

J. HEMACHANDRAN AS A LEGISLATIVE MEMBER - A STUDY

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As an honourable chairperson of worker's group as well as the influence among them Thozher J. Hemachandran served as the member of Thiruvattar Legislative assembly four times. He had formulated innumerable project works only because of his arguments in the legislative assembly with the ministers and government authorities.

He has attained renowned name from hard working for the upliftment of the ordinary workers like enhancement of salary, bonus, medical benefits, safe guarding the job, shut down of mill and factories, accidental insurance and all other problems.

Moreover he got victory over the problems of the government servants, students, the problems arose to the owners every now and then. There was no allotment to the legislative members Area Development Fund during the year 1980 to 1988. Whatever project we have to implement in our area, we have to hardly approach the government authorities many times. Even at that critical juncture JH has fulfilled the basic amenities of the people through his tremendous efforts. We have to remind of them. They are follow 1) Bridges, Roads, Hospitals, Bus Stations, Trust Areas, School Buildings etc.,¹

The Over Bridges

Kumaran - Kuddy Bridge

Parazhiar in Kanyakumari district flows through Thiruvattar and Vilavankodu legislative constituencies. Throughout the year it flows filled upto the zenith of the banks. The people who belong to villages of Mathoor were throstrling to reach their places and walking for 15kms. To curb out the tedious problem the Kumarankudi overbridge was built by the Himalayan efforts of Thozhar J.Hemachandran. It is an unimaginable project in Tamil Nadu.

Marapadi over Bridge

It has been built, over the Thamirabarani River. The people who belong to the small villages like Thiruvarambu, Puzhichimavizhai, Kolvel, Ambangalai, Arammanam, Maharapadi, Kuzhichal, Kotkanchi, Valiyavillai, Pilakadu, Arumanai had to go around the river nearly 20 kms to reach other villages. To solve this unwanted hazard, Thozhar J. Hemachandran applied to the Tamil Nadu government. After considering the issue the officers explained that there was no need of an over

bridge. Instead of that they expressed only a sub-bath was enough. But in 1982 in the legislative assembly Thozhar J. Hemachandran put forth this matter to the good self of the then Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran. The Honourable Chief Minister M.G.R at once told his concern when he would directly review that important issue and fulfilled the people's basic need. On hearing the concern the whole assembly filled with the sound of applause. When in 1982, the Mondikadu, controversy arose, the C.M directly visited to the spot and put an end to that problem. Then he visited the Marapady site and understood the need of the overbridge. Right then at the spot the honourable Chief Minister responded the plea of Thozhar J. Hemachandran and ordered the authorities to take necessary steps to build an over bridge over Marapadi and it was build, and the people became overjoyed with project.²

Thiruvattar over Bridge

Marthandam become the second largest city in Kanyakumari district. Like that Kulasekaram is the place which is the heart of Garden areas Petchiparai dam, Thiruparapu falls and the Mathur longest over bridge. The between Marthandam and Kulasekaram, the Marthandam over bridge is situated. It was in a moribund condition. It had been rebuilt, by the tremendous efforts of Thozhar J. Hemachandran.

Roads

Petchiparai - Kodaiyar Roads

This road was entirely abide by the forest range. In this range there were more than 30 tribal dwelling area at Kuvitiar, Kodaiyar, Kallar, Maitar and Sittar. The people's livelyhoods were fulfilled only through forming. The people fed up to bring the harvests to the market places because of the lack of transportation. They brought the harvests to the market places with much hardship. Moreover they felt with grieve, the non-availability of electricity, drinking water facility, health hazard, and all other basic needs.

Beyond all there hazards they had to wait for the boats, to reach one end to the another end. They indulged with forest inconveniences. To curb out there problems, Thozhar J. Hemachandran, dedicated himself and fulfilled their basic needs of the Petchiparai, Perunchani road. Through this the people enjoyed the basic amenities like transport, electricity, drinking water facility and public-health.³

Thirunandhikarai - Chekal Road

In this area there was no proper road facility as well as transportation and basic amenities. The people suffered a lot. Thozhar J. Hemachandran as a legislative member, took necessary steps and the Thirunanthikarai Chekal Road was laid.

Drinking water facility

During 1984 - 1988, Tamilnadu had faced lack of drinking water, Thiruvattar legislative area also heavily felt in lack of drinking water. JH put an end to the lack of drinking water facility of the people. Moreover Verkillambi integrated water facility has also been now fulfilled only because of his tremendous efforts.

School buildings

During his formed tenure as a legislative member. JH has built the school buildings of Mugilankarai, Chengodi Mudhalar, Mundavillai, Poovankodu, Kattathurai, Thiruvarambu, Mathur, Manalodai, Tribal schools, Bharat School, Cherkal school and among more than sixteen schools.

Rock view Roads

Most of the places of Thiruvattar region filled with forest growings. But there was no proper road facility. As a legislative member JH has made effective steps to mend roads like Mekamandapam, Mukodu road, Away Iyala - Sallur Road and eighteen other forest range roads.

Mini over Bridges

The Thiruvattar range is almost surrounded by small channel areas. He has built ten small over bridges over the small channels.⁴

Safeguarding the Tribals hamlets

During 1980 to 1988 the tribal people who lived in the forest ranges produced rubber sheet cardamom, nuts, chillies, pepper, roots and all other things. But they were changed in the name of having fake products. They were also called as thieves. Because of this harassment they were severely punished by the government authorities. JH indulged in the matter and put an end to the illegal act, and got back the products and returned to them.

Small power station

In the year 2000 the range of Perunchani through Puthan dam, he took steps to produce electricity.

Thiruvattar T.N Transport workshop

He had involved in so many debates to have Tamin Nadu transport corporation work shop at Thiruvattar and attained the aim of the people which belong to Thiruvattar area. Now it flourishes with buses, shops, and all other basic needs. Thanks to the initiative of JH, the people benefited a lot.⁵

Upgradation of Schools

His untold efforts have upgraded the schools into middle, high and higher secondary schools. Like Vellangadu, Arumanai, L.M. School of Kulasekaram, After Thirunandhikarai, Poovankodu, Ponmanai, Petchiparai, Kallathirai, Thiruvarambu and Kodhaiyar.⁶

Transport (Bus) Facilities

Thozhar J. Hemachandran make transport facilities to Kodhayar - Chennai, Kulasekaram - Madurai, Nagercoil - Kottayam, and the local bus service which are more than 25 services.

Rubber

Rubber is growing not only in the Thiruvattar legislative assembly area but also most of the area of Kanyakumari District. During the year 2000 when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister, rubber was imported from foreign countries like Burma, Malaysia and many other foreign countries. That resulted the downfall of rubber price especially in Kanyakumari District. The rubber products of India had to face heavy down fall of selling price. The rubber producers had to face heavy loss. For this depreciation of price Thozhar. J. Hemachandran dragged the attention of Tamilnadu government in T.N Assembly sessions and propagated the issue throughout the country through demonstrations with the support of the public as well as the farmers. That resulted the upliftment of rubber price from the prolonged heavy downfall.⁷

Tourism Development

Tourism plays a vital role in developing business organizations, employment opportunity and money transactions all over the world considering there basic needs JH formed resting and researching bungalow at Petchiparai. Moreover Mathur hanging over bridge was remodeled.

At Thiruparapu falls which is also knows as "Kumary Courtalam", he has decorated with a mini park, sports and games articles and drinking water facility. In between, Thiruparappu and Arumanai, he has made developments by building over bridge from his legislative Assembly Development Fund. He has expanded the Jain temple at Chitharal with human consideration as well as with the passion towards the temple. To develop tourism he has got one crore from the T.N government and performed so much of development projects.⁸

Kayakumari Devasam Board Reforms

The employees who work in the temples of Kanyakumari Devasam Board were denied proper payment and their basic rights. Hence they fell into unwanted problems. Thozhar J. Hemachandran put forth the problems to the government considered and argued in the assembly that resulted that the government enhanced the amount from 75,000/- to one crore to the Hindu temple development in Tamilnadu.

He was responsible for the construction of Sidha Hospitals in Kanyakumari, Arumanai and Verkizhambi. To fulfill the basic needs of the patients who undergo treatment in the Asaripallam Medical College Hospital, Kulasekaram Arumanai and Kuttakuzhi hospitals, he has given monetary helps both from his legislative assembly development fund and nearly one crore rupees from the government of Tamilnadu.⁹

The Extraordinary projects of Thozhar J. Hemachandran

During 1999 - 2000 and 2005 - 2006 Thozhar J. Hemachandran has performed and formulated people's beneficiary works at the cost of crores and crores as follows:

	Amount
1 Two Veterinary Hospitals	3,85,000
2 Three Tourism Development schemes	48,00,000
3 Two over bridges	1,74,00,000
4 Eight Drinking water projects	19,24,81,000
5 one hundred and one special and development road schemes	20,05,25,882
6 Government Hospital Arumanai	52,48,000
7 Government Hospital Development at Kulasekaram	21,50,000
8 Meals under work project (SGRY) and special project	1,17,50,000

MAIN ROAD PROJECT

1 Muzhukod Panchayat	9,00,000
2 Kannanur Panchayat	75,000
3 Kattathurai Panchayat	2,90,000
4 Aruvikarai Panchayat	4,90,000
5 Ayyakod Panchayat	4,50,000
6 Cherkol Panchayat	1,50,000
7 Petchiparai Panchayat	5,50,000
8 Kumaran kudi Panchayat	4,00,000
9 Vellankodu Panchayat	4,70,000
10 Surual kodu Panchayat	5,00,000
11 Yettrakodu Panchayat	1,50,000
12 Thirparapu special grade Panchayat	2,40,000
13 Ponmanai special grade Panchayat	6,00,000
14 Thiruvattar special grade Panchayat	12,75,000
15 Attur special grade Panchayat	9,50,000

16	Kulasekaram special grade Panchayat	5,00,000
17	Pokodu special grade Panchayat	5,45,000
18	Verkilambi special grade Panchayat	54,00,000
19	Pokadu special grade Panchayat	9,25,000

Under the above said datas, he has performed and mended mini roads. Moreover under Integrated Road Development schemes at the cost of Rs. 57.737 lakhs Mullukodu, Vellankodu, Kannanur, Yetrakodu, Serukal, Kattathurai Panchayats mini roads were mended and developed by his efforts.¹⁰

Cement Roads

In all the panchayat unions which comes under his Tiruvattar constituency cement roads were mended at the cost of Rs. 26,19,000/- through his marvelous village development schemes.

Drinking water facilities

In all the village panchayat under the development project of village panchayat are amount of Rs. 56,17,000/- was allotted for drinking water facilities due to the effective steps of Thozhar J. Hemachandran.

River water Facilities

Totally an amount of Rs 47,98,000/- have been spent to develop river water facilities in his Assembly constituency.

School buildings

Twenty one school building were constructed at the cost of Rs. 53,00,000/- under his educational developments scheme.

Mini over bridges in the small villages

Nearly 32 mini over bridges have been built at the cost of Rs. 65 lakhs and twenty (20) thousands. Under village development schemes only because of our Thozhar's effective talents.

Health projects - Toilet facilities

In many schools, kids schools Government colonies, bus stations, government hospitals, public places, proper water facilities to the toilets were built and given at the cost of Rs.14 lakhs and 50 thousand by his development schemes.¹¹

Street lights

The people who live in the tribal areas the streets have been illuminated with street lights through the power saved from the sun light. In the other areas, the streets were lighted during night times through Tamilnadu Electricity Board (TNEB). Those schemes have been implemented at the cost of Rs. 15 lakhs and 30 thousands.

Water Banks

To serve the people who live on the banks of river; pool, channels, roads and river banks he has erected walls at the cost of Rs. 19 lakhs. It shows his passion towards even the ordinary people.

Village offices

At the cost of 3 lakhs, village offices have been built under his development schemes.

Hospital Buildings

In his constituency hospital buildings have been built at the cost of Rs. 22 lakhs and 25,000/-.

Drainage schemes

Thozhar J. Hemachandran has made drainage scheme at the cost of Rs 21 lakhs and 98,000/- throughout his constituency.

Sports developments and Articles

To mend the play grounds and buy sports goods, JH has allotted more than Rs. 5 lakhs.

Crematory grounds

At the cost of Rs. 70,000/- he has built crematory grounds to the benefit poor people.

Bus station

At Thirparrapu panchayat at the cost of Rs 3 lakhs J.H has built mini bus station for the benefit of the people as well as the tourists, who visit the Thirparrapu tourist centre.¹²

Community Hall

At cost of Rs. 4 lakhs and 75,000/- he has built the community hall to benefit the society in his constituency.

Ration shop

In his constituency he has built ration shop buildings at the cost of Rs. 5 lakhs and 70,000/- .

Hostel

To benefit the SC and ST students he has built an hostel at the cost of Rs. 5 lakhs.¹³

MLA Fund

Thiruvattar legislative Assembly constituency is bound with 22 village panchayat. Considering the basic needs of the panchayats, like drinking water facility, hospitals, veterinary hospitals, mini-bridges, cleaning the channels, erecting

water banks, forming roads and streets, mending roads and streets, building walls around the pools, building overhead water tanks street light facilities, open air borewells, digging ground water tanks and erecting pump sets to get water from the bore wells mending concrete in the streets, crematory ground facilities fulfilling the basic amenities of the tourist centers building additional school buildings, computer halls and science laboratories with needed goods, making the basic needs of bus stations, building villages offices mending the roads of the holy places like Churches, temples and mosques, building ration shop building houses to the poor and all other project works have been implemented by dividing the allotted amount as follows:

1.	Kannoor Panchayat	16,85,000
2.	Kattathurai Panchayat	1,52,000
3.	Aruvikarai Panchayat	1,93,000
4.	Aayakodu Panchayat	16,62,000
5.	Serukal Panchayat	12,60,000
6.	Petchiparai Panchayat	21,04,000
7.	Suralakodu Panchayat	22,00,000
8.	Kumarankudi Panchayat	13,60,000
9.	Muzhukodu Panchayat	44,84,000
10.	Manchalumoodu Panchayat	16,65,000
11.	Maruthankodu Panchayat	25,55,000
12.	Vellankodu Panchayat	16,10,000
13.	Balamore Panchayat	8,35,000
14.	Yatrakodu Panchayat	16,69,000
15.	Thirparapu special grade Panchayat	51,27,000
16.	Ponmanai Panchayat	13,91,000
17.	Thiruvattar Panchayat	34,40,000
18.	Attur Panchayat	19,58,000
19.	Verkillambi Panchayat	25,55,000
20.	Kulasekaram Panchayat	45,00,000
21.	Arumanai Panchayat	43,90,000
22.	Pakodu Panchayat	35,10,000

As he had implemented the above projects he earned good name among the people of the legislative assembly.

Thozhar J. Hemachandran not only spent the legislative Assembly development fund to his own area but throughout district. He has shared the fund as follows:

1.	To 20 sports and game centers (stadium)	5,00,000
2.	To erect a swimming pool at Nagercoil Anna Stadium	2,00,000
3.	Computer facility to the Padmanapuram R.D.O.S Office	1,00,000
4.	Computer facility to the M.L.A.'s Office	1,00,000
5.	To mend the gushing of water at the Thirparapu Idathukarai channel	4,00,000
6.	To build medical college building at Asaripallam	10,00,000
7.	To erect 17 shutters at Pattanamkal main channel	2,50,000
8.	To erect seven shutters at Aruvikarai Idhathukarai Channel	1,00,000
9.	To erect Two shutters at Aruvikarai right side channel	30,000

Totally he has spent Rs 26,80,000/- to the above mentioned project works.

By implementing all these project works, he assumed a permanent name in the hearts of the people of Kanyakumari District. He is an embodiment of social service. He is hard working and highly appreciable man, a man of passion, love, affection and reformation.¹⁴

END NOTES

1. The Notice of Election commission notice, dated 8.5.06.
2. An interview with **V.K. Ismaile**, C.P.M Secretary, Thiruvattar range, dated 4.12.18.
3. **Ibid.**
4. The inscribing stones on the school buildings.
5. An Interview with **Thozhar J. Hemachandran's driver**, dated 7.7.18.
6. An interview with **Thiru. Selvakumar**, Secretary, K.K. Dt. Thota Thozhilalar Sangam, Kulasekaram, dated 15.2.18.
7. The Pamphlets during Electricity campaign in the year 2006.
8. Pluck cards during the election campaign, 2006.
9. An Interview with **Thiru. Chakarpany**, Retd. Tr., Villunikonam G.H. School, Attur, dated 5.11.18.
10. **Thiru. John Rose**, Junior Assistant (Retd), DEO Office, Thuckalay, dated 5.11.18.
11. The pluck cards during the election campaign, 2006.
12. The propaganda during the election campaign, 2006.
13. The Petchiparai Tourism bungalow's stone culvert.

14. Special project works - Thiruvattar.

