai Tuberculosis Sanatorium (Regulation of Buildings) Act, 1944, provides for the control of the construction of buildings in the neighbourhood of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Perundurai and for the exclusion, modification or restriction of enactments relating to public health from or in such neighbourhood.

The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1944, amends the principal Acts so as to minimize notifications in the district gazette in view of the acute shortage of paper. It dispenses with notification in the district gazette in certain cases and empowers the Government to direct that certain notifications under the Acts, instead of being published in the district gazette, may be published in such other manner as may be specified by the Government.

The Madras District Municipalities (Second Amendment) Act, 1944, amends the principal Act to provide that the governing body of a college, maintained by a municipal council and affiliated to a University, shall exercise in respect of the teaching staff and establishment of the college, the powers of appointment, control and punishment.

In addition to the above Acts, the following Regulation was made :—

The Madras Agriculturists' Relief (Partially Excluded Areas Amendment) Regulation, 1944, omits section 18-A of the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1938, in its application to the partially excluded areas in the Province of Madras.

## The Services

### Madras Public Service Commission

Direct recruitment was made by the Commission to 29 classes of posts. In October 1944, the Commission held a competitive examination for the recruitment of clerks, typists, etc., in the Madras Ministerial Service, the Madras Judicial Subordinate Service and the Madras Secretariat Service. There were 2,610 qualified candidates for the examination against an estimated number of 2,459 vacancies expected in 1945.

### Cost of Public Services

The following statement shows the strength and cost of the several Services, the number of pensioners and the pensionary liabilities of the Government in 1943-1944 :—

Particulars of service.	Salaries.		Pensions.	
	Total number of posts (1943-44).	Cost in 1943-44.	Total number of pensioners (1943-44).	Cost in 1943-44.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		RS.		RS.
		(IN LAKHS).		(IN LAKHS).
Indian Civil Service .. .. .	125	27.85	93	27.10
Other All-India Services and High Court Judges (excluding Indian Civil Service Judges).	179	24.56	205	
Government contribution payable under the Indian Civil Service Family Pension Rules.	..	..	..	0.18
Miscellaneous charges connected with pensions of All-India Services.	..	..	..	1.59
Contribution payable to the Central Revenues under section 156 of the Government of India Act, 1935, towards pension, etc., of Military officers in respect of civil employment.	..	..	60	1.92
Provincial Services .. .. .	2,094	105.72	930	97.18
Subordinate, Ministerial and Inferior Services (excluding Village Establishments).	124,442	521.93	25,652	
Village Establishments .. .. .	107,736	124.91	..	
Total ..	234,576	804.97	26,940	127.97
Total, Salaries and Pensions ..	..	..	Rs. 932.94 lakhs.	



General Summary

CHAPTER II—FINANCE

Interesting Statistics

	1923-24.	1943-44.
	RS.	RS.
	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).
Total Revenue .. ..	1,299.18	2,986.07
Total Expenditure .. ..	1,264.90	2,985.37

Statement of Revenue and Receipts of the Government of Madras  
(excluding Railway figures).

Hheads of Account.	1942-43.	1943-44.
	RS.	RS.
<b>Revenue Heads—</b>		
Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax .. ..	1,63,50,000	2,92,50,000
Land Revenue .. ..	5,19,69,656	5,07,74,366
Provincial Excise .. ..	4,67,11,267	7,19,50,548
Stamps .. ..	2,17,86,664	2,83,73,777
Forest .. ..	71,89,006	1,15,28,398
Registration .. ..	49,56,775	75,15,857
Receipts under Motor Vehicles Acts .. ..	64,57,694	63,50,949
Other Taxes and Duties .. ..	1,45,48,045	3,22,68,766
Irrigation, Navigation, etc. works for which Capital Accounts are kept.	1,25,31,585	1,40,33,314
Irrigation, Navigation, etc. works for which no Capital Accounts are kept.	77,41,432	1,10,97,244
Interest .. ..	25,60,003	24,20,820
Administration of Justice .. ..	24,07,257	50,92,191
Jails and Convict Settlements .. ..	9,26,609	11,23,635
Police .. ..	7,31,554	10,41,403
Education .. ..	9,97,644	10,83,939
Medical .. ..	11,09,678	12,73,094
Public Health .. ..	3,07,576	4,47,742
Agriculture .. ..	8,52,307	14,37,757
Veterinary .. ..	1,65,862	1,48,797
Co-operation .. ..	3,54,561	3,13,352
Industries .. ..	29,77,784	44,32,983
Aviation .. ..	..	7,015
Miscellaneous Departments .. ..	9,58,125	9,94,711
Civil Works .. ..	36,41,057	45,12,939
Receipts from Electricity schemes .. ..	47,68,640	50,46,887
Receipts in Aid of Superannuation .. ..	5,41,824	3,48,958
Stationery and Printing .. ..	5,53,678	5,07,713
Miscellaneous .. ..	45,93,265	33,66,535
Miscellaneous Adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments.	14,930	12,063
Extraordinary Receipts .. ..	—12	1,092
Civil Defence .. ..	5,14,994	18,50,759
<b>Total, Revenue Heads ..</b>	<b>21,92,19,460</b>	<b>29,86,07,604</b>

Statement of Expenditure of the Government of Madras  
(excluding Railway figures).

<b>Expenditure on Revenue Account—</b>		
Land Revenue .. ..	25,40,742	23,45,234
Provincial Excise .. ..	32,02,486	36,07,491
Stamps .. ..	7,22,357	9,63,871
Forest .. ..	50,18,447	80,26,791
Registration .. ..	30,12,728	32,67,899
Charges on Account of Motor Vehicles Acts .. ..	62,00,360	45,66,654
Other Taxes and Duties .. ..	14,80,631	16,61,268
Interest on works for which Capital Accounts are kept ..	88,13,737	88,37,275
Other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues.	36,43,473	58,99,141
Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works.	2,86,558	2,14,672
Interest on Debt and other obligations .. ..	—51,85,476	—58,21,459
Appropriation for reduction or Avoidance of Debt .. ..	33,54,803	41,41,611
General Administration .. ..	2,82,59,813	3,00,51,496
Administration of Justice .. ..	96,33,097	1,05,02,489
Jails and Convict Settlements .. ..	44,58,881	64,15,544
Police .. ..	1,94,42,955	2,25,42,590

Heads of Account.	1942-43. RS.	1943-44. RS.
Scientific Departments .. .. .	1,01,180	1,07,448
Education .. .. .	2,99,08,065	3,18,70,930
Medical .. .. .	1,10,50,315	1,30,10,333
Public Health .. .. .	34,74,444	28,69,084
Agriculture .. .. .	32,78,378	37,56,006
Veterinary .. .. .	12,79,734	15,69,709
Co-operation .. .. .	16,01,094	17,53,674
Industries .. .. .	52,91,571	47,54,724
Aviation .. .. .	239	..
Capital outlay on Civil Aviation .. .. .	1,034	..
Miscellaneous Departments .. .. .	26,37,774	29,60,094
Civil Works .. .. .	1,62,23,468	1,46,69,689
Interest on Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes .. .. .	31,32,955	32,68,853
Other Revenue Expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.	1,31,822	1,02,855
Famine .. .. .	36,71,938	1,92,03,577
Superannuation allowances and Pensions .. .. .	1,16,11,773	1,22,93,714
Stationery and Printing .. .. .	31,67,369	39,58,351
Commutation of Pensions financed from ordinary Revenue .. .. .	2,50,070	2,91,363
Miscellaneous .. .. .	41,81,406	82,42,304
Extraordinary charges .. .. .	3,372	4,09,02,081
Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund .. .. .	..	26,00,000
Civil Defence .. .. .	1,07,79,530	2,31,30,065
<b>Total, Expenditure on Revenue Account</b>	<b>20,66,63,123</b>	<b>29,85,37,421</b>

## Accounts, 1943-44

### Revenue

The main feature of the year 1943-44 was the large increase of Rs. 793-88 lakhs in revenue as compared with the previous year. The total revenue realized during the year amounted to Rs. 2,986-07 lakhs against the budget estimate of Rs. 2,132-63 lakhs. There were increased receipts, as compared with the budget estimate, under all the principal heads of revenue with the single exception of 'Land Revenue' (after deducting the portion due to Irrigation). The largest increase was under 'Provincial Excise' (Rs. 290-09 lakhs) due to the greater spending power of the labouring population and to the suspension of prohibition in four districts. Large increases occurred also under 'Other Taxes and Duties' (Rs. 199-19 lakhs), 'Taxes on Income' (Rs. 120 lakhs), 'Stamps' (Rs. 82-66 lakhs), 'Irrigation' (Rs. 52-95 lakhs), 'Forest' (Rs. 43-71 lakhs) and 'Registration' (Rs. 27-72 lakhs). The increase under 'Taxes on Income' was due to larger income-tax receipts by the Central Government as a result of industrial expansion and a consequent increase in the share assigned to the Presidency. The general high level of prices and business prosperity consequent on the war, the enhanced rates of general sales-tax, stamp duties and registration fees, the rise in the price of forest produce, increased orders for war supplies and larger receipts of land revenue due to irrigation accounted for the improvement under the other heads mentioned above.

### Expenditure

The total expenditure on Revenue Account was Rs. 2,985-37 lakhs which was in excess of the budget figure by Rs. 862-79 lakhs. The greatest rise occurred under 'Extraordinary charges' (Rs. 409-02 lakhs), representing chiefly the net capital outlay on State Trading Schemes transferred to the Revenue Account and under 'Famine' (Rs. 178-04 lakhs) on account of the extensive famine relief operations undertaken in the Ceded districts. There was an increase of Rs. 83-23 lakhs under 'Civil Defence' due mainly to the reimbursement of a sum of Rs. 61-59 lakhs to the Central Government which had been recovered from them in excess in 1942-43 towards their share of the expenditure on A.R.P. and War Police. Other notable increases were under 'Civil Administration' (Rs. 48-84 lakhs), 'Forest' (Rs. 30-19 lakhs) and 'Irrigation' (Rs. 21-58 lakhs) due to the greater expenditure necessitated by war-time conditions. The expenditure on Revenue Account included Rs. 26 lakhs shown under 'Transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund' representing the contribution from the general revenues for the financing of Post-War Development schemes.

**Budgetary Position—Surplus, 1943-44.**

The budget estimate for the year anticipated a surplus of Rs. 10.05 lakhs against an actual surplus of Rs. 125.56 lakhs in the previous year. In the course of the year, however, a deficit was anticipated due to the heavy additional expenditure on account of famine relief in the Ceded districts, the expansion of the administrative machinery for price control work, the intensification of the 'Grow More Food' campaign and the grant of higher rates of travelling and dearness allowances to Government servants. In order to avoid the anticipated deficit in the Revenue Account and as an anti-inflationary measure, the Government decided to levy additional taxation by increasing registration fees, stamp duties, the betting tax and the general sales tax. These measures were expected to bring in additional revenue amounting to Rs. 1½ crores. The final accounts showed an increase of Rs. 853.44 lakhs in revenue and of Rs. 862.79 lakhs in expenditure as compared with the budget figures.

The marked improvement in revenue receipts, which was partly due to the increased taxation, enabled the Government not merely to avert a deficit but also to finance the net capital outlay of Rs. 409 lakhs incurred on State Trading Schemes and to transfer a sum of Rs. 26 lakhs to the Revenue Reserve Fund, leaving a nominal surplus of Rs. 0.70 lakh in the Revenue Account at the close of the year.

**Capital Expenditure, 1943-44**

Capital expenditure amounting to Rs. 37.22 lakhs was incurred in 1943-44 mainly on Irrigation and Electricity schemes. A sum of Rs. 53.24 lakhs was disbursed as loans to local bodies, agriculturists, etc., besides a sum of Rs. 15 lakhs by way of short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank.

**Budget, 1944-45**

The budget for 1944-45 included provision for the normal activities of the Government and also provided for certain special items of expenditure, viz., larger payments to local bodies as statutory compensation for loss of revenue from tolls; the sanction of grants to local bodies where necessary to enable them to pay dearness allowance to their employees at Government rates, additional teaching grants to aided Elementary Schools to meet the increased requirements for assessed grants and to enable them to pay enhanced dearness allowance to their teachers and a contribution of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Rural Water-supply Fund.

**New Schemes of Expenditure**

Only such schemes as were considered essential in war time or necessary for the maintenance of an adequate standard of administration were included in the budget. The new schemes sanctioned by the Government involved an estimated expenditure of Rs. 89.64 lakhs in 1944-45. The more important of these schemes related to contributions to local bodies as additional compensation for loss of revenue from tolls and profession tax; the establishment of a Research Station at Poondi for the investigation of irrigation problems; special grants to the Madras University for new technological courses; grants for the opening of new schools and girls' hostels and for expansion of certain existing schools; the opening of new courses of study in the Government Muhammadan College; the revival of stipends for men undergoing secondary grade teachers' training in order to attract sufficient men for the course; additional grants to managements of aided elementary schools and to panchayats for payment of dearness allowance to teachers; the provincialization of five local fund medical institutions; the construction of an infectious diseases ward in Madura for treatment of smallpox and chickenpox cases; the extension of the rice research stations at Pattambi in Malabar and Ambasamudram in the Tinnevely district for breeding improved varieties of paddy; the employment of additional demonstration maistries in the Agricultural department so as to have one maistry for each revenue firka; the extension of the cattle farm at Lam in the Guntur district; a contribution to the Provincial Livestock Improvement Fund; the opening of three new Veterinary dispensaries; the improvement of the pay and prospects of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons in order to attract a sufficient number of suitable candidates to the Veterinary College and the Veterinary Service; a grant to the Madras Provincial Co-operative Union for the training of panchayatdars and the education of

members of co-operative societies in co-operative principles and the provision of free mid-day meals for pupils of Labour schools.

The budget showed an anticipated surplus of revenue over expenditure amounting to Rs. 554.77 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 554 lakhs was to be transferred to the Revenue Reserve Fund. There has since been a further improvement in the revenue position and the amount available for transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund is likely to be larger.

### Capital Expenditure outside the Revenue Account, 1944-45 and Loans and Advances by the Provincial Government

The amount required for capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account in 1944-45 was estimated at Rs. 75.07 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 61.60 lakhs was provided for loans to local bodies, agriculturists, co-operative societies, etc., and for short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank. The provision for new loans to local bodies was much smaller than usual owing to the lack of steel, iron and pipes, etc., required for the execution of water and drainage works and the need for restricting new works.

### Loans, 1944

The Government anticipated that they could provide for all the ordinary transactions of the year 1944-45 from the opening balance and current revenues and would not need to raise a loan in the open market in 1944 for this purpose. A special loan of Rs. 110.00 lakhs was, however, raised in the open market in August 1944 in order to make an advance repayment of a portion of the consolidated debt due to the Central Government, with their consent.

The Government issued three months' treasury bills in November 1944 of a total nominal value of Rs. 100 lakhs at an average rate of discount of Re. 0-9-0 per cent per annum. Three months' treasury bills of the nominal value of Rs. 60 lakhs issued in 1943 and outstanding at the end of December 1943 were repaid in January 1944. The treasury bills issued in November 1944 will be repaid in February 1945.

## CHAPTER III—THE SEASON

### Years of Progress

	1913-14.	1923-24.	1933-34.	1943-44.
	ACS. (IN MILLIONS).	ACS. (IN MILLIONS).	ACS. (IN MILLIONS).	ACS. (IN MILLIONS).
Area of ryotwari holdings .. ..	25.16	26.32	27.80	27.65
Area under cultivation in ryotwari holdings.	21.86	19.82	20.98	20.70
	RS. (IN LAKHS).	RS. (IN LAKHS).	RS. (IN LAKHS).	RS. (IN LAKHS.).
Assessment on holdings .. ..	508.91	543.60	591.89	603.67
Net ryotwari demand including water-rates and second crop charges.	620.88	667.16	713.35	721.37

### Rainfall and Crops

The rainfall during the south-west monsoon was generally below the average in the Circars, the West Coast and parts of the Deccan, the Carnatic and the Central districts. The north-east monsoon arrived rather late, but was satisfactory and made up the deficiency except on the West Coast. The area cultivated from April to September 1944 was below the average and was also less than that of the previous year. The condition of standing crops was generally fair.

### Famine

Although no regular famine relief operations under the Famine Code were found necessary during the year, relief measures were undertaken in the Vizagapatam district for alleviation of the distress prevailing there as an aftermath of the cyclone

of October 1943, the influx of evacuees from Burma and the adverse seasonal conditions. The opening of 17 free kitchens was sanctioned and a sum of Rs. 2.15 lakhs was allotted for the purpose. A poor house for disabled and infirm destitutes was opened in August 1944 for a period of two months. Three thousand pounds of dried milk was supplied for distribution to mothers and children affected by malaria. There were also seven test works in progress in the Vizagapatam district for the relief of evacuees from Burma.

### Floods and Cyclones

Considerable damage had been caused in October 1943 by heavy rains and cyclone in the districts of Vizagapatam, Chingleput and Madras. The Vizagapatam district was the area most severely affected. Special staff was appointed for immediate relief work. The Government sanctioned allotments of Rs. 2.76 lakhs for Vizagapatam, Rs. 90,000 for Madras and Rs. 17,000 for Chingleput for the relief of distress. Relief operations continued in 1944. Thatching materials were supplied free for the repair of damaged huts and loans were also granted for the purpose, while standard cloth and cash grants were distributed to destitute persons. The Sino-Indian Cultural Association generously donated a sum of Rs. 20,000 for the free distribution of rice, standard cloth, etc., to the people affected by the cyclone in the Vizagapatam district and the amount was fully utilized.

### Land Revenue Concessions

On account of the improvement in the economic condition of the agriculturists following the rise in prices of agricultural produce, the general land revenue concessions were withdrawn in Fasli 1353. Special remissions of the dry assessment were, however, granted in 13 villages of the Bellary district due to adverse seasonal conditions.

## CHAPTER IV—LAW AND ORDER

### Police

#### General

Seasonal conditions were generally more favourable than in 1943, though prices of essential commodities continued to be high. This factor, together with recruitment to the fighting services, the availability of labour and the vigorous preventive action taken, contributed to a decrease in the total volume of crime.

An additional District Superintendent of Police was sanctioned for the Vizagapatam district and Personal Assistants to District Superintendents of Police were sanctioned for the Tanjore, South Arcot and Guntur districts. The fourth batch of Indian Sergeants was selected for training with the Malabar Special Police.

#### District Police

The work of the District Police continued to be heavy on account of various war-time duties and increase in strength was sanctioned where necessary.

#### Training and Recruits' Schools

The Central Recruits' School, Vizianagram, was re-opened on the 8th January 1944 to train recruits to fill the additional sanctioned strength of the Taluk police. The other Recruits' schools continued to function.

#### Armed Forces

The Armed Reserves including the Sivakasi and the Kamudi Special Police, the Presidency General Reserve, the Malabar Special Police, and the Special Emergency Police continued to maintain a high standard of efficiency.

#### Additional Police

Additional Police continued to be stationed at Nellore throughout the year at the expense of the inhabitants, though the strength was reduced in March 1944.

The additional police at Nathakadayur village in the Coimbatore district were withdrawn during the year but quartering of additional Police was ordered at the villages of Nuradi Hanumapuram in the Bellary district and Gudipad and Musalreddipalli in the Cuddapah district.

#### Crime

Crime decreased by 4.5 per cent below the figure for last year. There was a decrease under all heads except cattle thefts which increased by 7.8 per cent. Murder declined by 13.8 per cent, dacoity by 41.3 per cent, robbery by 17.1 per cent and housebreaking by 15.9 per cent. There was practically no change under major thefts. There was a decrease in crime in 17 districts of the Presidency. Detection was 23.04 per cent as against 25.5 per cent in 1943.

#### Riots

Feelings between the Hindus and Muslims in the Nellore district continued to be strained, though some signs of improvement in relations are noticeable. The Muharram passed off peacefully except for a minor communal clash in the Chittoor district. There were 38 riots and disturbances during the year and the Police had to open fire either in self-defence or to restore law and order on 10 occasions.

#### Village Vigilance Committees

The Village Vigilance Committees were found to be useful only in a few districts and there too only if the members were paid. The Committees in Malabar were abolished as their work was unsatisfactory.

#### Labour

Labour throughout the Presidency was generally quiet despite the difficult economic conditions.

#### Traffic in the City

There was a slight increase in the number of accidents. The number of fatal cases decreased from 48 last year to 38. Military vehicles were involved in 19 of the fatal cases. The local military authorities co-operated wholeheartedly in the control of military traffic and in attempts to raise the general standard of driving of military vehicles which was not very high. A drive was launched against pedestrians who persisted in walking on the road rather than on the pavement in areas where good pavements were provided. The prohibition on the construction of new roundabouts was relaxed to some extent. There was an improvement in the number of public motor transport vehicles on the roads.

#### Prisons, Borstal Schools and Certified Schools

The daily average number of convicts, undertrial prisoners and civil prisoners declined from 24,331 in the previous year to 21,113, mainly due to the suspension of the Prohibition Act. There was no overcrowding except in the Central Jails at Rajahmundry and Trichinopoly. The Special Jail at Tanjore was closed in December. The number of prison offences was 779 and corporal punishment was inflicted in only 3 cases. Educational facilities were provided for the convicts as usual and moral and religious instruction was regularly imparted. The health of the prisoners continued to be satisfactory. Three hundred and ninety-five prisoners were released on the recommendation of the standing Advisory Boards as against 466 in the previous year. The Central and District Committees of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society continued to evince great interest in the aftercare of released prisoners and ex-Borstal and Certified School boys.

The one Borstal School at Palamcottah continued to function throughout the year. The number of school offences was 31. The inmates were given a course in military drill. There were three Government Certified Schools and three private Certified Schools working. Two hundred pupils were transferred to the Junior Certified School, Bellary, to relieve overcrowding in the Junior Certified School, Ranipet. The Government sanctioned two annual scholarships up to the value of Rs. 180 each for deserving pupils of the Junior Certified School, Bellary, to enable them to pursue higher literary or vocational studies. Pupils from the Junior Certified School, Ranipet, were employed in dehydration and fuel stacking work in the factory of Messrs. Parry & Co.

Notable administrative measures introduced during the year were the increase in the salt ration issued to 'A' and 'B' class prisoners by 25 per cent, the issue of gingelly or coconut oil and pepper water to convicts when butter-milk was not available, the inclusion of Assistant Sessions Judges as ex officio visitors to jails, the introduction of the paper-making industry in jails, the grant of railway fares and compensatory allowance to warders serving outside their native districts and the sanction of a special Home for mentally backward boys under the management of the Madras Children's Aid Society, Madras.

The total expenditure of the Department up to the end of November was Rs. 54.34 lakhs as against Rs. 60.53 lakhs during the corresponding period of the previous year. The decrease was mainly due to the decline in the jail population and a reduction in expenditure on jail manufactures. There was an increase in receipts under jail manufactures on account of larger orders received from public consuming departments.

### **Criminal Justice**

There was generally a marked decrease in the total number of offences relating to property. This was due partly to improved economic conditions and partly to increased vigilance by the police. Preventive action under the security sections, the free use of powers under the City Police Act and the Criminal Procedure Code, and recruitment to military service have contributed in some measure to the fall in crime. There was a noticeable decline in the number of murder cases except in the Cuddapah district where the increase was attributed to factions. The number of cases under the Food Grains Control Order, the Drug Control Order, the Defence of India Rules, the Rationing Orders and the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance increased. There were no acts of sabotage or arson and there was a general lull in subversive activities. An increase in cattle theft, due to the high price of cattle, was generally noticeable. Another noticeable feature was the number of cases in which Government officials were charged for having committed criminal breach of trust. There was a fall in the number of Sessions cases except in the Cuddapah, Coimbatore, Salem and Tinnevely districts. An increase in the number of criminal appeals and revision cases was reported in the districts of North Arcot, Bellary, Coimbatore, Cuddapah, Kistna, Madura, South Malabar, Salem and Vizagapatam. The increase was due to the large number of appeals filed against convictions under the Defence of India Rules, etc.

In the High Court, a smaller number of criminal appeals and revision cases were filed in 1944 than in 1943. The number of cases disposed of at the High Court Sessions in 1944 was considerably less than in 1943.

### **Civil Justice**

#### **Suits**

In the mufassal, there was a rise in the number of original suits instituted in the superior courts of 15 (judicial) districts and in the inferior courts of 6 districts. There was a general decline in six districts, particularly in Bellary and Chittoor, while there was no variation in the districts of East Godavari, Guntur and Tanjore West. A larger number of suits relating to immovable property was instituted, while there was a fall in the number of money suits, thus reflecting the greater prosperity of landholders and agriculturists as compared with those in receipt of fixed incomes. In Malabar, there was an increase in litigation due to the large number of redemption suits instituted by landlords on the plea that they required their lands for their own cultivation. This tendency received a check during the latter part of the year with the introduction of district-wide rationing of rice and paddy and the purchase of excess stocks of paddy by the Government at controlled rates. There was a noticeable decline in the institution of small cause suits which was chiefly due to increased prosperity among the agricultural and trading classes which enabled them to settle their smaller debts. There was also a fall in the number of insolvency petitions. The appellate work increased in almost all districts.

#### **The City Civil Court.**

There was a fall in the number of original suits instituted which was accounted for by the smaller number of suits filed by the Corporation of Madras for the

recovery of municipal taxes. There was also a fall in the number of suits instituted and the number of distress applications and execution petitions filed in the Court of Small Causes.

### The High Court

There was a slight decrease in the number of civil suits instituted and in the number of insolvency petitions filed on the original side of the High Court, but there was a rise in the number of testamentary and matrimonial suits. There was a noticeable increase in all classes of civil appeals and civil revision petitions on the appellate side.

### Registration

The Registration sub-district of Thyagaroyanagar in the Madras-Chingleput district was constituted with effect from the 1st April 1944. The continuation of the temporary sub-registry offices at Pennadam in the Chidambaram district, Podili in the Nellore district and Veeravasaram in the West Godavari-Kistna district was sanctioned as a permanent measure. The continuation of the additional establishment of three Sub-Registrars in the office of the Inspector-General of Registration was sanctioned for a further period of one year. The sub-district of Yernangudem in the East Godavari district was renamed as the sub-district of Kovvur. Changes were made in the scale of fees levied for particular purposes. The annual fee payable by municipalities for the transmission of notices of transfer of title to property was enhanced by 50 per cent with effect from the 1st April 1944. The collections made from the public by the Registering Officers, who were appointed as canvassers to intensify the savings movement up to the end of November were—

	RS.
National Savings Certificates .. .. .	7,90,536
Defence Bonds .. .. .	4,75,943
Defence Savings Bank Account .. .. .	1,04,496
Defence Savings Stamps .. .. .	24,733
Victory Loans .. .. .	10,543

The number of documents registered decreased from 1,915,053 in the previous year to 1,559,443 mainly owing to the reluctance of the agriculturists to invest money in immovable property which has risen in value. The income fell from Rs. 71.67 lakhs to Rs. 66.63 lakhs, while the expenditure increased from Rs. 32.41 lakhs to Rs. 34.10 lakhs mainly on account of the grant of war and dearness allowances to Government servants.

## CHAPTER V—LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

### Years of Progress

	1913-14.	1923-24.	1933-34.	1943-44.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).
<b>Mufassal Municipalities—</b>				
Incidence of taxation per head .. .. .	Rs. 1-8-1	Rs. 2-2-8	Rs. 2-10-8	Rs. 3-2-8
Total receipts .. .. .	82.66	138.43	202.3	306.62
Total expenditure .. .. .	71.34	133.75	196.1	312.37
Expenditure on communications and lighting .. .. .	..	19.14	28.8	28.67
Expenditure on education .. .. .	5.95	18.56	29.18	43.69
Do. medical relief and public health .. .. .	17.28	33.39	29.4	47.97
<b>The Madras City Corporation—</b>				
Incidence of taxation per head .. .. .	Rs. 3-8-9	Rs. 7-9-2	Rs. 6-13-5	Rs. 7-13-3
Total receipts including the opening balance .. .. .	69.12	93.43	197.92	272.22
Total expenditure .. .. .	51.59	..	103.30	177.19
Expenditure on communications .. .. .	4.13	7.81	8.31	8.70
Do. lighting .. .. .	0.81	3.91	..	5.22



	1913-14.	1923-24.	1933-34.	1943-44.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).
The Madras City Corporation— <i>cont.</i>				
Expenditure on education .. ..	0.15	1.87	8.6	16.5
Do. medical relief and public health.	5.58	10.19	16.48	24.93
District Boards—				
Total receipts .. .. .	198.82	358.99	529.17	498.48
Total expenditure .. .. .	163.64	332.38	521.06	489.39
Expenditure on public works including communications.	84.97	106.12	157.03	127.52
Do. education .. .. .	24.15	70.37	138.57	177.22
Do. medical relief and public health.	21.12	34.72	33.84	35.92

NOTE.—The figures given in this chapter, except for panchayats, are for the official year 1943-44.

### Municipalities Communications

In order to make good the loss sustained by the municipal councils, owing to the abolition of tolls, the Government sanctioned, subject to certain conditions, additional compensation amounting to Rs. 10.78 lakhs, of which the councils were able to draw only Rs. 5.24 lakhs.

### Education

There was provision for compulsory elementary education in 27 municipalities. The municipal councils maintained 1,247 elementary schools at a cost of Rs. 29.47 lakhs and provided education for 178,586 children. They also maintained 54 secondary schools. The Salem Municipal Council maintained a second grade college.

### Medical

The municipal councils maintained 131 medical institutions, in which 5,216 in-patients and 3,895,616 out-patients received treatment.

### Corporation of Madras

The Corporation maintained 143 elementary schools in which 39,331 children were receiving education on the 31st March 1944. 63.4 per cent of the boys and 56.2 per cent of the girls who were attending elementary schools in the City attended Corporation schools.

### District Boards and Panchayats

#### Communications

The Government appointed a Special Officer of the grade of Superintending Engineer to prepare a ten-year scheme for the post-war development of roads in the Presidency. The scheme is estimated to cost over Rs. 75 crores. An additional post of Deputy Inspector of Municipalities and Local Boards was sanctioned temporarily for one year for the effective supervision of the work of executive officers appointed to major panchayats. In order to make good the loss sustained by the District Boards owing to the abolition of tolls, the Government sanctioned, subject to certain conditions, additional compensation amounting to Rs. 23.16 lakhs from Provincial Funds, of which the District Boards were able to draw only Rs. 17.59 lakhs. Grants amounting to Rs. 9.12 lakhs for capital works, roads and bridges were disbursed to local bodies from the Central Road Fund.

#### Education

The District Boards maintained 12,340 elementary schools for boys and 2,177 for girls in addition to 211 secondary schools. The elementary schools provided education for 1,163,568 children and the secondary schools for 19,159 in the elementary department and 60,722 in the secondary department.

#### Medical

The District Boards maintained 1,045 medical institutions in which 27,909 in-patients and 12,807,624 out-patients received treatment.

#### Panchayats

During the year 15 panchayats were abolished and 31 panchayats were constituted. There were 7,084 panchayats at the end of the year, of which 12 had been

superseded. There were 1,332 panchayat schools at the end of the year, in which 2,076 teachers were employed. A sum of Rs. 4,66,804 was disbursed to panchayat boards as teaching grant and dearness allowance to teachers. A grant of Rs. 2 lakhs was sanctioned by the Government to panchayat boards for the improvement of village communications. The amount actually drawn by the panchayat boards was Rs. 1,76,391.

#### General

During the year the local boards and municipal councils were directed to pay dearness allowance to their employees at the rates applicable to Government servants. Grants were also sanctioned to such of those local bodies as were unable to pay dearness allowance out of their own funds.

## CHAPTER VI—PUBLIC HEALTH

### Years of Progress

	1913.	1923.	1933.	1943.
Number of hospitals and dispensaries of all classes.	684	768	1,336	1,248
Number of in-patients	7,086,278	133,910	224,888	402,654
Number of out-patients		8,220,258	15,722,769	18,468,278

### Vital Statistics

#### POPULATION, AREA, ETC.

Area of the Province	126,166 square miles.
Estimated population of the Province in 1943 according to the Arithmetical Progression Method.	50,540,000

#### BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

	1942.	1943.
Number of births registered	1,684,023	1,565,644
Birth rate	33.81 per 1,000 of the population as estimated for 1942.	31.12 per 1,000 of the population as estimated for 1943.
Ratio of male to female births	105 : 100.	
The highest birth rate was recorded among Hindus.		
Number of deaths registered	1,120,129	1,270,687
Death rate	22.49 per mille of the population as estimated in 1942.	25.25 per mille of the population as estimated in 1943.
Ratio of male to female deaths	102 : 100.	
The death rate was highest among Muslims.		
The infantile mortality rate was	159.67	172.29
Maternal mortality rate	8.6 per 1,000 births (live and still).	8.49 per 1,000 births (live and still).

The vital index, i.e., ratio of births to deaths expressed as a percentage was 123.1 as compared with 150 in 1942.

### Public Health

#### Epidemics

Economic conditions continued to be generally unfavourable to public health during the year. The death rate was 23.8 per mille up to the end of October, which is an increase of 0.8 on last year's figure for the corresponding period. At the beginning of the year cholera was prevalent in 14 districts. The epidemic had abated by March and in June, the whole Presidency, with the exception of the Coimbatore and Vizagapatam districts, was practically free from it. There was, however, a recrudescence of the epidemic in the Vizagapatam district in August. The mortality from smallpox was over 16,000, which is more than double the figure reported in 1943. The areas most affected were the Vizagapatam, Guntur, South Arcot and North Arcot districts. There were 1,466 deaths due to plague, which was fairly severe in the districts of Coimbatore and Salem. The usual preventive measures against cholera, smallpox and plague were carried out and there was a considerable fall in the deaths due to cholera and

plague in the year. Deaths from other causes numbered about 516,000 as compared with approximately 465,000 last year.

### Research

Plague research was directed towards the study of the prevailing rodents and their fleas in the Hosur experimental area, the application of cyanogas for fumigation purposes and the treatment of plague cases with sulphathiazole. Vigorous cyanogas fumigation was carried out in all the villages in the experimental areas and there was a noticeable reduction in the incidence of plague. Five hundred and sixty-four plague cases were treated with sulphathiazole and allied drugs and 71 per cent of them recovered. The anti-malarial work in the Presidency was reorganized from June 1944, and was distributed among three Regional Malarialogists with headquarters at Pattukottai, Vizagapatam and Bellary. The activities of the Chintapalle Station were expanded by the addition of two sub-stations, while the unit at Tanuku was abolished. Growing of green manure crops has become a permanent measure of malaria control in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area of the Tanjore district. Special anti-malarial schemes were sanctioned for the Vizagapatam and Nellore districts. Pyrethrum extracts were prepared in the Government Kerala Soap Institute at Calicut. Training in malaria control was given to 7 Health Inspectors, 14 Sanitary Inspectors, 10 First-class vaccinators and 1 Plague Inspector besides a number of field and laboratory assistants. Quinine was distributed free in 5,794 villages and approximately 298,000 persons were treated with it.

### Maternity and Child Welfare

There were 355 child welfare centres under various local bodies and the Corporation of Madras. Five new centres were opened during the year. New buildings for maternity and child welfare centres and maternity homes were constructed at Erode, Coimbatore and Virudhunagar. Six pupils, who were trained as Health Visitors, obtained diplomas.

### Rural Sanitation and Propaganda

During the year 320 septic tank latrines of different types were constructed in 37 villages. Health films and lantern slides were sent out for exhibition and 14 new posters were produced during the year. A talkie film on malaria was purchased. Talks on public health subjects were broadcast from the All-India Radio Stations at Madras and Trichinopoly. The Poonamallee Health Unit functioned as a demonstration centre and training ground for public health workers. Special sanitary arrangements were undertaken to safeguard health in the famine camps in the Vizagapatam district and at fairs and festivals.

### General

One Health Officer, an Assistant Agricultural Chemist and thirty-eight Sanitary Inspectors were trained in the manufacture of compost out of town refuse. The post of a Nutrition Officer was sanctioned to carry out investigation on problems of nutrition.

### Hospitals and Dispensaries

#### Institutions

During the year there were 302 subsidized and 53 non-subsidized dispensaries working. One subsidized rural dispensary and two non-subsidized rural dispensaries were opened, one rural dispensary was converted into a Local Fund dispensary and thirty-six rural dispensaries were converted into dispensaries of Indian Medicine. Thirty subsidized and non-subsidized dispensaries were closed. One Local Fund dispensary was opened, three Local Fund dispensaries were closed and five Local Fund medical institutions were provincialized.

#### Staff

The recruitment of medical graduates for appointment as Assistant Surgeons continued to be on a temporary basis and over 40 temporary Civil Assistant Surgeons were appointed. The grant of study leave to medical officers within India and abroad was approved. There were 17 Honorary Medical Officers and 139 Honorary Assistant Medical Officers working in the Government hospitals in the Presidency.

About 90 temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons were appointed in place of those deputed for military duty and in vacancies caused by retirements, etc. Nineteen retired Sub-Assistant Surgeons were re-employed and twenty-one Women Sub-Assistant Surgeons were appointed in men's posts. In view of the paucity of candidates for appointment as temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons, the Government sanctioned enhanced rates of pay for diploma holders and medical graduates for the duration of the war. Forty temporary and twenty-two probationary Women Sub-Assistant Surgeons were employed. There were 92 paid posts of House Physicians and House Surgeons for the hospitals in the City of Madras and the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam. There were 663 sanctioned appointments for members of the Nursing staff. Owing to the shortage of nurses, 16 final-year pupil nurses were appointed to hold staff posts. The Government sanctioned the training of six nurses in X-Ray work for a period of three months. A Post-graduate (Diploma of Nursing) Course was opened in the Government General Hospital, Madras, and nine candidates commenced their training in July. A scheme for opening a Central Preliminary Training School for probationary nurse pupils was sanctioned. The training of candidates for the Auxiliary Nursing Services continued during the year.

## **Educational and Specialized Institutions**

### **Medical College, Madras**

The Medical College, Madras, had on its rolls 1,004 students in 1943-44 including 778 in the M.B.B.S. classes. On account of the dearth of public health staff, the students of the Sanitary Inspectors' class were temporarily deputed for public health work in the districts infected with cholera or plague early in the year. A special batch of students was admitted in January 1944 to undergo an intensive training course of six months duration to meet the demand for qualified Sanitary Inspectors. Research work was done in some departments and 26 original contributions relating to medical subjects were published during the year. The extension of the scheme for research into the indigenous drugs of India used in Veterinary practice for a further period of five years was under consideration and arrangements were being made for the manufacture of Ephedrine in the Pharmacological Research Unit of the College.

### **Stanley Medical College, Madras**

Seventy-two students, of whom 16 were women, were admitted during the year. The percentage of passes in the final M.B.B.S. examination was 79.

### **Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam**

Fifty-five students were admitted during the year. New Degree and Diploma courses were instituted. A Vice-Principal was appointed for the college.

### **Leprosy**

The British Empire Leprosy Relief Association continued to carry out a scheme for intensive and concentrated work on leprosy in the Presidency and routine leprosy treatment was done by the Medical Department.

### **The King Institute, Guindy**

The King Institute of Preventive Medicine continued to be the main centre of research in the Presidency for medical and public health subjects, the chief laboratory for clinical bacteriological diagnosis for all Government and Mission hospitals and medical institutions and the Public Health Laboratory for the examination of water, foods, etc. The preparation of biological products and injectible solutions and the manufacture of anti-toxic sera and other products was continued. Research work in the study of filterable viruses was undertaken with the assistance of a grant from the Indian Research Fund Association. Preliminary investigations were carried out with a view to evolving suitable bacteriological standards for milk. Towards the end of the year the Institute also took up research work on the use of vegetable oils as mosquito larvicides. More than 5 million doses of vaccine lymph were issued for the Presidency, besides 1 million doses for Bengal. Over

8,500,000 doses of cholera vaccine and 142,000 doses of T.A.B. vaccine were manufactured. Plague vaccine was obtained from the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, and distributed to the Public Health staff of the Province. Fifty-seven thousand five hundred and eighty-one doses of stock vaccine and 2,018 doses of autogenous vaccine were issued. The manufacture of sterile solutions for supply to medical institutions was continued and over 100,000 ampoules of various solutions and 210 pints of glucose saline were prepared and supplied. Nine thousand five hundred and twenty-one microscopic and bacteriological tests were done during the year and 47,113 specimens were examined by the Kahn and Wassermann tests. Considerable progress was made in the preparation of anti-toxic sera. One thousand nine hundred and seventy-nine donations were accepted by the Blood Bank section and 252,800 c.c. of plasma and 74,785 c.c. of reconstituted blood were prepared. The routine periodical examination of all protected water-supplies in municipalities, panchayats, jails and important railway stations was carried out three times during the year.

### Prevention of Adulteration

The Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act was extended to 26 panchayats bringing the total number of local bodies working the Act to 201. 41.81 per cent of the samples analysed were certified to be adulterated as against 40 per cent in the previous year. No less than 65.2 per cent of the samples of milk analysed were found to be adulterated.

### General

A Medical Research Committee was constituted to develop and co-ordinate medical research in the Province and to advise the Government on research matters. An expert committee consisting of the Surgeon-General, the Director of Public Health, the Director of the King Institute and the Superintendent of the Government General Hospital was constituted to formulate skeleton plans to be put into execution in an emergency following the possible outbreak of any considerable epidemic due to the present unsatisfactory health conditions. The Health Survey and Development Committee constituted by the Government of India to examine the means of improving medical relief and public health in the country, visited various medical and public health institutions in the City and the mufassal and interviewed several important persons belonging to the medical profession on the occasion of their visit to the Presidency. Subsequent to the visit of this committee, a delegation consisting of six eminent medical experts from abroad, who were invited by the Government of India to advise the Health Survey and Development Committee, also visited Madras in the course of their tour through India.

### Indian Medicine

#### The School and Hospital of Indian Medicine

The number of students on the rolls at the beginning of the year was 373 including 45 women students. Three Assistant Lecturers and one female staff nurse were sanctioned temporarily during the year. The daily average number of in-patients treated in the Hospital was 170 and the daily average out-patient attendance was 937. The students of the school went on strike for a month from the 7th September and did not appear for the Board Examinations held in September 1944. The percentage of passes in the final year L.I.M. Examination held in April 1944 was 19.

#### Dispensaries.

Owing to the dearth of practitioners of modern medical science, many rural dispensaries were temporarily converted into those of Indian Medicine. There was, however, not much keenness on the part of practitioners in Indian Medicine to take up employment under local bodies and in consequence many of these rural dispensaries remained closed. There were 527 dispensaries of Indian Medicine maintained by local bodies.

## CHAPTER VII—EDUCATION

## Years of Progress

	1913-14.	1923-24.	1933-34.	1943-44.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).
Total expenditure on education .. ..	180	370	539.87	722.53
Number of public institutions .. ..	28,137	41,541	50,616	37,839
Number of pupils in public institutions.	1,345,554	1,976,647	2,967,672	3,367,140
Number of private institutions .. ..	4,712	3,323	1,467	204
Number of pupils in private institutions.	124,391	..	51,688	6,981
Percentage of those under instruction to the total population.	..	4.9	6.5	7

## Elementary Education

Number of public elementary schools for boys.	26,005	37,708	43,796	32,218
Approximate number of pupils in public elementary schools for boys.	1,088,686	1,579,147	2,238,608	2,566,791
Number of public elementary schools for girls.	1,511	2,861	5,464	4,181
Approximate number of girls in elementary schools	273,930	190,838	794,741	1,159,792

## Secondary Education

Number of public secondary schools for boys.	332	494	537	570
Number of pupils in public secondary schools for boys.	115,425	155,140	179,411	275,041
Number of public secondary schools for girls.	38	61	74	131
Number of girls in public secondary schools.	..	14,268	25,198	58,879

## Collegiate Education

Number of Arts Colleges for men .. ..	31	37	40	38
Number of students in Arts Colleges for men.	7,000	8,928	10,962	20,402
Number of Arts Colleges for women .. ..	2	4	5	5
Number of women in Arts Colleges .. ..	66	447	761	2,216

## Interesting Statistics

Total strength in Arts Colleges for women .. ..	..	..	..	1,081
Number of women attending Arts Colleges for men .. ..	..	..	..	1,135
Total strength in the four Training Colleges for women .. ..	..	..	..	159
Number of women studying in Professional Colleges for men .. ..	..	..	..	319
Total number of pupils of the Scheduled Castes in all public institutions ..	..	..	..	334,686
Number of elementary schools under public management not specially intended for the Scheduled Castes, but freely admitting pupils from that class ..	..	..	..	12,411
Number of pupils of the Scheduled Castes in the above mentioned schools ..	..	..	..	82,998
Number of pupils of the Scheduled Castes in Standard V .. ..	..	..	..	31,539

## General

Sanction was accorded to the employment of a woman member on the staff of each Government college for men, which had 20 or more women students on its rolls in order that the welfare of the women students might receive proper attention. The post of an additional Sub-Assistant Inspectress of Schools was sanctioned for the inspection of Muslim girls' schools. The practice of awarding diplomas to students of the Engineering College, Guindy, on the basis of college examinations was discontinued as the degrees awarded by the University were found sufficient for all practical purposes. The duration of the Licentiate Course in Civil Engineering in the College of Engineering, Guindy, was reduced from four to three years. Honours courses in Islamic Culture and History and a Natural Science Course in the Intermediate were opened in the Government Muhammadan College, Madras. A post-graduate course in Teaching known as the B.Ed. Degree Course was opened in the Teachers' College, Saidapet, and in the Lady Willingdon Training College, Madras. The minimum age limit for admission to training schools was raised to 15 years. Four private training schools were opened during the year.

### Elementary Education

Provision was made for the introduction of English as an optional subject in the E.S.L.C. Examination from 1945. The dearness allowance paid to teachers in elementary schools under private management was increased from Rs. 3 to Rs. 8 a month in the course of the year. In the case of teachers serving in schools under local bodies, the Government directed that dearness allowance should be paid to them at the rates admissible to Government servants. The Taluk Advisory Committees for elementary education were abolished.

### Secondary Education

The Government sanctioned the opening of a secondary school for Mappilla boys at Kasaragod in the South Kanara district and of a middle school for girls at Ambasamudram in the Tinnevely district. The Higher Elementary School attached to the Government Training School for Women at Namakkal in the Salem district was converted into a middle school for girls. Permission was granted to local bodies to open eight secondary schools and to private managements to open 39 secondary schools. The Government Middle School for Muslim Girls, Mangalore, was converted into a High School and a hostel was provided for the school. The limit of income prescribed under the Madras Educational Rules for the grant of fee concessions to pupils studying in secondary schools was raised from Rs. 720 to Rs. 760 per annum.

### Government Examinations

#### S.S.L.C. Public Examination

The Secondary School-Leaving Certificates of 29,576 candidates (26,883 boys and 2,693 girls) were completed during the year. Four hundred and twenty schools out of 496 which presented candidates for the examination used the languages of the Presidency as the medium of instruction and examination in the non-language subjects in the higher forms. The Scheduled Caste candidates including converts to Christianity were given the concession of appearing for the S.S.L.C. Examination four times in all instead of three times as previously.

The Public Examination at the end of the VIII Standard in Higher Elementary Schools was held in 399 centres. Twenty four thousand one hundred and two candidates appeared for the examination and 10,663 candidates (7,625 boys and 3,038 girls) were successful, the percentage of passes being 44.2 as against 38.3 in 1943.

## CHAPTER VIII—NATURAL RESOURCES

### Forests

#### Years of Progress

	1913-14.	1923-24.	1933-34.	1943-44.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).
Revenue .. .. .	40.48	54.87	39.43	113.00
Expenditure .. .. .	32.15	46.30	39.20	79.87
Balance .. .. .	8.33	8.57	0.23	33.13

The demand for timber increased considerably during the year, but the total output was less than that of the previous year by about 6 per cent. This was mainly due to the restricted extraction of timber for overseas and inland sleepers and to the lack of transport facilities. The Timber Supply Circle which was set up in 1942 to deal with military requirements controlled all timber supplies including those from Travancore and Cochin. The turnover of the Circle rose from Rs. 67 lakhs in 1943 to Rs. 132 lakhs. The transport of timber by sea and rail on the West Coast was controlled in order to stabilize prices. The Timber Transport Advisory Committee which was set up to arrange rail transport monthly in advance, continued its work.

In order to meet the exceptionally heavy demand for timber and fuel, the Government forests were felled appreciably in advance of the working plan programmes, while the private forests have been still more over-exploited. An officer of the rank of Conservator was appointed temporarily for one year to assess the extent of over-exploitation of forests and to suggest suitable remedies. Large scale planting of casuarina was carried out according to a regular programme in selected divisions to compensate for the present over-exploitation of fuel forests owing to war conditions and to safeguard future supplies. An Assistant Conservator was placed on special duty to attend to casuarina plantation work in the coastal districts south of Madras, where an area of about 450 acres was planted. The Forest department arranged to supply large quantities of firewood to Madras City with a view to avert a threatened fuel scarcity caused by heavy increase in the demand and the failure of private agencies to meet it. An area of 2,330 acres has been planted with pyrethrum in the Nilgiris and the Palnis. A Special Fodder Division was formed as a famine relief measure to supply hay to the civil population as well as to the military. Foodcrops were raised in fuel and timber plantations under the Kumri method of raising trees in conjunction with foodcrops. The surplus of revenue over expenditure rose from Rs. 20 lakhs in 1943 to Rs. 33 lakhs.

#### Forest Panchayats

A number of panchayat forests were brought under the management of the Revenue Department and a few were transferred to the Forest Department. Fodder trees were successfully planted under the 'Taungya' method of regeneration in the Kothur panchayat forest in the Bellary district and a successful beginning in the same direction was made in a panchayat forest of the Chittoor district. The 'Kumri' method of cultivation and regeneration was tried over an area of about 715 acres in 5 districts.

#### Fisheries

The fishing season on the West Coast was favourable during the year. The oil sardine fishery was again a failure but heavy catches of mackerel compensated for the deficiency. On the East Coast, the fishing season was poorer in the Northern Circars than in the previous year. The West Hill Biological Station concentrated on the study of commercial food fishes, fishing grounds, fish seasons and problems relating to shark fisheries and extraction of shark liver oil. The Krusadai Biological Station continued work on the particular items of research assigned to it. The Fresh Water Biological Station at Chetput did valuable research in pisciculture in accordance with the programme laid down by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. Investigations were also carried on regarding the qualitative and quantitative estimation of microscopic pond life, physico-chemical details of water, meteorological factors, fish diseases and the best methods of transporting live fish. Three demonstration fish farms were opened in the South Kanara district.

The fishing of mullet fingerlings in Thummalapenta and Woolapalem in the Nellore district was prohibited. The stocking of catla was done as usual. Five promising shark fishing grounds were located off the West Coast as a result of the investigations carried out by the deep-sea fishing staff. A scheme for the supply of smoked fish to the army was sanctioned. Two fishery development boards were set up at Calicut and Madras for the further development of inland fisheries and the exploitation of sea fisheries.

#### Government Oil factory, Calicut

The total production of crude shark liver oil at the Factory was 2,352 gallons up to the end of October as compared with 6,849 gallons last year. The quantity of shark livers treated was 33,026 lbs. Two pilot plants were installed at the Factory and arrangements had been made to instal additional filter press and refining tanks and to construct two extra storage tanks. The factory will soon place in the market "Adamin" or high potency shark liver oil.

#### Minerals

The principal minerals worked during the year were barytes in the Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool districts, magnesite, corundum and bauxite in the Salem



district, mica in the Nilgiris, Nellore and Coimbatore districts, asbestos in the Cuddapah district, gypsum, phosphatic nodules and celestine in the Trichinopoly district, red oxide of iron in the Bellary district, manganese in the Bellary and Vizagapatam districts and chromite in the Kistna district. Besides these, China clay, felspar, quartz, gypsum, kyanite and steatite were mined in the Nellore district. Small quantities of calcite, steatite and mica were also produced in the Anantapur district, while gold and silver were prospected for in the Chittoor district. Limestone continued to be extracted on a large scale in the Coimbatore district for the manufacture of cement and to a considerable extent in the Trichinopoly district as well. There was a keen demand for mica and other minerals required for war purposes. New mica mines were opened in the Nilgiris and Coimbatore districts. There was an appreciable increase in the number of applications for mining concessions.

## CHAPTER IX—TRADE AND INDUSTRY

### Exports and Imports

The figures available up to the end of November show that the total value of the private trade of the Presidency increased by Rs. 41.26 crores as compared with that of the corresponding period of 1943. Foreign imports increased by Rs. 10.98 crores. There was a marked rise in the imports of machinery and mill work, chemicals, manures, drugs and medicines, cotton piecegoods and dyeing and tanning substances. Imports of vehicles, spices and seeds dropped. Foreign exports, including re-exports, increased by Rs. 6.17 crores. The chief commodities, which registered an increase were fruits and vegetables, cotton coloured piecegoods, groundnut seeds, coir manufactures and raw tobacco, while there was a decline in the exports of tanned cowhides, castor seeds and dry salted fish. The total trade (imports and exports) with the British Empire recorded an increase of Rs. 6.52 crores. The total import revenue for 1944 rose from Rs. 356.32 lakhs to Rs. 610.47 lakhs. The export revenue increased slightly by Rs. 0.29 lakh. The cess collected under the Indian Agricultural Produce Cess Act amounted to Rs. 7.26 lakhs.

### Ports

There was a decrease in the number and tonnage of steamers and sailing craft which entered the minor ports, resulting in an appreciable fall in port dues. The decrease in the number of sailing craft was due to the introduction of the route system of agency by the Government of India for country craft plying between Karachi and Cochin and the restriction imposed on the transport of certain commodities on the West Coast. There was no passenger traffic at any of the minor ports, except at Dhanushkodi.

### Industries and Commerce

#### Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Intelligence

The Bureau provided general and technical information on industrial and commercial subjects and economic questions generally. Numerous references were received as usual from the Director of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, and several enquiries from the Controller of Supplies, Madras, regarding the sources of supply of articles required for war purposes. The Bureau also dealt with applications from firms for permission either to export their products out of India or to import machinery and materials besides applications for railway priorities and supply of chemicals.

#### War Supplies

War orders to the value of Rs. 1,99,481 were executed. Production was stopped from July 1944 as the expected second round of orders from the Supply Department was not received, and the Factory Section at Bellary was closed. Ninety-two tons of aloe fibre valued at about Rs. 40,000 was collected and despatched to Calcutta up to September 1944. A hand operated machine on the Prendlock model for the extraction of banana fibre was successfully devised by the Special Officer for

fibre. Another machine for the extraction of aloë fibre was under preparation. The War Supply Section attended also to the procurement of rice mill spare parts.

#### Coal Control

The Government of India allotted 94 wagons to the Presidency under the Coal Rationing Scheme for distribution to miscellaneous industries not engaged on war work and for domestic consumption. The quota was reduced to 67 wagons in April. An Assistant was sanctioned to the Provincial Coal Controller in September.

#### Paper Control

In November 1944, the Director of Industries and Commerce was appointed as Provincial Paper Controller to control the distribution and consumption of paper throughout the Province and to administer the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1944, the Paper Control (Distribution) Order, 1944, the Paper Price Control Order, 1944, the Paper Control (Prices of Board) Order, 1944, and the Paper (Prices of Imported Paper) Control Order, 1944, promulgated by the Government of India. A Deputy Paper Controller and other staff were appointed to assist the Provincial Paper Controller. A scheme to ensure equitable distribution of paper to all consumers was under consideration. A monthly quota of 315 tons of paper was allotted to the Presidency (including Coorg and the States of Pudukottai, Sandur and Banganapalle) for distribution to non-Government consumers. Arrangements were made to supply exercise books at reasonable rates to students in about 500 colleges and schools, other than elementary schools, through the Madras Provincial Co-operative Marketing Society.

#### Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut

Over a thousand samples of oils, soaps and other articles were analysed as against 936 last year. Ten students were undergoing training in the Institute including one from Ceylon. There was a great demand for the soaps and solid dentifrice articles manufactured at the Institute and certain sections of the Factory were worked in two shifts. Two additional soap boiling pans and a set of milling machinery were installed. A proposal to start a hydrogenation factory at Calicut was approved by the Government. Schemes for the expansion of the library and laboratory and for developing the Institute into an Oil Technological Institute were under consideration. Eight hundred and sixty-five gallons of pyrethrum extract were prepared. About a dozen petrol extractions were carried out with encouraging results. One thousand seven hundred and eighty-one lbs. of essential oils were produced up to the middle of November. An extent of 10.15 acres was planted during the year with vetivert and 6.5 acres with cinnamon. The Madras Government Products Sales Depot sold products of the Institute as well as of other Government concerns and departments.

#### Other Manufactures

The Coir School at Beypore was separated from the Kerala Soap Institute and placed under the charge of a Superintendent from August 1944. Arrangements were being made to reconstitute the school on a new basis. A scheme was sanctioned for the employment of evacuees in the coir industry by opening five training centres in Malabar and by training 30 evacuees in the Coir School. The Department undertook to start hand-made paper units in all the Central Jails. The three hand-made paper production units continued their work during the year. Bleached writings and printings were manufactured at the Government Hand-made Paper Unit at Gazulapalli.

#### Sericulture

The seasonal conditions during the year were favourable for the silk industry, except in the months of October and November when silk worms suffered from disease as a result of the continuous rains. The supply of seeds to the ryots was satisfactory. Concessions given in the Kollegal taluk for the expansion of the area under mulberry were continued and extended to some other taluks in the Chittoor district. Over 3,600 acres were newly planted with mulberry during the year and a sum of about Rs. 30,000 was disbursed by way of loans. The Government Silk Farm at Coonoor was converted into a Hill Rearing Station to conduct research work in

silk worm genetics. Thirty-two stipends were sanctioned for training in sericulture at the several farms. The control measures which were introduced in 1943 in regard to cocoons and the silk produced in the Kollegal and Hosur taluks continued to be in force. The production of silk at the Government Silk Filatures, Kollegal, was satisfactory and the daily average production of parachute silk during the year was about a pound per basin. The Kollegal Silk Filatures, Kollegal, also continued the production and supply of parachute silk to the Supply Department. The silk yarn produced was tested and found to be quite suitable for the manufacture of high grade silk fabrics.

#### Hand Spinning and Khadi Manufacture

The Government discontinued giving financial assistance to the All-India Spinners' Association during the year. Grants amounting to Rs. 6,617 were, however, sanctioned to the Rayalaseema Moola Khadi Prathisthapanam, Tadpatri, for the development of hand-spinning in famine centres in the Bellary and Kurnool districts. A loan of Rs. 4,000 was also sanctioned.

#### Engineering

Repairs were done to a large number of rural water-supply pumps in spite of the difficulty in procuring spare parts. The work of the Section was considerably hampered on account of the restrictions on the supply of steel and iron materials. Reinforced cement pipes were used wherever possible to line borewells. A large number of hand-boring sets and power drills were engaged on works of military importance. An experimental section was opened in the Industrial Engineering Workshops.

#### Industrial Education

Nine scholarships were awarded for study in the Indian Institute of Science.

#### Government School of Technology

There was a slight fall in the normal average strength in the School owing to war conditions. The manufacture of G.S.T. burners and float Lamps was completed in March and a machine for the manufacture of packing cases was designed.

#### School of Arts and Crafts and Government Industrial and Trade Schools

The School of Arts and Crafts, the Government Industrial Schools at Madura, Bellary and Calicut and the Trade School at Mangalore continued to function satisfactorily. The Industrial and Trade Schools undertook the manufacture of agricultural implements.

#### Aided Industrial Schools

A sum of Rs. 95,168 was distributed in the form of maintenance grants to 75 recognized schools.

#### Leather Trades Institute

The Government decided to reorganize the Institute with a view to run it partly as a model tannery and partly as a research institute. Intensive research on indigenous tanning materials was undertaken. A tanning demonstration was held at Alur in the Bellary district. Twelve apprentices were trained in tanning and leather goods manufacture.

#### Ceramic Industry

The Government sanctioned a scheme for the establishment of a model ceramic factory at Gudur in the Nellore district and the opening of a pottery training centre in the Kurnool district. The scheme in operation for the development of village pottery in the North Arcot district worked satisfactorily.

#### General

The Department of Industries and Commerce participated in Agricultural and Industrial exhibitions held in the Presidency. No loans under the State Aid to Industries Act were disbursed during the year.

#### Textiles

##### Organization

Considerable additions were made during the year to the duties of the Provincial Textile Commissioner, with the result that the department had to be considerably

expanded. The work of the department related to the administration of the various Provincial and Central control orders for cotton textiles and dyes and chemicals, the production of war textiles, the development of collective weaving centres, the administration of the mill-made standard cloth scheme and the distribution of yarn and cloth.

#### **Yarn and Cloth Control**

There was a progressive and steady improvement in the enforcement of textile control in the Presidency. A system of controlled distribution of yarn, called the District Quota Scheme, was introduced, its object being to ensure steady monthly supplies of yarn for the handlooms in each district. The scheme sets up a link connecting the mill, the wholesaler holding the quota, and the retailer with the consumer. The Madras Cloth Dealers' Control Order, 1944, was promulgated with effect from the 1st of May. It repealed the Regulation of the Sale of Cloth Act, 1937, and provided for the licensing of cloth dealers and commission agents. The Madras Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Brokers') Control Order was promulgated in order to enforce the licensing of brokers. The Madras Textile Mills Control Order, 1944, provided for adequate control of weaving mills and for the licensing of retail depots run by the mills. From the beginning of the year, measures were taken to seize the unstamped cloth and yarn manufactured before the 1st August 1943, which had remained unsold with the dealers at the end of 1943 and to stamp it with the prescribed prices. A notification was issued in October under clause 10 (a) of the Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order, 1943, fixing prices for imported cotton cloth and yarn and prescribing a programme for the disposal of such cloth. A Committee, with the Provincial Textile Commissioner as the Chairman, was set up to fix the prices of imported cotton cloth and yarn. The sales of the cloth produced in one mill and of the yarn produced in another were brought under the control of the department on account of well-founded complaints against the mills in question.

#### **War Production**

No fresh war orders were taken up during the year and the work was confined to the completion of the orders already accepted.

#### **Collective Weaving Centres**

Three collective weaving centres were closed during the year, leaving 10 centres functioning at the end of the year. After the abandonment of the handloom standard cloth scheme in March, the centres turned over their looms to the production of ordinary varieties of cloth. Steps were under consideration for the conversion of the centres into weavers' co-operative societies.

#### **Handloom Standard Cloth**

The scheme for the production of handloom standard cloth was abandoned in March owing to the fact that handloom standard cloth could not compete with mill-made cloth, which was beginning to come into the market freely at reduced prices as a result of the enforcement of control measures. Special arrangements were being made at the end of the year to dispose of the balance of 541,000 yards of unsold handloom standard cloth as quickly as possible.

#### **Mill-made Standard Cloth**

Out of a total of about 88 million yards of standard cloth allotted to the Presidency, about 79 million yards had reached the consuming centres and about 55 million yards had been sold. During the year, the cloth was brought within the easy reach of the rural population by licensing dealers in convenient rural centres and by withdrawing various restrictions. The retail prices of the cloth were reduced twice during the year. Standard cloth, however, was not popular among the people of the Presidency on account of the fact that it was not suitable to their tastes and because the margin of difference between the standard cloth price and that of non-standard cloth had been considerably reduced. The Government therefore decided not to send any more indents for standard cloth and to wind up the scheme at the earliest possible date.

#### **The Government Textile Institute**

Forty-four persons were undergoing training in the various courses. The Designing Section started work during the year and produced a large number of samples

such as saree patterns, towels and suitings. General research work on improvements to textile appliances and processes was undertaken at the Institute. The Tinctorial Chemist conducted experiments with dyeing materials for the production of fast dyes with attractive shades.

### Companies

The total number of companies increased from 1,804 to 1,908. One hundred and fifty-seven companies were registered, 55 were either wound up or struck off the register and two companies were restored to the register by the High Court. The new registrations had an authorized capital of Rs. 498 lakhs. Of the new registrations, 91 were trading and manufacturing concerns, 14 were banking and loan companies and 14 were transit and transport companies. The largest floatation was the East India Steam Navigation Company, Limited, with a capital of one crore of rupees. The decline both in the number and authorized capital of new registrations was due to the working of rule 94 (a) of the Defence of India Rules, which prohibited the issue of capital without the sanction of the Central Government. The authorized, subscribed and paid up capitals of companies working at the close of the year were Rs. 6,980 lakhs, Rs. 2,976 lakhs and Rs. 2,384 lakhs, respectively.

### Industrial Labour

#### Factories

There were 2,691 factories at the beginning of the year and 2,874 factories at the end of the year. Two hundred and eighty-six factories were added to and 103 were removed from the register.

#### Working Hours and Health of Workers

The statutory provisions in regard to working hours were generally observed, but in some cases exemptions from the provisions of the Factories Act were granted owing to the war emergency. The health of the workers was generally good, although there were epidemics of plague, cholera and malaria in the Cuddapah and Chittoor districts. Sanitation and cleanliness of the factories was satisfactory on the whole.

#### Labour disputes

There were 67 industrial disputes during the year, four being in textile mills and nine in engineering workshops. The more important of these were in the Sri Ganeshar Aluminium Works, Madras, the Mettur Chemical and Industrial Corporation, Limited, Mettur, the Public Works Workshops and Stores, Madras, and a strike of the conservancy workers of the Madras Corporation.

#### Trade Unions

Fifty-one unions were registered during the year and the registrations of 20 unions were cancelled. The number of Trade Unions on the register at the end of the year was 154.

#### General

There were five cases of fire, which caused damage to property amounting to Rs. 1,40,060. Four thousand seven hundred and twelve inspections were made by the Factories Inspectorate and 64 prosecutions were launched for contravention of the Factories Act. Liberal bonuses were paid to the workers in the textile industry and some of the factories opened canteens and dispensaries for their labourers and creches for the children of workers.

#### Emigration

There were no return emigrants from South Africa under the Scheme of Assisted Emigration. The ban on the emigration of unskilled labour to Ceylon continued during the year, although its rigour was further relaxed by permitting unmarried girls and widows to accompany their parents or supporters to Ceylon. There was a marked increase in the flow of skilled workers to Ceylon owing to the prosperous trade conditions prevailing there. The work connected with the evacuees from Burma was attended to by the Protector of Emigrants in the City of Madras and by Collectors in the mufassal. The administration of the Indian Emigration Act was taken over by the Central Government from October and placed under the Controller-General of Emigration, Commonwealth Relations Department.

## CHAPTER X—RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

Co-operation  
Years of Progress

	1913-14.	1923-24.	1933-34.	1943-44.
Total number of co-operative societies .. ..	1,333	9,785	13,634	15,544
Total membership of co-operative societies .. ..	100,769	616,628	907,260	1,622,853
Number of land mortgage banks and central banks.	8	32	96	149
Number of non-agricultural societies .. . . .	50	1,166	1,438	3,295
Number of agricultural credit societies other than land mortgage banks.	1,247	8,103	11,348	10,821
	RS. (IN LAKHS).	RS. (IN LAKHS).	RS. (IN LAKHS).	RS. (IN LAKHS).
Total cost to Government .. .. .	1.20	6.29	10.85	17.54
Total working capital of all societies except land mortgage banks.	123.21	839.27	1,549.01	2,495.53
Total working capital of all land mortgage banks.	..	..	83.04	572.80
Working capital of the central banks and land mortgage banks.	52.19	295.34	618.07	894.90
Working capital of the rural societies other than land mortgage banks.	55.80	320.85	474.32	532.96
Working capital of the urban societies .. ..	15.22	131.47	348.70	892.17
Total amount of loans outstanding against members of all societies except land mortgage banks.	115.80	737.70	*	1,241.61
Total amount of loans outstanding against members of land mortgage banks.	..	..	*	457.87
Loans outstanding against members of urban societies.	63.95	106.84	279.98	350.30
Loans outstanding against members of rural societies other than land mortgage banks.	50.85	276.78	*	352.77

\* Figures not available.

## General

The year 1944 was the fortieth year of the working of the co-operative movement in the Presidency. The course of the movement during the year, which was one of marked progress, was largely shaped by the war. Co-operative societies participated to a greater extent than before in the schemes for the solution of the problems created by the war. There was a very considerable development on the non-credit side and a remarkable expansion of consumers' co-operative stores. The collection of the Central Banks was very good, while the percentage of overdues of land mortgage banks was the lowest on record.

## Education and Training

The training Institutes in the mufassal and the Central Co-operative Institute conducted training classes as usual. Short training courses in salesmanship and account keeping were conducted at six centres for the employees of stores societies.

## Societies

The number of societies increased from 15,442 in the previous year to 15,643. Their membership, issue of loans, working capital and net profits also increased. Three-fourths of the loans were issued for productive purposes.

## Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank

The working of the Provincial Co-operative Bank continued to be satisfactory. Its net profits rose from Rs. 76,000 in 1942-43 to Rs. 2.15 lakhs in 1943-44. The Bank set apart a sum of Rs. 5,000 for the development of cottage industries.

## Central Banks

The working of the Central Banks was generally satisfactory and all of them worked at a profit. The banks continued to finance the consumers' co-operative stores liberally. There was, however, some room for improvement in the working of the banks in the Ceded districts.

## The Central Land Mortgage Bank

The bank issued loans amounting to Rs. 17.28 lakhs as against Rs. 19.19 lakhs last year and collected Rs. 27.03 lakhs as against Rs. 38.10 lakhs in the previous year. The amount of loans outstanding fell from Rs. 234.93 lakhs to Rs. 225.17 lakhs.

### Sale Societies

There were 185 sale societies. They issued loans amounting to Rs. 143.41 lakhs on the security of produce as compared with Rs. 197.88 lakhs in the previous year. The value of the produce sold was Rs. 220.06 lakhs. There was a fall in their loan transactions on account of the enforcement of various control orders restricting the movement of agricultural produce. The sale societies helped ryots in increasing food production by supplying them with improved varieties of seeds and manure, and steel tyres and axles for country carts to the total value of Rs. 10.5 lakhs. The controlled credit scheme was in operation in 20 districts and over 26,000 acres were brought under cultivation under the scheme. A successful beginning was made in marketing agricultural produce in the Ceded Districts through co-operative sale societies by means of a special scheme. A sum of Rs. 74,432 was issued to members by way of cultivation loans under the scheme and produce worth Rs. 35,000 was marketed by the eight selected sale societies.

### Marketing Federations

The five marketing federations did good business in the year. They purchased goods worth Rs. 49.46 lakhs and sold goods valued at Rs. 52.78 lakhs. The total sales of the Madras Provincial Marketing Society amounted to Rs. 20.16 lakhs and the society was also recognized by the authorities as one of the wholesalers for the distribution of controlled commodities. The Nilgiris Marketing Society continued to work the emergency scheme sanctioned by the Government for the supply of manure to potato growers in the hills. It supplied manure valued at Rs. 4.40 lakhs for an area of 1,860 acres under potato cultivation and marketed potatoes worth Rs. 11.85 lakhs.

### Consumers' Societies

There were 1,249 primary consumers' societies as against 1,120 in the previous year. A majority of them were in rural areas. The consumers' societies sold goods worth Rs. 936 lakhs, both to members as well as non-members. All primary stores in rationed areas were recognized as retail ration shops and about a quarter of the total number of ration shops belonged to these societies. A special feature was the formation of industrial stores for the benefit of mill employees.

### Wholesale Stores

There were 21 wholesale stores which purchased goods to the value of Rs. 774 lakhs and sold goods worth Rs. 734 lakhs. The Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society continued to work the emergency scheme for food supply to Madras City.

### Weavers' Societies

The co-operative organization for handloom weavers consisted of the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Society and 290 affiliated primary weavers' societies. The Provincial Society supplied yarn to the primary societies and sold their finished products through its emporiums spread over the Province. It had three dye factories at Salem, Madura and Chirala and a screen printing factory at Madras, which made very good progress. The Provincial Society arranged for the distribution of hydro-sulphate to dyers and the dyeing factories. The weavers' societies purchased raw materials to the value of Rs. 67.94 lakhs and sold finished products to the value of Rs. 92.20 lakhs.

### Milk Supply Societies and Unions

The milk supply unions sold milk and milk products valued at Rs. 22.44 lakhs. The Madras Milk Supply Union was the sole supplier of milk to the City State hospitals and was entrusted with the City Emergency Milk Supply scheme. The Government sanctioned a scheme for the salvage of dry cows in Madras City and a co-operative salvage society was started for the purpose.

### War Effort

The co-operative societies actively assisted the 'Grow More Food' campaign and the war effort, by contributions to His Excellency the Governor's War Fund and War Charities, investment in National Savings, execution of war orders, the equitable distribution of foodstuffs and other essential articles through the societies and the encouragement of food production by multiplication of pure seed and supply

of manure. They also played a part in checking inflation by encouraging habits of thrift among their members.

### **Rural Amenities**

#### **Periodical Conferences**

The periodical conferences of gazetted officers, presidents of district boards and elected members of the Legislature were as usual convened by Collectors at intervals of not more than three months for the consideration of all matters of general importance affecting the welfare of the people. Some of the elected members were unable to attend, while members of the Legislature belonging to the Congress party were often unwilling to do so. The non-official representation on the conferences was maintained by inviting other non-officials to take part in them.

#### **Rural Reconstruction**

Progress was made in the work of rural reconstruction. The Government of India grant sanctioned for this purpose was utilized for the improvement of rural water supplies, rural sanitation, village communications and for the encouragement and development of co-operative loan and sale societies and societies for the consolidation of holdings. From the commencement of the scheme up to the end of September, 2,327 rural water-supply works had either been completed or were in progress and about Rs. 7½ lakhs had been spent on them from the grant. About Rs. 2½ lakhs had been contributed by villagers, panchayats and the like. Seven hundred and thirty-four sanitation works and 843 village communication works had either been completed or were in progress. Over one lakh of rupees was disbursed for the encouragement and development of loan and sale co-operative societies and a number of rural water-supply works were also completed under the Provincial Comprehensive Scheme.

#### **Land Colonization Schemes**

Land colonization schemes for the landless poor were working in the districts of West Godavari, Kistna, Kurnool, Salem, Coimbatore, North Arcot, Chingleput and Tanjore. They were worked on a co-operative basis under the guidance of agricultural demonstrators, who were trained in co-operation. The Government sanctioned increased financial help to the colonists during the year by way of increased loans for reclamation, advances for purchase of implements, and grants for purchase of manure and seed as well as meeting half the cost of bulls.

#### **Alleviation of Indebtedness**

The Government suspended for the duration of the war the scheme for the grant of loans for the relief of rural indebtedness and ordered that only applications pending at that time should be disposed of and no further applications should be considered after the 1st September 1942. The few Debt Conciliation Boards which had remained for the disposal of pending cases under the Madras Debt Conciliation Act, 1943, ceased to function after the end of March.

### **Agriculture**

#### **Education**

With a view to meet the present shortage and the expected demand for Agricultural graduates in the post-war period, the Government sanctioned an increase in the number of admissions to the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, from 48 to 96 for a period of three years.

#### **Paddy**

Research work at the different rice research stations was carried out according to a three-year programme and satisfactory results were obtained. Three new strains from Pattambi were released for distribution.

#### **Sugarcane**

The results of trials with 32 varieties indicated that Co. 467, Co. 469 and Co. 473 were promising as regards juice, quality and yield, although they did not surpass Co. 419, the standard cane. Among the mid-season maturing varieties Co. 449 was the most outstanding.



### Pulses

Six strains already evolved were distributed to the districts with a view to determine their suitability for different tracts.

### Cotton

The three improved strains Co. 2, Co. 3 and Co. 4 proved to be very popular and accounted for about 78 per cent of the total area under cotton during the year.

### Rubber Yielding Plants

Actual field work for the collection of rubber was started at Bannur in the Kurnool district.

### Vegetables

Attempts were made to extend the area under potatoes. Special staff was employed in certain towns to increase the production of vegetables. A central seed depot was opened at Madras and an agricultural research station was started in the Nilgiris for the multiplication of English vegetable seeds.

### Research

Research on the constitution of black and red soils continued. Investigations were made into manures, plant nutrition and problems of irrigation. Studies on the Meenampalayam and Jaffna varieties of tobacco were concluded. The possibility of cheapening the cost of preparation of agar agar from sea weed was being studied.

### Agricultural Marketing

A survey report on castor was completed and survey reports on millets, gingelly, niger seed, pulses and meat were under preparation. Advice on improved methods of marketing was given to several co-operative societies by the officers of the Agricultural and Co-operative departments. The grading of tobacco and some other minor products had to be given up temporarily.

### Government Malt Factory

The work at the Government Malt Factory was mainly confined to the production of malt and malt extract with shark liver oil using cholam as the basic material. Ragi malt prepared in the Chittoor district as a cottage industry was gaining in popularity.

### Grow More Food Propaganda

No effort was spared to ensure the success of the 'Grow More Food' campaign. The Agricultural district of Vizagapatam was bifurcated into two districts, the posts of agricultural demonstrators in the headquarter taluks of the districts were restored and a separate demonstration maistry was appointed to each revenue firka. These administrative changes were made with a view to intensify propaganda and devote more concentrated attention on smaller areas. A Special District Agricultural Officer was employed in connexion with the reclamation of lands in the Cauvery-Mettur Project Area. Paddy received the greatest attention and the Department aimed at expanding the area under improved strains and popularizing the proper use of manures and economic methods of planting. Paddy seed farms were run in some of the districts on a large scale. All the successful improved strains of millets were distributed. Emphasis was laid on the proper preservation of cattle manure in order to improve its quality and quantity. The preparation of compost was undertaken on an extended scale. Efforts were made to increase the area under green manure. The movement of oilcake was controlled and distribution was done according to a zonal scheme. Quantities of ammonium sulphate and ammonium phosphate allotted by the Government of India were distributed as fertilizers. Seeds and manure were distributed free to poor ryots and demonstration plots were arranged to impress on the cultivators the advantages of growing improved strains and adopting improved methods of cultivation. Particular efforts were made to intensify the cultivation of vegetables. Special facilities were provided for the grant of loans for cultivation expenses and for the purchase of good seeds and manures. Seeds of fodder grasses were distributed on a large scale. Agricultural exhibitions were held on a number of occasions and over 39,000 lectures were delivered.

## Veterinary

### The Provincial Livestock Improvement Board

The Provincial Livestock Improvement Board held three meetings and approved, among other proposals, the extension of the scheme for the grant of subsidy to owners of heifer calves and the opening of a sheep farm in the Ceded Districts.

### Livestock and Poultry Research Stations.

There were two livestock research stations at Hosur and Guntur and a poultry research station at Madras. The expansion of the livestock research station at Guntur was sanctioned during the year.

### Serum Institute, Coimbatore

In order to meet the heavy demand for anti-Rinderpest serum and virus, the production at the Serum Institute, Coimbatore, was expanded and a serum section was opened in May at the Madras Veterinary College to supplement the production at the Institute.

### Conservation of Livestock.

The restriction on the export of cattle, sheep and goats from the Presidency and the prohibition on the slaughter of cattle fit for work and breeding continued during the year. The Madras Fowls and Eggs Control Order, 1944, which prohibited the export of fowls and eggs from the Presidency except under a permit, was promulgated in order to conserve all available supplies of eggs in the Presidency.

### Contagious Diseases

The total number of outbreaks of contagious diseases reported was 7,733 resulting in 62,712 deaths. There was a slight fall in the incidence of contagious disease as compared with the previous year.

## CHAPTER XI—PUBLIC WORKS

### Years of Progress

	1913-14.	1923-24.	1933-34.	1943-44.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).	(IN LAKHS).
Expenditure on Public Works including buildings and roads.	85.47	73.36	59.89	89.37 (Exclusive of grants-in-aid to local bodies).
Expenditure on irrigation works.	78.90	90.29	146.03	127.73
Revenue from irrigation works ..	264.25	273.78	312.61	371.04
Area charged as irrigated in acres.	7,143,180	6,891,136	7,489,535	8,385,475
Percentage return on productive works.	9.83	13.70	6.92	9.08

### The Public Works Department

#### (General, Buildings and Defence)

The two temporary Circles, namely, the Aerodrome Circle and the Anantapur Circle, continued during the year. Most of the A.R.P. works were completed and as a result of the improvement in the war situation, the execution of some works was dropped. Several additional works were undertaken for the Defence Services. Fire stations were under construction at Madura and Bezwada. Eight godowns for the storage of reserve stocks of grain were constructed in Madras City at a cost of Rs. 6.3 lakhs. Another godown was under construction while the construction of three additional godowns was approved. Three blocks of temporary buildings were under construction at an approximate cost of Rs. 1.5 lakhs for use as Government offices in the City. Plans and estimates for the buildings required for the Wynaad and Araku Valley schemes were under preparation and some preliminary work was begun. The prevailing scarcity of

materials hampered the progress of water-supply and drainage works. There was great pressure on the Department on account of numerous Defence works as well as urgent civil works. Additional staff was sanctioned to cope with the increased work, but difficulty was experienced in obtaining trained technical personnel. The number of admissions into the College of Engineering, Guindy, was increased in order to ensure recruitment of sufficient trained men. The progress of works also suffered on account of shortage of labour, due to a large number of Defence works in the Presidency, high rates of wages and contracts, transport difficulties and the restrictions on the supply of several materials.

### Communications

Three additional special Roads Divisions were formed for the execution of road works of military importance. A Road Development Engineer was appointed for the preparation of 'project' and 'first-phase' estimates for post-war development schemes. The position in regard to the supply of steel, cement and bitumen continued to be difficult and consequently only such works as were regarded as essential in war time were taken up for execution. The Government sanctioned an increase of 25 per cent in the grant to local bodies for the maintenance of trunk and important marketing roads in view of the rise in the prices of materials and the increased rates of wages.

### Broadcasting

The Provincial Broadcasting Department was made permanent during the year. The Presidency was divided into three circles, each under an Assistant Radio Engineer. A research section was opened in the office of the Radio Engineer with three students. The Government of India allotted 568 sets to the Presidency, free of cost, for the development of community listening but the progress of the scheme was hampered on account of the lack of batteries. Fifteen rural sets and 32 municipal sets were installed during the year bringing the total number of rural sets working to 479 and of municipal sets to 140. There were 15 public address systems in the Presidency.

### Irrigation

#### The Cauvery Delta

The Mettur Reservoir was opened on the 17th of May when the level was 96 feet. As the rainfall during the south-west monsoon was, however, considerably below the normal, the level fell rapidly and stood at only 38 feet on the 9th of July, which was the lowest level reached since 1935. Supply of water was rationed for about three months during the earlier part of the irrigation season but normal supplies were restored subsequently. Ample supply was allowed for most of the season in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area in order to bring an additional extent of 40,000 acres under cultivation. The north-east monsoon was very favourable and the reservoir rose to a peak level of 118 feet during December.

#### The Godavari Delta

An extent of 67,667 acres in the eastern delta was thrown open for second-crop cultivation under the new localization rules and 42,191 acres were actually cultivated. In the western delta, 144,000 acres were thrown open for the same purpose. The supply in all the canals was adequate and the crops were fair. The heavy rains of October 1944 affected crops to some extent in the eastern delta and submerged some areas bordering on the Collair lake. There were very heavy floods in the Godavari in August resulting in damage to the Gannavaram aqueduct which caused a temporary failure of supply to the ayacut lands. The working of the aqueduct was restored within a month and, fortunately, there was little loss to crops on account of timely rains during that period.

#### The Kistna Delta

The flow in the river was low till the middle of July, but the subsequent supplies were fairly good and the crops in general fared well. An additional extent of 18,329 acres was thrown open for cultivation and a further area of 4,800 acres was made available for cultivation under 13 pumping schemes.

Irrigation under the Kistna East Bank Canal Extension scheme made rapid progress and an area of 96,492 acres, including lands under unauthorized irrigation, was irrigated as against the ultimate proposed ayacut of 87,670 acres.

#### The Periyar System

In spite of the disappointing south-west monsoon judicious release of water by turns enabled the raising of good kodai crops both in the delta and the Cumbur valley. The level of the lake fell to 121 feet on the 11th of September but the situation was saved by the copious rainfall on the outbreak of the north-east monsoon in the latter half of October. The lake surplused between the 23rd November and 11th December.

#### The Tungabhadra Project

Agreements were concluded during the year with the States of Mysore and Hyderabad for the sharing of the waters of the Tungabhadra. Work on the Project is likely to start soon.

#### The Polavaram Project

The special division engaged in the investigation of a dam across the Godavari near Polavaram completed preliminary investigations. River borings were in progress. An Officer of the Public Works Department now working in England, was deputed to visit America and gather expert advice regarding the suitable type of foundation to be adopted. An American Expert on dams visited the site at the end of the year.

#### Grow More Food Schemes

The most important scheme was an attempt to reclaim and bring under cultivation 40,000 acres of land in the area of the Cauvery-Mettur Project. A special staff of two subdivisions as well as additional Revenue staff under a special Collector were appointed to work the scheme. Approximately 59,000 acres had been reclaimed and over 52,000 acres brought under cultivation by the end of the year, thus well exceeding the target figure of 40,000 acres. Nineteen new schemes, estimated to cost Rs. 11.3 lakhs, were sanctioned during the year in order to provide irrigation for an additional extent of about 7,000 acres besides ensuring supplies to 12,000 acres of wet land, thus bringing the total number of sanctioned schemes to 51. Twenty schemes were completed during the year.

#### General

The south-west monsoon was very poor in the southern districts of the Presidency especially in the catchment areas of the Tambraparni, Vaigai, Periyar and Mettur reservoirs. The north-east monsoon, on the other hand, was unusually heavy and Madras alone recorded a total rainfall of over 41 inches in October and November. There was, however, very little damage to irrigation works from floods. A notable event during the year was the formation of an Irrigation Research Station at Poondi under an Executive Engineer to study the irrigation problems peculiar to the Presidency.

## CHAPTER XII—EXCISE AND PROHIBITION

### Excise

#### Consumption

The latest figures available show that there was an increase in the consumption of ganja, opium, toddy and Indian-made foreign spirits including coconut toddy arrack. There was a fall in the consumption of arrack and Indian-brewed beer.

#### Revenue

The total excise revenue during the first nine months of the year was Rs. 751.3 lakhs as against Rs. 428.35 lakhs in the corresponding period of 1943. Supply of arrack to shops continued to be rationed. A general restriction on the issue of

ganja to shops was imposed in order to conserve supplies. Opium shops, too, continued to work under a restriction of supply. The duty on arrack, ganja, bhang, opium and Indian-made foreign spirits including coconut toddy arrack and the rates of tree-tax were increased.

### Prohibition

The operation of the Madras Prohibition Act which had been in force in the districts of Salem, North Arcot, Chittoor and Cuddapah was suspended from the beginning of the year and the operation of the Madras Abkari Act was revived in those districts. Toddy and ganja shops and certain classes of foreign liquor shops were opened. Opium shops were also opened in April. The consumption of arrack continued to be prohibited in the four districts. Arrack shops were not opened partly because supplies of arrack could not be arranged and partly in the expectation that the reintroduction of toddy shops would have some effect in reducing the illicit distillation of arrack.

## CHAPTER XIII—COMMUNITIES ELIGIBLE FOR HELP BY THE GOVERNMENT

### Organization

The ameliorative work for the communities eligible for help by the Labour Department continued to be under the supervision of District Collectors, subject to the general supervision and guidance of the Commissioner of Labour in matters of policy. There was a special Labour staff working in 14 districts. There was a District Advisory Committee in each district and also a Provincial Advisory Board for the Presidency.

### Programmes

The main items of work were, as usual, the provision of house-sites, the opening of schools, the grant of scholarships, stipends and boarding grants, etc., the maintenance of hostels at important centres, the provision of sanitary amenities and drinking water and the assignment of land for cultivation.

### Education

The total number of scholarships sanctioned for ordinary education was 6,682 as against 7,073 last year, but the number of residential scholarships granted was greater than in the previous year. In addition, 183 pupils were granted scholarships for professional courses as compared with 167 last year. Additional allotments of Rs. 1,100 and Rs. 21,580 were sanctioned during the year for the purchase of clothing, books, etc., and for boarding grants respectively. An expenditure of Rs. 2 lakhs in 1944-45 was sanctioned for the extension of the scheme of providing free midday meals to pupils studying in Labour schools. Free meals were supplied in 360 Labour schools as against 124 last year and about 15,000 children were benefited by the scheme which resulted in an increase in attendance in the schools and a general improvement in the health of the pupils.

### Madras City

An allotment of Rs. 30,000 was sanctioned for the provision of civic amenities and sanitary improvements in the cheries of the city and satisfactory progress in the work was made during the year. The Brisleenagar Settlement was placed on a rental basis and the huts which had been constructed by the Government on plinths provided by the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills were let out on a monthly rent of Re. 1-8-0 each. A proposal to construct pucca tenements at Tondiarpet was engaging the attention of the Government.

## Reclamation of Criminal Tribes

### General

The activities relating to the reclamation of the criminal tribes were transferred to the administrative control of the Police Department early in the year. The

work was carried on by the same agencies that functioned under the Commissioner of Labour, and consisted of Kallar reclamation in the Madura and Ramnad districts, Koravar reclamation in the Salem district and Yenadi reclamation in the Chittoor district. There were 6 Criminal Tribes Settlements, 5 of which were managed by the Government and one by the Salvation Army.

### Agriculture and Cottage Industries

More land was brought under cultivation in the Settlements. Of the various cottage industries, the most successful were sandal making at the Aziznagar Settlement and the production of charcoal at the Yenadi Reclamation Centres in the Chittoor district. The weaving industry did not make much headway owing to the competition of mill-made cloth. Increased wages were granted to enable the settlers to meet the higher cost of living.

### Health

The health of the settlers was satisfactory though malaria was prevalent at the Siddapuram Settlement and at some of the Yenadi Reclamation Centres in the Chittoor district.

### Education

Standards VII and VIII were opened in the school at the Chintaladevi Settlement. Free clothing and midday meals were supplied in all the schools. A Piramalai Kallar student was granted a residential scholarship for post-graduate study at the Annamalai University.

## CHAPTER XIV—CIVIL SUPPLIES

### Prices in 1944

As compared with the previous year, there was a fall in the prices of both foodgrains and commercial products. The index numbers of average wholesale prices were as follows :—

(Base—Prices in the week ending 21st August 1939—100.)

Half-year ending.	Foodgrains.	Commercial products.	Half-year ending.	Foodgrains.	Commercial products.
December, 1940 ..	119	96	December, 1942 ..	207	187
June, 1941 ..	122	95	June, 1943 ..	236	229
December, 1941 ..	140	114	December, 1943 ..	263	257
June, 1942 ..	142	123	June, 1944 ..	249	254

### Cost of Living

Items included in the compilation of the cost of living index have been divided into five main groups, viz., food, fuel and lighting, clothing, rent and miscellaneous. Weights have been assigned to all items in the index in proportion to their relative importance in an average low paid employee's family budget at each centre. The trend of the cost of living indices for the working classes in Madras City and eight mufassal centres since the outbreak of the war is as shown below :—

Month.	Madras City.	Vizagapatam.	Ellore.	Bellary.	Cuddalore.	Trichi-nopoly.	Madura.	Coimbatore.	Calicut.
August, 1939 ..	98	102	101	96	104	103	97	102	103
January, 1942 ..	117	121	120	127	118	121	110	118	129
December, 1942 ..	158	172	175	155	172	171	167	174	180
December, 1943 ..	189	220	213	226	198	195	210	213	228
March, 1944 ..	201	214	213	234	199	196	197	220	231
June, 1944 ..	204	226	214	234	222	204	208	229	241
September, 1944 ..	204	227	216	225	218	211	196	227	227
December, 1944 ..	209	219	218	214	221	208	205	218	237

## Control of Civil Supplies

### Organization

During the year, the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, who is a member of the Board of Revenue, continued to be in charge of the direction, co-ordination and

enforcement of the measures for the procurement and distribution of supplies, control of prices and the regulation of the movement of food stuffs and other articles of Civil Supplies. Two additional Deputy Commissioners—one for firewood and the other for procurement—and a Joint Secretary were appointed in the year to assist the Commissioner of Civil Supplies. The Provincial Controller of Food Rationing assisted by two Deputy Controllers was in charge of the administration of Rationing under the general control of the Commissioner. A Joint Controller was also appointed for a short period to deal with problems arising as a result of the extension of rationing to towns in the surplus districts. The cost of all the Civil Supplies Establishments is estimated to amount to over Rs. 50 lakhs for the year 1944-45.

### Paddy and Rice

The procurement of rice for deficit areas, for the Defence Services and for supply of the allotted quotas to Travancore and Cochin continued to be under the official purchasing agency. The Bezwada surplus area was bifurcated and placed under two separate Grain Purchase Officers. Considerable difficulty was felt early in the year due to the drying up of supplies from the southern surplus areas. The position improved a little after February when the harvest began, but procurement was still hampered on account of withholding of stocks by the ryots and the closure of canals for repairs in the northern area about the middle of the year. The procedure for requisitioning was tightened up and the option previously allowed to ryots to contract for supply of rice instead of paddy was permitted only in special cases. In spite of these measures, procurement continued to be difficult mainly because heavy purchases in the past had depleted the reserves. Rice mills were in many cases unable to give deliveries according to contracts. Frequent rains in the latter part of the year hampered village transport and the preparation of boiled rice. The quotas to deficit districts had to be temporarily reduced in consequence. During the year, the official purchasing agency purchased 846,000 tons of rice for supply to the deficit districts and the Defence Services and for export outside the Province in replacement of stocks received from Orissa and elsewhere. The Presidency received 77,876 tons of rice under the Kharif Plan of the Central Government which was in operation up to the end of October, besides a special allotment of 5,524 tons from the Punjab and Sind. In order to check the rise in the price of rice for local consumption in surplus areas, ceiling prices were fixed for local transactions in these areas. This had a considerable effect in steadying prices. A scheme of intensive procurement of paddy and rice was introduced in October in the districts of Vizagapatam, Trichinopoly, Ramnad, Tinnevely, Coimbatore, South Kanara and the Nilgiris. Under this scheme, the entire surplus with ryots after meeting domestic, seed and other requirements, as determined by the Collector, is to be acquired by the Government through selected purchasing agents.

### Millets

In order to meet the needs of deficit districts, a zonal scheme was drawn up under which the surplus determined in each surplus district was allotted to specific deficit districts, the surplus so allotted being imported by merchants selected by the Collectors of deficit districts through the usual trade channels. Up to the end of November, about 18,300 tons of millets were moved from surplus to deficit districts.

In accordance with the policy of the Government of India to control the prices of Jowar and Bajra by statute on an all-India basis, the Government issued notifications early in the year empowering Collectors to fix maximum prices at primary and non-primary wholesale markets. Collectors have accordingly fixed prices in the several markets. The prices fixed were generally observed.

In view of the unsatisfactory position of millets in the early part of the year and having regard to the fact that the statutory fixation of prices had tended apparently to drive some stocks underground, the Government issued a notification in April introducing a scheme of procurement by compulsory levy under which each cultivator cultivating millets on an extent of more than 10 acres was required to contribute to the Government or to the agents appointed by them one maund of millets per acre of land so cultivated. The scheme was introduced late in the fasli year by which time most of the surplus had already been disposed of by the ryots. There was therefore little progress in collections under the scheme, which was discontinued

for the current fasli year, beginning in July, in the districts which were surplus in rice. In October, it was retained only in nine heavily deficit districts but it was completely abandoned in December. In view of the expected improvement of the millets position owing to the anticipation of a good harvest in the Ceded districts, to which the imported millets had mostly been sent in 1943, a portion of the allotment of millets to this Province under the Kharif Plan was surrendered in favour of Travancore and Cochin at the beginning of the year. The hopes of a good millets harvest in the Ceded districts were, however, not realized as crops were infected with a pest and the Ceded districts which were expected to be surplus actually proved to be deficit. There was acute scarcity of millets in other heavily deficit districts such as Ramnad, Tinnevely and Coimbatore. The Government of India were therefore requested to make up for the surrender and allot further quotas from other sources, which they did in instalments. Allotments were made from the Punjab, the Central Provinces, Kotah, the United Provinces, Cochin, Baluchistan and Hyderabad. The imported millets were sent to the districts of Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Ramnad, Tinnevely, Coimbatore and Salem. The procurement of millets under the plan in the Punjab, the Central Provinces, Kotah, the United Provinces and Hyderabad was under the supervision of special officers of the Madras Government helped by local agents to the extent necessary. The procurement in Baluchistan was in the hands of a non-official purchasing agency of the Government. A quantity of 33,829 tons of millets was imported in the year under the Kharif Plan of 1943-44. The millets were sold to consumers at prices below their cost price in order to conform to local prices and the consequent loss which was estimated at Rs. 27 lakhs for the year 1944-45 was borne by the Government.

#### **Pulses and Wheat**

Grams and pulses of different varieties (bengalgram, redgram, greengram and blackgram) and also wheat and wheat products were imported under the Kharif and Rabi Plans of the Government of India. The entire quota of wheat was allotted from abroad. Wheat products, however, were imported from Sind as well as from abroad. Sixty-six thousand, four-hundred and fifty-two tons of grams and pulses and 24,513 tons of wheat products were imported under the Government of India plans and 63,558 tons of wheat and wheat products were imported from abroad. With a view to encourage the consumption of wheat and thus reduce the demand for rice, wheat was sold at half a measure per rupee cheaper than rice from November. The consequent loss was borne by the Government and the loss for four months in the official year was estimated at Rs. 10½ lakhs. In order to conserve the supplies of wheat products for general consumption and to control the export of wheat preparations like biscuits, vermicelli, etc., the Wheat Preparations Movement Control Order was promulgated in the middle of the year. Under this Order, wheat preparations cannot be exported to places outside the Province except under permits issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies. Wheat preparations weighing up to 20 lb. are allowed to be carried without permit by bona fide travellers.

#### **Foodgrains Control Order**

The Foodgrains Control Order, 1942, which is administered under the general superintendence of the Commissioner of Civil Supplies worked satisfactorily. Six-thousand, five-hundred and forty-five prosecutions were launched for offences under the Foodgrains Control and other Control Orders.

#### **Sugar and Jaggery**

The Provincial quota of sugar was raised from 72,000 to 80,000 tons. Thirty-four thousand, five-hundred and sixteen tons were imported from North India and the balance was met from local production and from imports from Mandya. In order to ensure adequate supplies of cane to sugar factories so as to achieve maximum production, the manufacture of jaggery in all but two of the factory areas was controlled. The Madras Confectionery Factories Licensing Order, 1943, which was promulgated to prevent diversion of sugar on a large scale for the manufacture of confectionery, came into force in the year. Collectors were authorized to issue licences to factories in which an average of ten or more persons



were employed daily in the manufacture of confectionery. A special marketing staff was appointed to purchase, inspect and despatch jaggery to places outside the Province.

### Miscellaneous Commodities

The export of miscellaneous commodities such as tamarind, onions, coriander, garlic, animal ghee, vegetable ghee, butter, cream, fowls and eggs and oil-seeds to places outside the Province was prohibited except under permits issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies. Such permits were granted very sparingly. To meet the scarcity of cattle fodder in the Province, 6,500 tons of cotton seed were imported on Government account from the Central Provinces and Berar and distributed to deficit districts. Arrangements are also being made to import gingelly seed on Government account from the Central Provinces and Berar. There was a steep rise in the price of salt during the latter half of the year. To check this rise, the Government issued orders under the Defence of India Rules fixing the maximum ex-factory prices of salt.

### Firewood

Early in the year, the firewood situation in Madras City became very acute, and the free flow of firewood to the City at controlled rates practically ceased. The procurement of firewood and its controlled distribution in the City were therefore taken over by the Government and statutory rationing of firewood was introduced. The entire firewood organization in the City is under a Gazetted Officer designated as the City Firewood Officer who works under the supervision of a Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies. In order that the rates at which firewood was distributed to the consumers in the City may be maintained at a low level, the Government decided to bear all overhead charges in connexion with the reception, storage and issue of firewood from Government depots and the extra cost of obtaining supplies from non-economic areas. The loss on this account was estimated at about Rs. 18 lakhs for the official year. The position during the year in regard to supply of firewood in Bezwada, Guntur, Madura, Salem and Coimbatore was unsatisfactory. Arrangements were made to supply firewood to these areas from neighbouring districts.

### Rationing

The statutory rationing of rice introduced in Madras City in September 1943, was extended to municipalities in the mufassal during the year. At the end of the year, rationing was in force in 84 towns including Madras City and was working satisfactorily. Millets were also rationed in the districts of Salem, Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and Cuddapah. Owing to the acute food situation in the Malabar district, statutory rationing of rice was found necessary throughout the district and was introduced in all the taluks except Wynaad. Arrangements to extend the scheme to the Wynaad taluk also were in progress. 6.8 million people in 79 towns including Madras City and 4.3 million people in the whole of the Malabar district were covered by rationing at the close of the year. It was decided late in the year to introduce rationing of wheat also in all the districts deficit in rice including Madras City. Only five-sixths of the ration was to be issued as rice or rice and millets, as the case may be, and the balance of one-sixth as wheat. Steps were being taken to introduce district-wide rationing of rice and millets in the rural areas of the Vizagapatam, Ramnad, Tinnevely, Coimbatore, South Kanara and Nilgiris districts, not on a statutory basis, but on a more informal and elastic system. A scheme for the equitable distribution of blackgram by informal rationing was introduced in Madras City and was working satisfactorily.

### Miscellaneous

As the prices of commodities such as fish, meat, vegetables, eggs, fowls, etc., required on a large scale by the Army, were found to be rising owing to a variety of reasons, a Joint Co-ordination Committee for the Madras Province and the neighbouring States was constituted for the co-ordination of purchases for the Defence Services. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies is one of the representatives of the Province in the Committee. A Provincial Committee was formed for the Province and Regional Sub-Committees were set up in four places with headquarters at

Madras, Vizagapatam, Trichinopoly and Coimbatore. The Regional Sub-Committees met twice and fixed the ceiling rates. The problem of transporting rice and firewood to Government godowns and dealers presented difficulties owing to lack of transport. It was decided to set up a transport agency under Government auspices, and the purchase of lorries was sanctioned for the purpose. A Civil Supplies Transport Unit was formed under a Transport Officer. There were 60 lorries in the unit at the close of the year. The lorries were used for the transport of rice and firewood from railway goods sheds and the harbour to Government godowns and to retailers in the City and for the transport of rice to Vizagapatam from Orissa and Jeypore and of firewood to railheads from forests in the Cochin State. The storage accommodation available in the City and elsewhere was inadequate to meet the needs of the Civil Supplies administration in keeping buffer stocks and storing imported grains. Steps were taken to construct new godowns in the City and also to repair and renew old Government buildings to be used as godowns. Eight new godowns were constructed in the City. The question of construction of godowns in the districts at suitable places near railheads or in the compounds of Government offices for use as distribution centres was under consideration. The Government of India expressed their desire to store large quantities of wheat in this Province as part of the All-India Reserve and arrangements were in progress for the construction of suitable new godowns at Vizagapatam and Coimbatore.

#### Drugs Control Order

The Drugs Control Order which was introduced in 1943, was administered by the Commercial Tax Officers under the general control of Collectors and the Commissioner of Civil Supplies. The Government constituted Advisory Committees at Madras and at each District Headquarters to advise the authorities in matters relating to the administration of the Order. The Order was working satisfactorily. The number of prosecutions sanctioned up to the end of November and the number of cases which ended in conviction were 156 and 70 respectively.

#### Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance

The Ordinance was working satisfactorily in the Province. It checked profiteering and hoarding. Public co operation was enlisted by constituting Advisory Committees at Madras and at each District Headquarters. A fairly large organization was set up to enforce the Ordinance. Selected Magistrates were empowered to try summarily cases arising under the Ordinance. Eight-hundred and seven prosecutions were launched in the year and out of the cases so far disposed of, 382 ended in conviction.

#### Consumer Goods Order

In order to make price control under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance effective, the Consumer Goods (Control of Distribution) Order, 1944, was promulgated during the year. The Order controls the distribution of such imported articles and articles made in India as are mentioned in the schedule appended to it, right from the importers and the manufacturers down to the dealers approved and notified as such by the Controller-General of Civil Supplies. The control of distribution from the approved dealers to the other retailers was left to the Provincial Enforcing Authority, which in the case of the Presidency was the Department of Commercial Taxes.

## CHAPTER XV—CIVIL DEFENCE

The Madras Civil Defence Area consisting of Madras City and its environs which had hitherto been under the jurisdiction of the A.R.P. Controller, was, during the year, brought under the control of the Director of Civil Defence, who is also the Civil Defence Technical Adviser to Government, and who had been responsible up to then for the administration of A.R.P. measures in the mufassal area only. The

administration of the Madras Fire Services is under the control of the Director of Fire Services, Madras. The Surgeon-General is in charge of the arrangements in hospitals to deal with casualties caused by air raids.

### **A.R.P. in the Madras Civil Defence Area**

The year saw a marked reduction in the strength of the A.R.P. as a result of the general improvement in the war situation.

The warning system continued to function satisfactorily. Several siren tests were held in the course of the year and opportunity was taken of these tests to mobilize Fire Services personnel and vehicles. One Control and three Report Centres were functioning, while a fourth Report Centre was handed over to the military on condition that it would be made available to the A.R.P. for their use in an emergency.

The Provincial Training School was closed during the year. Special refresher courses were held for Wardens, Messengers and Depot staff and Casualty and Communications services. A special programme of advanced specialist training was drawn up for Wardens. Practical exercises were held twice a week and combined exercises once a month. Many major subsidiary schemes participated in the combined exercises. A Class III Instructors' Training Course was arranged at the Training Centre for twenty candidates. The post of Assistant Director of Civil Defence was abolished in December and retrenchment was effected in the number of Instructors and in the clerical staff. The work connected with the Training Services was attached to the Wardens Service.

There was a reduction in the sanctioned strength of paid Wardens and paid Messengers and of First Aid Parties. The senior Staff Wardens and Divisional Instructors continued to serve as Inquiry Officers and Checking Inspectors in connexion with the rationing of rice and fuel. Senior Staff Wardens were given courses of intensive training in Fire Fighting. The Provincial Rescue Specialist School was closed in April. The training of the Rescue Service was conducted along the usual lines. A revised scheme for the salvage of private property including demolition of buildings under which the Rescue Service is to undertake salvage work during an air raid was approved by the Government. Two A.R.P. Combined Depots were abolished during the year and there were only nine depots functioning at the close of the year.

Repairs to motor vehicles attached to Depot Services were attended to by the A.R.P. Workshop. A refresher course in motor engineering was started and all the A.R.P. drivers underwent the elementary course.

Free feeding of some of the A.R.P. staff was given up during the year and dearness allowance at the usual rates was granted instead. All the mobile canteens were located at the Provision Centre and the designation of the Superintendent of the Centre was changed to Catering Officer, while the Service was called the A.R.P. Canteen Service. The scheme of bread-making was working satisfactorily in one of the Depots.

The posts of Civil Defence Information Centre Officer and the Publicity Officer were abolished. The identity disc scheme was dropped. Medical examination of sick A.R.P. personnel was conducted as usual and arrangements were made for the periodical inspection of A.R.P. messes. The paper-making industry in the Depot Service was given up. Tinning of cooking utensils was continued as an item of vocational training for the Rescue Service. Women First Aiders were taught knitting and crochet work.

The Madras Port A.R.P. was amalgamated with the Civil Defence Area and placed under the Director of Civil Defence in October.

The work of the Women's A.R.P. Corps was expanded considerably during the year as it undertook new forms of social service. A special course of intensive practical training was conducted for 30 Instructors and eight Staff Officers. The Corps had 43 Centres in the City besides 18 Centres in the mufassal. Women were taught music, gardening, cooking, handicrafts and needle work. Illiterate women were taught to read and write.

### A.R.P. in the Mufassal

Civil Defence measures were in existence in 21 towns in the mufassal at the beginning of the year, but in view of the improvement in the general war situation, A.R.P. measures were gradually closed down by stages in 17 towns. At the end of the year, A.R.P. schemes were in force in only four towns, viz., Vizagapatam, Cocanada, Arkonam and British Cochin.

Everything possible was done to secure employment for the paid staff, who were retrenched as a result of the closure of A.R.P. schemes in mufassal towns. Many of them enlisted in the Defence Services or in Labour units and some found employment in the City A.R.P. schemes or under big firms which had their own subsidiary schemes.

The Provincial Reserve, which was stationed at Tanjore, was transferred to Madras and amalgamated with the Mobile Central Reserve to form the Madras Provincial Civil Defence Reserve organized in two companies. This has also been subsequently abolished.

Central Stores were formed at Madras and Tanjore to store A.R.P. equipment which had become surplus consequent on the closure of Civil Defence measures in many towns. The Central Stores at Tanjore was transferred to Madras at the end of October.

Four more branches of the Women's A.R.P. Corps were started in the mufassal. As the Corps undertakes many useful social service activities for the uplift of women apart from its purely Civil Defence work, it was decided to continue it even after the closure of Civil Defence schemes. A special training course for Instructresses was conducted at Madras during the second half of the year.

In Bezwada and Rajahmundry, Rescue cum First Aid Parties known as Action Parties were retained after the closure of the Civil Defence schemes and attached to the local Fire Services. The Civil Defence schemes at Vizagapatam and Cocanada were reorganized and fresh schemes based on the principle of mobility were framed. Rescue cum First Aid Parties were combined into composite units. A.R.P. at British Cochin functioned with a limited staff.

### A.R.P. in Hospitals

Owing to the revised Civil Defence policy, the restriction placed on the admission of patients to hospitals in the towns which have now been classified as 'white' areas (that is, areas in which there are no A.R.P. restrictions) was removed and civil patients are being admitted in these hospitals as usual. The post of Provincial Blood Transfusion Officer has been continued for another year. Blood Banks exist in Madras, Coonoor, Vizagapatam and Madura and have been started at Cochin, Cocanada and Calicut. The two blood collecting centres at Trichinopoly and Coimbatore were also converted into Blood Banks. The three mobile blood transfusion units in Madras continued to function and 26 medical officers were trained in the preparation and preservation of transfusion fluids and in the resuscitation of casualties.

### The Madras Fire Service

There has been good progress during the year. The total state of preparedness has increased from 90 to 92 per cent. The failure of the organization to reach hundred per cent requirement is due mainly to the delay in the construction of Fire Stations and quarters. The position in regard to appliances has been satisfactory. The vehicular requirements have all been completed and allotments made to stations which required them. This has helped a good deal in maintaining the efficiency of the Service. The position in regard to equipment has also been good. A new addition to this is one Ajax 55 feet 'Fire Escape' in Madras City. A large quantity of hose has been received and hundred per cent of the requirements of the service are now available.

There were 21 National Fire Service Officers in the Madras Fire Services at the end of the year and they contributed greatly to the efficient working of the Service. There were 625 calls on the Service during the year of which 601 related to actual fires. The estimated value of the property lost by fire during the year was Rs. 12.66 lakhs, while the property estimated to have been at risk by these fires was valued at Rs. 103.99 lakhs.

The Fire Services Training School and Workshops continued to function satisfactorily.

The Service has come to stay as a permanent feature of the administration of the Province. Under the peace time arrangements, Fire Services Sections have been organized in seven new towns. Two Regional Headquarters have been opened, one at Coimbatore and the other in Madras City. Fire calls continue to increase as the public become aware of the existence of Fire Services in their towns. The public are also being informed of the existence of Fire Services in the various towns and of the method of calling up the Service, by means of lantern slides in local cinemas and by beat of tom-tom, etc., in mufassal towns. The telephone No. 99 is being universally adopted, wherever possible, for fire calls. The Fire Services organization has also an ambulance section as an adjunct which is intended to cater to the needs of the public for general and accident purposes.

### Lighting Restrictions

Lighting restrictions are observed only within a distance of 25 miles from Madras, Cocanada and Vizagapatam. Elsewhere, all lighting restrictions have been cancelled. The Government have ordered that lighting restrictions in Madras City and St. Thomas' Mount should be completely relaxed so far as street lights are concerned, subject to the condition that an instantaneous black-out be enforced on receipt of an air raid warning. The lighting restrictions on buildings continued to be in force. The lighting restrictions on motor vehicles in the Madras Civil Defence Area were also partially relaxed in December.

## CHAPTER XVI—WAR ACTIVITIES

### His Excellency the Governor of Madras

Between January and December 1944, His Excellency the Governor visited every district of the Presidency except West Godavari and South Kanara. His Excellency toured twice in the Bellary, Chittoor, Nilgiris and Tinnevely districts, three times in the Malabar district, four times in the Madura district and five times in the Coimbatore district. His Excellency was accompanied by the Hon'ble Lady Hope on the visits to Trichinopoly, British Cochin, Anantapur, Kurnool, Guntur, Chittoor, Mysore, North and South Arcot, East Godavari and Bangalore; on one of the visits to Malabar and Bellary; and on two visits to Madura. His Excellency met His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore at Mysore. During his stay at Bangalore in July, His Excellency met the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore and attended the sessions of a military selection board for the recruitment of candidates for Emergency Commissions in the Armed Forces. His Excellency visited Delhi in August 1944 to attend a conference of Provincial Governors convened by His Excellency the Governor-General.

In the course of his tours of the districts, His Excellency drove publicly through the principal thoroughfares of the locality visited, and addressed 43 public meetings convened under the auspices of the District and Divisional War Committees, presented insignia of titles conferred on local residents, received addresses of welcome from 7 municipal councils, 6 district boards and 1 panchayat board, conferred with district officials and war workers, and granted 125 interviews to leading non-officials who made representations on administrative problems and needs. His Excellency addressed two public meetings in Madras City at one of which Vice-Admiral G. H. Godfrey, Flag Officer Commanding the R.I.N., also spoke. On the invitation of local officials, His Excellency presided over benefit performances organized to raise money for the War Fund. His Excellency also inspected military dispositions and troops undergoing training, civil defence units and institutions in which war technicians are being trained. His Excellency discussed rationing problems with the local authorities and inspected rationing arrangements. The Hon'ble Lady Hope carried out a series of engagements including visits to schools,

colleges, convents, hospitals, child welfare, maternity and Red Cross centres and institutions providing amenities for troops and working for social uplift. Large sums of money were presented to His Excellency the Governor's War Fund during these tours.

On New Year's Day, 1944, His Excellency issued a message to the people of the Presidency through the medium of the "Madras War Review" in which he reviewed the war situation.

Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Wavell arrived in Madras on February 18th and after visiting Coimbatore, Madura and Vizagapatam left the Presidency on February 25th. Throughout his stay in the Presidency, His Excellency the Viceroy was accompanied by His Excellency the Governor. While in the City, His Excellency the Viceroy granted interviews to a large number of representative officials and non-officials, held an informal Investiture, inspected rationing offices and firewood and rice depots, and with Her Excellency witnessed a combined parade of the Madras Civil Defence Services including the A.R.P., the St. John Ambulance organization and Fire and Casualty Services. In the course of his visits to Coimbatore, Madura and Vizagapatam, His Excellency the Viceroy inspected food rationing arrangements, motored to neighbouring villages to see economic conditions and made enquiries about the welfare of the local inhabitants. Among the more important places visited by His Excellency the Viceroy were the Agricultural College and the British Evacuee Camp at Coimbatore, the Mill Workers Housing Colony at Harveypatti in Madura and the Vizagapatam Harbour. Her Excellency Lady Wavell carried out numerous public engagements in the City during her stay, visiting local hospitals, educational institutions, social service centres and a number of organizations engaged in war work such as Women's Volunteer Service, the Joint War Charities Depot and canteens for troops.

On March 10th, His Excellency the Governor commended the Small Savings Scheme in a message to the people of the Presidency. His Excellency inaugurated the Presidency Red Cross Drive on March 31st at the Victoria Public Hall in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering.

To mark the occasion of the Madras War Fund reaching a total of 3 crores, His Excellency issued the following message on May 18th :—

"The War Fund has to-day reached the magnificent total of Rs. 3 crores. All classes of people, rich and poor, have continued their contributions with the same unstinted generosity. I am proud that this Presidency not only leads all other Provinces in its voluntary contributions, but has, in addition, subscribed Rs. 31 crores to the Defence Loans. Your gifts are a fitting tribute to the supreme gallantry of our soldiers. They were an inspiration in the dark days when we were fighting desperately for our very existence. I know I can count on you all to continue them in the brighter times that lie before us until final victory is won."

In the same connexion, the following message was received from His Excellency the Viceroy :—

"I am delighted to hear that your War Fund has now reached a total of Rs. 3 crores. This is a splendid performance, and I send my warmest congratulations to Madras, and my best wishes for the continued success of the Fund."

In connexion with the Second Anniversary of the inauguration of the National War Front, His Excellency sent the following message for publication in the "Madras War Review" on May 19th :—

"The National War Front now is entering on its third year. Starting as it did in the dark days of 1942, when the Japanese were almost at our gates, the Front had a hard task. But by energy, perseverance and faith in the final victory of the Allies, it has triumphed and it is no less due to its efforts than to the successes of the Allied Armies, that defeatism has largely been eradicated in the Presidency. Now that Victory is in sight I know that the Front will redouble its efforts till the last enemy has been routed and lasting peace won."

On 12th June, His Excellency declared open the Civil Hostel of the Sri Rama-krishna Mission Industrial School to house war technicians undergoing training. His Excellency performed the opening ceremony of the Poondi Reservoir in the Chingleput district on 14th June. On July 18th, His Excellency declared open

a recreation room for troops in transit through Madras donated by a philanthropic gentleman. His Excellency inaugurated the College of Technology of the Madras University and presided at a special Convocation on 28th July.

His Excellency declared open the Papanasam Hydro-Electric Project in the Tinnevely district on August 21st.

On the occasion of the commencement of the sixth year of the war, His Excellency gave a message to the 'Madras War Review.' His Excellency inaugurated the newly constituted Post-War Reconstruction Committee on September 4th and outlined the aims and objects of the Committee.

His Excellency took the salute at a March Past of Naval Units at Government House, Mount Road, on Navy Day, 21st October 1944.

His Excellency met the Earl of Munster at Madras in the course of the latter's visit to the troops in the Southern Army.

The National Savings Fortnight was inaugurated by His Excellency at a public meeting at the Victoria Public Hall on December 1st, 1944.

His Excellency presided at the Convocations of the Madras, Andhra and Anna-malai Universities, at the monthly meetings of the Executive Committee of the Provincial War Committee and at the meetings of the Post-War Reconstruction Committee. His Excellency also held investitures at which he presented insignia of honours and titles conferred in the previous Birthday and New Year Honours lists and attended the Annual Police Parade where he presented Police Medals and insignia of other decorations. His Excellency visited the Madras Cadet Training School, Adyar, on two occasions. During the year, His Excellency and the Hon'ble Lady Hope attended benefit performances held in the City in aid of the Red Cross and St. John organizations and the Amenities for Troops Fund. His Excellency and the Governor presided over the annual meetings of the Y.M.C.A., Madras and Ootacamund and the Centenary celebrations of the Y.M.C.A. at Coonoor.

### Propaganda

The year marked a further expansion in the activities of the National War Front. The Front identified itself to a greater extent than before with the interests of the men of the Armed Services and paid special attention to work among students. The Song Publicity Department widened its scope and proved a valuable auxiliary to war propaganda. A campaign was started to make the people 'security-minded'. The Village Security Scheme was consolidated and also extended to a larger number of villages in two districts. The five Regional Leaders continued to hold office during the year. The Bellary district was bifurcated on a linguistic basis and a separate District Organizer was placed in charge of Bellary West with the object of providing adequate service to the Kannada-speaking people who form a majority of the population of the district.

### Press Section

The Press Section continued the publication of the weekly 'Madras War Review' in English, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada and Urdu. The weekly was supplied to all village reading circles, various libraries, educational and industrial institutions as well as to the National War Front staff and Government officials. Special numbers were issued on occasions such as the New Year, the Anniversary of the National War Front, the Red Cross Week and in connexion with the Joint War Charities. A special Indian Air Force illustrated souvenir was issued to commemorate the eleventh Anniversary of the formation of the Indian Air Force. A Royal Indian Navy special supplement was also published, while special publicity was given to the return on leave of soldiers of the 14th Army. The monthly 'Victory' increased its circulation. A monthly 'Madras Newsletter' was sent to General Headquarters, New Delhi, to be broadcast to prisoners of war and a similar newsletter was supplied to the military authorities for inclusion in their publication "Madras Calling" which is issued to Madrassi troops serving outside the Presidency. A large number of posters, leaflets, pamphlets and slides were prepared and distributed through the District staff. A number of maps were also prepared from time to time.

**Propaganda Vans**

During the year, the ultimate object of having a propaganda van for each district was achieved. By the latter part of the year all the vans had been supplied with radio sets. District Lecturers travelled with the vans and attended to propaganda at halts, particular use being made of the vans at fairs and festivals to display war shorts and slides and relay radio programmes and gramophone records. Tamil and Telugu war shorts received from the Information Films of India were distributed to all the vans. Comic cartoons were also supplied. One van was set apart exclusively for the entertainment of troops in camps.

**Reading Circles**

The work of the reading circles showed an improvement during the year. There was an increase in the number of women's reading circles owing to the efforts of the Lady Lecturers.

**Victory Houses**

There were about 60 Victory Houses. They functioned both as Show Rooms and as Information Bureaux. The more important Houses were equipped with radio.

**Village Security Scheme**

The working of this Scheme was one of the most important activities of the National War Front. It was in operation in 14 districts and on an average in 40 villages in each of those districts. Its operation was further extended during the year in the Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts. The scheme was under the general supervision of five Security Supervisors who worked in close touch with the District Organizer. The Village Guards showed considerable enthusiasm in their work. A new scheme called the Hope Cultural Centre Scheme was introduced during the year; its object being to provide cultural centres in selected villages to function as the nucleus of village life with facilities for organized recreation and social and cultural activity. The Centres are being constructed in four villages in each of the 14 districts, where the Village Security Scheme is in operation. One Centre was opened in the Coimbatore district.

**Propaganda through Entertainment**

This assumed various forms according to regional traditions. The main kinds of entertainment were Jangam Kathas, Kalakshepam, Ottam Thullal and dramatic plays.

**Song Publicity Scheme**

The Song Publicity staff utilized the occasions of important festivals and large gatherings for performances of propaganda music and songs. Special songs on topical subjects were composed and 12 gramophone records were made during the year. They related to the National War Front, Recruitment, Red Cross, National Savings, Anti-hoarding and Village Guard Marching Songs. Four song books were published and distributed in the appropriate linguistic areas. The work of the department received considerable public appreciation.

**Films**

The film entitled 'Warriors of the South' was prepared during the year. It is a recruitment film dealing with the life of the Kallars and Maravars and was designed to stimulate recruitment from these classes. War reels prepared by the Information Films of India and Indian News Parade were screened on propaganda vans.

**National War Front and Students**

Five students' holiday camps were held in the Salem, Chingleput, Trichinopoly, Chittoor and East Godavari districts. Each camp was attended by about 50 to 60 High School and College students. Debates and athletic sports were held, lectures were delivered on various subjects and discussion groups were formed.

**Miscellaneous Activities**

The National War Front carried out propaganda on behalf of the 'Anti-hoarding' Campaign, the 'Grow More Food' Campaign, the 'National Savings' Drive and similar activities. Special propaganda was done to induce people to



use wheat to a larger extent and demonstrations were held to popularise wheat preparations. The National War Front also concerned itself very closely with the welfare of soldiers' families. It took a special part in arranging for the welcome given to the men of the 14th Army on the occasion of their return home on leave.

### Finance

#### His Excellency the Governor's War Fund

The total contribution to the Madras Governor's War Fund, including the amount previously collected for His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund amounted to Rs. 3,33,12,301 on the 28th December 1944. The comparative figures for the various districts were as follows :—

Districts.	Amount.		Districts.	Amount.	
	RS.	A. P.		RS.	A. P.
Coimbatore .. ..	23,94,412	5 9	Salem .. ..	10,35,407	7 2
East Godavari .. ..	22,35,716	5 4	Trichinopoly .. ..	9,94,482	12 4
West Godavari .. ..	21,40,520	13 10	South Kanara .. ..	8,90,118	9 5
Madras .. ..	21,17,407	3 2	Chingleput .. ..	8,76,101	15 3
Vizagapatam .. ..	17,53,313	8 4	South Arcot .. ..	8,46,263	8 9
Kistna .. ..	17,32,255	2 2	Bellary .. ..	7,68,208	14 11
Tinnevely .. ..	16,84,423	2 3	Cuddapah .. ..	7,62,541	13 8
Tanjore .. ..	16,15,855	5 5	The Nilgiris .. ..	6,75,756	14 4
Guntur .. ..	16,08,637	10 4	Anantapur .. ..	6,08,287	11 8
Madura .. ..	15,28,438	7 2	Chittoor .. ..	5,88,813	7 2
Kurnool .. ..	15,22,153	11 4	Travancore .. ..	1,09,890	1 6
Ramnad .. ..	13,95,849	8 6	Bangalore-Mysore-Coorg.	28,505	7 9
Malabar .. ..	11,83,649	12 6			
North Arcot .. ..	11,56,063	13 0	Total ..	3,33,12,301	3 6
Nellore .. ..	10,59,225	10 6			

The following table shows the disbursements from this Fund for the purchase of aircraft and other purposes :—

	Amount.	
	RS.	A. P.
By His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund .. ..	2,52,060	13 6
By the Madras Governor's War Fund—		
To Air Ministry, London, for cost of Aircraft for Madras Squadrons ..	1,80,00,000	0 0
„ Specific charities in accordance with the wishes of donors and to the Joint War Charities Committee.	66,40,392	4 5
„ Indian Air Force .. ..	18,50,000	0 0
„ Government of India (Defence Department) for purchase of Armoured Carriers.	4,10,000	0 0
„ Madras Flying Club on account of scholarships, Trainer Aircraft parachutes and other equipment for training flying Instructors, etc.	3,08,971	3 1
„ His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, etc., for Indian Defence Purposes earmarked in accordance with the wishes of donors.	14,351	14 11
„ Relief of Evacuees .. ..	1,37,166	6 5
„ Joint War Charities Committee on account of 'Amenities for Troops' earmarked in accordance with the wishes of donors.	33,33,556	4 6
Sundry payments for which sanction has been accorded .. ..	89,393	6 0
<b>Total disbursements ..</b>	<b>3,10,35,892</b>	<b>4 10</b>

## National Savings

The amounts invested in National Savings in the Presidency in each quarter are shown in the table below :—

## MADRAS SAVINGS CAMPAIGN—1944.

Statement of quarterly figures in lakhs of rupees.

Particulars.	First quarter.	Second quarter.	Third quarter.	Fourth quarter.	Total.
Three per cent loan 1953-55 (fourth Defence Loan).	1,129.42	Discontinued.			1,129.42
Three per cent Victory Loan, 1957 ..		38.63	489.22	524.06	1,051.91
Post Office Twelve-year National Savings Certificates.	55.64	17.56	40.72	77.19	191.11
Post Office Defence Savings Bank Deposits.	6.04	2.69	1.25	1.41	11.39
Five-year Interest Free Prize Bonds, 1949.	9.45	3.68	3.80	9.35	26.28
Three-year Interest Free Defence Bonds.	2.24	4.46	0.04	0.12	6.86
Collective Subscriptions from villages.	1.01	0.37	0.17	0.18	1.73
Grand total ..	1,203.80	67.39	535.20	612.31	2,418.70

The Madras Savings Canvassers' Campaign was continued during the first quarter of the year and Rs. 12.03 crores were collected as against the target figure of Rs. 4 crores. By the end of March, a sum of Rs. 23.2 crores had been invested in National Savings in the Presidency as compared with the target figure of Rs. 14 crores for the period July 1943 to March 1944. There was some relaxation of effort during the second quarter, but preliminary arrangements were made for the introduction of a new Small Savings Scheme. The main feature of this scheme was the sale of National Savings Certificates through a large number of authorized agents who would be entitled to a commission of 2½ per cent on the sales effected by them. The Savings Campaign was intensified in the third quarter and a target figure of Rs. 20 crores was fixed for the financial year 1944-45. A National Savings Fort-night was held in the first half of December to give an impetus to the Savings drive. A total of Rs. 12.14 crores had been collected by the end of the year towards the target of Rs. 20 crores and there was every expectation that the balance of Rs. 7.86 crores would be realised by the end of March 1945.

## Recruitment

## Military Forces

During the year 1944, recruitment to all the combatant forces was generally satisfactory.

The procedure for the selection of candidates for the Land, Naval and Air Forces was further simplified in order to speed up recruitment to the Commissioned ranks. Under this scheme, all applications for Emergency Commissions from persons other than Government servants and employees of Local Boards and Municipal Councils, may be sent direct to the G.H.Q. Selection Board at Bangalore from the districts instead of through the Madras Provincial Selection Board, thus eliminating the preliminary interview by the Provincial Selection Board. This procedure was introduced towards the end of the year, as a temporary measure, for four months.

A number of Recruiting Sanads were presented during the year to officials and non-officials for recruitment work. It has been decided to discontinue awarding Recruiting Sanads and to award Recruiting Badges instead. Every assistance was given to the Recruiting Staff by Government officials to accelerate recruitment.

### Medical

During the year, the Surgeon-General continued to recruit candidates for the various categories of the Indian Medical Service, the Indian Army Medical Corps and the Supplementary Services. Propaganda and publicity work was carried on as usual.

### Technical Personnel

The National Service Labour Tribunal continued to recruit candidates for the Technical Training Scheme of the Government of India with the ultimate aim of sending them to Defence Services, Ordnance Factories, or Civil Industry. The National Service Labour Tribunal also recruited the various Technical Officers who were needed by Ordnance Factories or Defence Services. The Tribunal sent forty candidates to the United Kingdom for training under the Bevin Scheme. An Employment Exchange was started during the year. Another new feature was the opening of two Reception Depots, one at Madras and the other at Coimbatore, where candidates for training who are below the normal physical standard are kept under special care, nourished and made fit to undergo a course of technical training. The question of opening two more such depots was under consideration.

### Labour Units

At the request of the Government of India, the Madras Government undertook to raise Labour Units of unskilled workers for military works in Ceylon and India. The recruitment to these units during the year was very satisfactory.

### Miscellaneous

#### Joint War Charities Committee

The Joint War Charities Depot combined the Provincial Red Cross and Amenities for Troops Depots. The Amenities Depot provided furniture, gramophones, games equipment, etc., for troops at two-thirds of the cost price, the balance being borne by His Excellency the Governor's Amenities for Troops Fund. In special cases, equipment was supplied as a gift. It also provided a free English circulating library for all troops in the Presidency and sent out gifts of Urdu, Hindi and Punjabi books to units in the Madras Presidency and of Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam newspapers and books, musical instruments and indoor games to Madrassi units throughout the world. The Depot had a Canteen Stores Department, where goods were bought wholesale and sold at cost price to the troops and to voluntary canteens. It also functioned as a Provincial Bureau for the Red Cross Postal Message Service and for information regarding correspondence with prisoners of war. An outstanding feature of the year was the development of the Red Cross Welfare Service in the hospitals which originally began by visits of voluntary workers to sick service men in hospitals where they taught various crafts to the men. This had excellent results in providing recreation and diversion of interest for the patients. It was found that the work could not be satisfactorily carried on by voluntary workers alone and that a nucleus of trained paid workers was necessary. Red Cross Welfare Workers were therefore enrolled in the Presidency both for general as well as for local service. The general service workers were sent for training to Secunderabad and Bangalore and a special training course for local service workers was held in Madras with very satisfactory results.

An Area Welfare Conference was set up at Area Headquarters to bring about closer co-ordination between the work of the Joint War Charities Committee and that of the military welfare organization.

#### Motor Spirit Rationing

There was no change in policy in regard to the administration of the Motor Spirit Rationing Scheme. One of the members of the Board of Revenue continued to be the Provincial Rationing Officer and a post of Additional Assistant Secretary

was created in March to afford relief to the Secretary whose work as Deputy Provincial Motor Transport Controller had increased considerably with the promulgation of new control orders. Six Rationing Officers of the grade of Deputy Collectors or Deputy Superintendents of Police continued to function as Area Rationing Officers in the districts. One of the two posts of Area Rationing Officers in Madras City was abolished about the middle of the year. Private car owners continued to get a reasonable allowance of petrol and supplies were issued liberally to transport vehicles employed on the movement of foodstuffs and other articles essential for the life of the community.

### **Tyre Rationing**

During the year about 4,000 more tyres and 8,000 more tubes than in 1943 were distributed to transport vehicles. Care was taken to maintain on the road all essential buses and lorries. Special measures were adopted during the year to encourage retreading of tyres by which it was hoped to reduce the demand for new tyres on transport vehicles by nearly 40 per cent. With regard to car tyres, the year opened with a larger quarterly quota of tyres and tubes than in the first quarter of the previous year. The number of applications for tyres and tubes during the year showed a steady increase each quarter and this was due to the strict enforcement of the rationing scheme for the previous two years during which period car owners used up their reserves and spares. The tyre position, however, remained acute, and a request for an increase in the Provincial quota was refused by the Rubber Controller.

### **The 'Grow More Food' Campaign**

References to measures taken in support of the 'Grow More Food' campaign by the various departments of the Government will be found scattered in the body of this report. The following is a summary of the other main lines on which the Government has been working during 1944 to increase the production of food in the Presidency. The concessions granted during the previous two years and which were outlined in the Administration Reports for 1942 and 1943 were continued. The Government directed that no security deposits should be collected from the temporary grantees of lands under the 'Grow More Food Rules' except in special cases, where such a course was considered necessary. The cultivation of dry food-grains in backyards was permitted free of assessment up to the end of fasli 1356.

A Special Officer was appointed to locate waste and fallow lands throughout the Province which could be cultivated with a bare margin of profit, so as to evolve a scheme to bring all such lands under cultivation. Loans were granted at favourable rates of interest and subsidies were sanctioned for the reclamation of waste lands and for the sinking of wells in certain districts. The Madras Estates Land (Temporary Amendment) Act, 1944, provided for the temporary assignment of ryoti lands, situated in an estate and not already in the possession of a ryot or a tenant, for periods ranging from three to five years for the purpose of raising food crops. An area of over 50,000 acres was brought or was expected to be brought under cultivation up to the end of September under various irrigation schemes sanctioned in connexion with the 'Grow More Food' campaign.

The prohibition on the cultivation of Mungari cotton in the Ceded districts, except as a mixed crop with not less than two rows of cereals to one row of cotton, was continued during the year. This resulted in the diversion of about 63,000 acres from cotton to food crops. A similar restriction was imposed on the cultivation of Cocanada cotton in the Guntur district over an area of 70,000 acres. The cultivation of Buradapathi cotton was completely prohibited in an area of about 10,000 acres in the Vizagapatam district. With a view to increase the production of pulses, the cultivation of certain indigenous cottons was prohibited in all districts, except as a mixed crop with at least one row of horsegram or blackgram for every five rows of cotton. A prohibition was also imposed on the cultivation of tobacco without at least one row of a pulse crop all round the tobacco crop of each field, and

the cultivation of groundnut was prohibited in 14 districts except as a mixed crop with one row of redgram for not more than 11 rows of groundnut.

In the Cauvery-Mettur Project area over 59,000 acres were reclaimed, of which approximately 52,000 acres were brought under wet cultivation. Schemes for the reclamation of 5,000 acres in the Araku valley of the Vizagapatam Agency, about 27,000 acres in the Wynaad taluk of the Malabar district, about 25,000 acres of waste lands in compact blocks in the Chittoor district and about 1,000 acres of waste lands every year in the Anantapur district were sanctioned.

The Government of India allotted 5,350 tons of ammonium sulphate and 3,000 tons of ammonium phosphate imported under the lease-lend arrangements for the period up to the end of June. The entire quota of ammonium sulphate and 700 tons of ammonium phosphate were received. A portion of the supplies was given to fertiliser firms for preparation of fertiliser mixtures and the balance was distributed through the agricultural depots. The Government of India allotted a further quantity of 20,000 tons of ammonium sulphate for application to the main paddy crop of 1944-45. The entire quantity will be distributed to rice cultivators through the agricultural depots at 75 per cent of the actual cost. The balance of 25 per cent, which is a subsidy to ryots, will be shared equally between the Provincial and Central Governments.

Thirty-eight Sanitary Inspectors deputed by various municipalities and panchayats were trained in compost making. Some of these municipalities have already started compost making. The Government approved a scheme for making compost from waste vegetable matter to be worked immediately in the villages where there are Agricultural demonstration maistries.

The Madras Manure Dealers' Licensing Order, 1943 and the Madras Oil Cake (Movement Control) Order, 1943 continued to be in force during the year. The prohibition on the export of all kinds of manures was also continued. The ceiling ex-mill prices of groundnut cake were fixed by the Government in all districts and the power to control prices of manure was delegated to the Director of Agriculture. The Director fixed the dealers' prices of groundnut cake in all districts and of castor cake in the districts of Kistna, Guntur and West Godavari. Free distribution of green manure seeds was sanctioned in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur and Nellore.

The Director of Agriculture continued to have at his disposal the permanent advance of Rs. 90 lakhs sanctioned last year for the departmental purchase and distribution of manure, seeds, and iron and steel for agricultural purposes. The sale of manures and seeds was subsidised by the Government by waiving the entire establishment charges and, in addition, the overhead charges up to 10 per cent of the turnover in the case of manures and 12½ per cent in the case of seeds. With a view to provide adequate supplies of improved seeds, schemes for the multiplication of improved strains of paddy were run in 13 districts and similar schemes were run in 6 districts for the multiplication of improved strains of millets.

The estimated annual requirement of iron and steel for agricultural purposes of the Presidency is 30,000 tons including defectives. This figure includes 7,000 tons for cart tyres and 2,000 tons for axles. On account of the difficult supply position, the Government of India arranged to meet the requirements of the Presidency, in part, from the third quarter of the year. A total quantity of 5,716 tons of iron and steel and defectives was allotted for the second half of 1944. Out of the quota of standard iron and steel, a portion was supplied to selected firms for the manufacture of certain important machine-made agricultural implements, which are to be purchased by the Agricultural Department at a price of 10 per cent above the all-in cost and sold to ryots through the agricultural depots without any profit or loss to Government. A portion of the quota of defectives was also supplied to semi-organized fabricators to manufacture ordinary agricultural implements. These fabricators are to sell the implements at a price not exceeding 10 per cent above the all-in cost as fixed by the District Agricultural Officers. The balance of the quota

of iron and steel is to be distributed to ryots and village fabricators at a price 10 per cent above the all-in cost, subject to the maximum price for standard iron and steel fixed by the Government of India.

The export of cotton seed outside the Province was banned with a view to conserve the available cotton seed for cattle food. A quota of 6,500 tons of cotton seed was imported during the year from the Central Provinces and Berar through departmental agencies and distributed to the deficit areas in the Province.

### Post-war Planning

The question of planning for post-war development has been under consideration of the Government for the last two years and more. Various schemes in regard to agriculture, irrigation, development of hydro-electric power, etc., were taken in hand and necessary staff for preliminary work was sanctioned. For the purpose of co-ordinating the activities of the several departments of Government in regard to the preparation of Post-war Reconstruction Schemes, intended not only for the benefit of soldiers on demobilisation but also for the Presidency as a whole, the Government established, in August 1944, the Post-war Reconstruction (Co-ordination) Department with a separate Secretary to Government in charge of it. The Government have also set up a Post-war Reconstruction General Committee consisting of about 100 members, representative of all interests, official as well as non-official, to advise generally and make suggestions on Post-war Development and Planning. This Committee is assisted by 13 sub-committees, each of which examines in detail particular branches of reconstruction work and makes its recommendations to the General Committee.

Thirty-seven meetings of the Sub-Committees and three meetings of the General Committee were held during the year.

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