

Attractive schemes of D.M.K Government in Education

K. Justin Raj
Ph.D. Research Scholar
Reg.No. 10050
Department of History and Research Centre
Nesamony Memorial Christian College,
Marthandam, Kanyakumari District.
Affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University,
Abishekapatti Tirunelveli,
Tamilnadu, India.

Dr. G. M. Sunder Singh
Assistant Professor,
Department of History and Research Centre
Nesamony Memorial Christian College,
Marthandam.

Abstract: By introducing new schemes and measures in education field the students in the poor and backward classes were mostly benefitted. The DMK rule under the leadership of C.N. Annathurai and M. Karunanidhi was a rising sun in the minds of the poor students. A lot of backward class pupil were educated and uplifted due to the education provided to them. This paper analyses the Attractive schemes of DMK Government in Education.

Key notes: DMK, Ministry of Education, UGC, Rural students, backward classes.

The Ministry of Education is responsible for the development of Education in Tamilnadu. The Ministry is divided into two sections namely the Department of School Education and the Department of Higher Education, which deals with University education and technical education. The Department of School Education is responsible for development of literacy in the state. The Department of Higher education is in charge of Colleges and Universities. This department is empowered to grant Deemed University status to educational institutions on the advice of the University Grants Commission (UGC). The Department of Higher Education takes care of one of the largest higher education systems. The DMK government has introduced a lot of schemes for the growth of education in Tamilnadu. Among them, some important schemes are given in this work.

Schemes for school education

The DMK firmly believed that the education can serve as an instrument for social change. It emphasized the need for the upliftment of the downtrodden, emancipation women, eradication of untouchability, removal of restrictions and Social evils could be possible only by providing free and compulsory education to children. The government promised to provide free supply of books, uniforms and all necessary amenities for continuation of mid-day meal scheme, special scholarships for backward class students, establishment of free hostels, libraries, extension of free education up to Pre-University level and free coaching centers for I.A.S., I.P.S. and State Government Services for the benefit of the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Class people. The government stood firmly on two language formula. The government allocated higher amount of funds for secondary and higher education. It increased the strength to of students in schools and college.

Free Supply of Text Books and Note Books to the Children of Widows was one of the important schemes introduced during the DMK regime. In order to render help to the children of the poor widows the text books and note books are supplied freely, whose annual income do not exceed Rs. 6,400. An average of 4,000 children is benefitted under this scheme. Rs. 1,191 lakhs has been allotted for this scheme.

‘Vazhvoli Thittam’ in Schools was one among the new schemes introduced by DMK government for school students. It was announced in the ‘Financial Status Report in the year 1999-2000. This scheme was implemented among the students of standard 1st to 12th from government and government aided schools. As a first step medical checkup was conducted for 59 lakh students and 29 lakh of them were given the required treatment. In addition, 66 thousand students are getting relevant treatment for particular diseases and they are benefitted.

Issuing of Community Certificate, Nativity Certificate, Income Certificate, on completing 10th and 12th stds, from the year 1999 – 2000 in Schools was a new scheme introduced by the DMK government to support and help the students studying in Schools. So the students who have completed Higher Secondary second year were able to the benefitted by this scheme. 14 lakh 11 thousand 173 students are benefitted by this scheme.

To encourage the students in SSLC and Higher Secondary the DMK government introduced a new scheme for helping the poor students. According to this, granting expenses of higher education for first three rank holders in State and district level in SSLC and Higher secondary was introduced. This scheme was implemented from 1996. Large numbers of poor students in various districts were benefitted.

Supply of Eggs with Nutritious Meal was a modified scheme introduced during the DMK regime. From 1998 onwards, one boiled egg was supplied to children along with nutritious meals once in a fortnight and then to once in a week. Highly nutritious Sathumavu was also distributed to those children who were not eating eggs. Under this scheme, nearly 55.96 lakh children were fed in about 20, 747 child welfare centres and 32,470 elementary schools, costing Rs. 120 crores per year. The government contribution was 10 paise per child per day and provision was made for a 5 paise contribution from local bodies.

Free Bus Pass was an important scheme introduced by the DMK government. Majority students went to school by walk for a long distance. To reduce the burden of the students Free Bus Pass Scheme was introduced by DMK government for the welfare of the school student. The students who went to school from long distance by walk were provided an opportunity to travel by bus. 2 Lakh 82 Thousand school students are benefitted out of this scheme.

Tamilnadu Samacheer School Education Legislation- 2010 has been formulated to implement equitable education system. Equitable Education System is one of the importance system introduced during the DMK regime. To reduce the toughness and to make easy for the students the DMK government introduced a new system known as Equitable Education System. It was introduced by getting consultation with all the Educational Experts and implemented on 2006. It was a great change which took place during the DMK regime.

Private sector is one of the important sectors which is deep rooted in the Indian society. By inviting the private sector in Educational department several wealthy and private persons started to invest in this sector. They invested huge money in this sector by constructing large buildings, well sophisticated laboratories and other infrastructure. They collected a large amount of fees from the student, who joined in their private schools. Huge variation in the fee structure prevails from one private school to another private school. For the investors it is business and nothing beyond that. Problems were created by parents of students, who joined in these schools. In order to regulate the collection of fees in schools, the Tamilnadu Fees Collection Regulation Act was enacted in 2009, and implemented from 7th December 2009. Rules and Regulations related to this are also brought to use from 7thDecember 2009. So the Tamilnadu government interfered in this matter and appointed a committee to analyse the matter and forced a fees structure for private school. It was one of the important events in the DMK regime.

Schemes for higher education

Free Education to up to P.U.C. was one among the notable scheme introduced for poor people. After Independence, due importance was not given to higher education even though huge funds were sanctioned

to eradicate illiteracy. To strengthen the educational system, free education was announced by the Government of Tamilnadu up to PUC level. So the student's belonging to poor families were benefitted by this system of education. It gave an upliftment in their educational career. It was one of the important schemes introduced during the DMK Regime.

EVR Nagammayar Ninaivu Free Education Scheme was a new scheme introduced during the DMK rule in 1989-90. It provided free college education for girls with an annual income of less than Rs.12, 000. Again in 1996, the annual income was raised to Rs. 24,000. A sum of Rs. 6.44 crores was distributed as financial aid to 5207 women.

The Tamilnadu Veterinary and Animal Science University is established by the Tamilnadu government on 20th September, 1989 at Chennai. It is an autonomous institution governed by its Board of Management. The research policy of the University is governed over by the Research council.

It has been conferred with the prestigious Sardar Patel outstanding ICAR Institution Award, recognizing its meritorious performance in education, research and extension in the country in the field of agricultural sciences including veterinary, animal and fisheries sciences at the 84th foundation day of the ICAR and ICAR award ceremony held at New Delhi. Among 63 agricultural and veterinary universities TANUVAS is the first veterinary Science University in the country to bag this coveted award. The Fisheries College and Research Institute at Thoothukkudi was also made as another constituent College of this university.

To encourage the rural students in professional studies, the DMK government introduced 15 percent reservation. Student who deserve hailing from rural areas were given a opportunity to study in the professional courses. 15 percent reservation was mostly benefitted by the Poor students of rural areas.

Tamilnadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University was established for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge in learning, teaching and research in the field of law. This University is recognized by the Bar Council of India (BCI) and University Grant Commission (UGC). This university functions as a model agency to uplift the legal education in the state of Tamilnadu. This University started functioning from October 3, 1997 onwards. .

Periyar University was established by the Government of Tamilnadu, on 17th September, 1997 at Salem to remember the meritorious service rendered by E.V. Ramaswamy popularly called as EVR Periyar. This University caters to affiliated colleges under the area comprising the districts of Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri.

The Government of Tamilnadu established the Tamil Virtual University on 17th February, 2001 as a registered society. It has been established with Dr. Va. Cha. Kulandaiswamy as its head. People of expertise in Software Technology were elected as its members. The university provides internet based educational resources and opportunities for the Tamil Diaspora as well as for others interested in learning Tamil language and acquiring knowledge of history, art, literature and culture of the Tamils.

Due to increase in demand for Medical education the DMK government took an initiative to establish New Government Medical College in Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi and Vellore Districts. As per the affiliation given by the Dr. M.G.R. Medical University and All India council for Medical Education new medical college were established in three districts. It was more helpful and benefitted by the 3 district people.

In order to improve the quality of education for Engineering graduates a separate University was started called as the Anna Technical University, in Chennai. In order to widen and strengthen the Anna Technical University, several branches for the university were started in the districts of Tirunelveli, Madurai, Coimbatore and Tiruchi. By establishing several branches at their places the engineering graduates who belong to various districts were able to get education in their own or nearby districts. It was one of the important events which took place in the history

of DMK regime. An amount of 500 crores was sanctioned to construct buildings for these universities. To improve the quality of the Engineering students and to reduce the work load Anna Technical University were established in four places. Students were admitted from nearly distances.

Computer Training Scheme for Government College Students was one of the new schemes announced by the Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi during the District Collectors Conference in December 2000. He had said that the school scheme would be extended to all the government Higher Secondary Schools and gradually to Government Arts and Science Colleges. The latest scheme aims to cover one third of total number of students in government colleges every year. The time table will be adjusted to give each student 150 hours of computer learning in a year. The school computer education scheme now covers 666 schools implemented at a cost of Rs. 112 crores. The computer science subject has been recast at the Plus Two level to suit the scheme.

Thus, the DMK government and its five ministries introduced a lot of schemes for the growth of education in Tamilnadu. To be precise, the DMK regime was a mile stone in the History of the education.

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