



**PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTIONS 2019**



The DMK Manifesto

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

2019

D.M.K. MANIFESTO



PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS - 2019

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2019

DRAVIDA MUNNETRA KAZHAGAM

PREAMBLE

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) which was founded by our esteemed leader Perarignar Anna, on 17th September 1949, has, over a century old chequered history dating back to the dawn of the twentieth century. In fact, the seed of Dravidian Movement was sown way back in 1912, by Dr.C.Natesan. He started the **Madras United League** with the objective of awakening the Dravidians from their long slumber and also set up the Dravidian Students' Hostel in Chennai to provide facilities to students for stay for pursuing higher education.

Close on the heels, in 1916, Sir Pitty Thiyagarayar, Dr.T.M.Nair and Dr.C.Natesan joined hands together and formed the **South Indian Liberal Federation** which later came to be popularly known as **Justice Party**. The Justice Party echoed the voice of the non-Brahmins for reestablishing their social, cultural and political rights.

The clamour for Dravidian pride and rights grew more and more strident over the following years. As a result the Justice Party captured power in Madras Presidency and rendered justice through a slew of benevolent services benefitting the suppressed and oppressed people in the Presidency.



In 1925, the Dravidian upsurge witnessed another significant turning point with Thanthai Periyar launching the Self Respect Movement with rationalist ideals at its core. In 1938, Periyar became the President of Justice Party. The subsequent six years witnessed a renewed vigour of this movement in South making it to blossom into Dravidar Kazhagam in 1944.

Responding to the need of the hour for a robust and democratic movement to meet the growing political aspirations of the people of Southern India and in particular, Tamil Nadu, Anna launched the DMK in the year 1949. Since then, for seven decades, the DMK as a responsible and vibrant political party, has been relentlessly and successfully working for safeguarding, nourishing and holding high the pride and honour of the Dravidian race, language, art, culture and civilisation.

After Anna, following his footsteps, the Party continued to play a crucial role since 1969 under the illustrious and unparalleled leadership of Kalaignar Karunanidhi not only at the State level but also at the national level to create a strong and vibrant economic system and to establish an egalitarian society, transcending the barriers of caste, creed and religion.

Today, under the able, dynamic and efficient leadership of the President of DMK, Thalapathy M.K.Stalin, the torch of Dravidian Renaissance is being carried forward with enthusiasm, unwavering confidence and deep dedication.

In this backdrop, paying our tearful and respectful homage to our sagacious mentors Arignar Anna and Kalaignar Karunanidhi who are



eternal rest on the shore of the Bay of Bengal after having created and led this great movement to spectacular success for seven decades we place this Manifesto before the electorate.

This manifesto reflects the ideal dreams and objectives voiced in the DMK's earlier manifestoes penned by our late lamented leader Murasoli Maran, who rendered a distinguished performance as a Member of Parliament for 36 long years, and as Union Cabinet Minister for nearly a decade, under the able guidance of Dr.Kalaignar Karunanidhi.

While presenting this Manifesto 2019, DMK assures to provide honest governance and secular administration to the people.

The present Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Government at the Centre, as the country has been watching with dismay, has derailed the nation's economy resulting in the abysmal performance of all macro-economic sector. At the pan India level, almost all medium and small industrial units have faced either total closure or fallen sick with functional difficulties. To summarise:-

- a) GDP growth rate has declined as never before.
- b) Unemployment has reached an unprecedented all-time high as there has been no new job creation. The unemployed youth are on the path of revolt.
- c) Inflation has increased and as a result prices of essential commodities have shot up inordinately.
- d) Investments have come down
- e) Non-Performing Assets (NPA) have mounted enormously threatening the stability of the banking sector and the economy as a whole.



- f) Bank credits have shrunk
- g) Agriculture sector and Informal sectors have suffered heavily
- h) Value of Rupee vis-a-vis US Dollar, has crashed to a historic low
- i) Budgetary allocations for health, education and other social welfare programmes have been reduced sharply.
- j) Demonetization and ill-planned introduction of GST have become self-inflicted damage causing deterioration in all the macro-economic indicators and resulting in enormous sufferings to millions of people due to loss of their livelihood.

The apex planning body, Planning Commission, which has been performing the vital role of planning the equitable distribution of wealth, ensuring employment generation, promoting health, education, social welfare, poverty alleviation and above all regionally balanced development have been closed down. And above all transfer of funds to the States through plan outlays has been stopped. Attempts have been made to close University Grants Commission (UGC) to cut the funding to the State Universities. They were stopped by the vigilant and strong opposition of the well-meaning academia across the country. However, UGC is not extending any money to the State Universities and it is only doing regulatory work.

At the State level too, the scenario is no different. Tamil Nadu has suffered heavily due to the mismanagement and rampant corruption of AIADMK Government, which has been shielded by BJP Government at the Centre.



- The growth rate of the State's economy has taken a severe beating.
- Agricultural sector has been facing formidable challenges due to hostile environment and policy neglect.
- Industrial investments have declined sharply.
- Many big industrial investors have shunned Tamil Nadu and moved to neighbouring States during the last eight years
- Public debt has increased enormously

The utter failure of the BJP Government at the Centre and the AIADMK Government in Tamilnadu have caused heavy loss and untold miseries to the people.

Indian Constitution has given the precious opportunity to the Nation to elect a new Central Government through the forthcoming general elections to the Parliament in April/May 2019.

DMK, which is going to face the parliamentary elections in a grand alliance accomplished by our visionary leader Thalapathy M.K.Stalin with other likeminded political parties with a strong determination to install a people-friendly democratic, socialist and secular government at the Centre, holds out the following promises so as to fulfil the aspirations of the people of India in general and Tamilnadu in particular.



1. FEDERALISM

- The ideals of federalism have been held aloft by DMK ever since its inception as a political party. Guided by the spirit of federal ideals, the DMK has been striving relentlessly to create a wholesome and genuine federal set up in India, with full autonomy for States, by amending the Constitution. On this basis, for the first time in the country, DMK Government headed by Dr.Kalaingar Karunanidhi adopted a historic Resolution for State Autonomy in the State Assembly as early as 1974. In view of the changing global economic, social and political scenario, the DMK will continue to pursue vigorously for adopting necessary Constitutional amendments to enable the States to function with full rights as per the State autonomy principle.
- DMK, in principle, is opposed to the existence of the office of Governor in the States. As long as the present system continues as per the existing provisions of the Constitution, DMK urges that Governors shall be appointed by the President from the list of three eminent persons suggested by the Chief Ministers of the respective States.
- The DMK will continue to press for scrapping of Article 356 of the Constitution, which provides for the dismissal of elected State governments. Such provision is not found in any other Federal systems. Continuing such a draconian provision brings discredit to India, the largest democracy in the world.
- The DMK will work for the setting up of 'Regional Councils of States'. The States are facing common problems and concerns and the Regional Council of States will provide a much needed political platform for seeking solutions applicable across a group of States.



2. LANGUAGE POLICY

Tamil as Union Official Language:

- The DMK is determined to continue to work for protecting our mother-tongue Tamil and opposing the imposition of Hindi on all States. The DMK has been continuously demanding the Centre to honour the assurance given by former Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in Parliament that Hindi would not be imposed on non-Hindi speaking peoples and as long as the non-Hindi people desire English shall continue as an official language. In his address to the joint session of Parliament in 2004, the then President Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam had said “that a study will be undertaken for making official languages of all States as official languages at the Centre”. But, the Centre has not yet made any effort to make all Indian languages as the official languages of the Union. Therefore, the DMK will continue to urge the Centre to bring suitable amendment to the Constitution of India to make all official languages of all States as official languages of the Union.
- Until then, the DMK will continue to press the Centre for implementing the resolution adopted at the DMK conference in Tiruchy in 1996 for making Tamil language, the oldest in the Dravidian language family with rich literary and cultural heritage, as one of the official languages at the Centre.

3. TAMIL AS OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN TAMILNADU

The DMK will urge the Centre to declare our mother tongue, the classical Tamil Language, as co-official language in all the Central government offices in Tamil Nadu. Central government offices, institutions and nationalised commercial banks in Tamil Nadu should use Tamil for all their transactions and for this, suitable amendments should be made in the Constitution, as may be necessary.



4. TAMIL AS COURT LANGUAGE IN MADRAS HIGH COURT

- Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 clearly states “Hindi or the official languages of the States can be used in the judgements and orders of the High Court”. The Official Languages Act further stipulates that if a resolution is adopted in the State Assembly for the use of this and sent to the President with the recommendation of the Governor, it must be accepted and order issued.
- Accordingly, under the stewardship of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Kalamangar Karunanidhi a resolution was adopted by Tamil Nadu Assembly on 6.12.2006 for making Tamil as court language and with the recommendation of the Governor, it was sent to the Government of India on 11.2.2007. But no decision has been taken by the union Government in this regard so far. Hence, the DMK will urge the Government of India to accept Tamil as court language of the Madras High Court.

5. RESERVATION IN APPOINTMENTS IN JUDICIARY

- Judicial Institutions, namely the courts in the country must be the origin of social justice as well. Present system of selection and appointment of judges do not provide for adequate representation to the OBCs, SCs/STs and Minorities.
- Reservations of appointment of eligible and qualified people belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward and Most Backward Classes (SC/ST/OBC) as judges in all the courts in the country starting from Subordinate Courts to High Courts/ Supreme Court, should be made without further delay.



6. WELFARE OF EELAM TAMILS

- Since 2009 world Tamil society and various International organisations have been pressing for independent, credible International probe into the war - crimes and human rights violations committed by the Sri Lankan Armed Forces. For the same reason the Tamil Eelam Supporters Organisation (TESO) led by Kalaignar Karunanidhi had earlier adopted resolutions and the resolutions were sent to Government of India, United Nations Organisation (UNO), United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) and all UN member nations.
- In the past, resolutions against Sri Lanka sponsored by the USA were adopted twice in the UNHRC. Hence the DMK will continue to persuade Govt of India to urge UNO, UNHRC and other UN member countries to undertake an independent and credible International probe into the human right violations, war crimes and genocide in Sri Lanka.
- The DMK will also urge the Government of India to take immediate action for conducting a 'referendum' under the supervision of the UNO among Tamils in Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka and migrated Eelam Tamils to choose a permanent political solution of their choice.
- As this issue is of great concern to the DMK and the people of Tamilnadu, Thiru. M.K.Stalin, President of DMK called on Jan Eliasson the Deputy General Secretary of UN at UN Head Quarters at New York and also met with Ms.Navanitham Pillai, the Chairperson of the United Nations Human Rights Commission at Geneva and appealed to these high level functionaries for their timely intervention to render justice to the Sri Lankan Tamils.
- Moreover, the DMK will urge for ensuring basic and higher education to the children of Eelam Tamil families, prevent colonisation of Sinhalese in Tamil areas and to protect Tamil language, culture and places of worship.



7. APPOINTMENT OF TAMILS AS ENVOYS

The DMK will urge the Centre to appoint qualified Tamils as Envoys to the Nations in which Tamils live in considerable numbers.

8. KATCHATHEEVU

The pact for ceding the rights by Central Government on Katchatheevu Island to Sri Lanka was not only illegal but also against the wishes and interests of Tamil Nadu. Neither, was it not debated in Parliament and the required Constitutional amendment was not adopted. Therefore, the DMK filed a petition in the Supreme Court praying for quashing that Agreement. While the case is pending in the apex court, in an unrelated another matter concerning the prohibition of Tamil Nadu fishermen fishing around the Katchatheevu Island, the Centre has filed a counter in the Madras High Court, stating that our fishermen do not have right to fish around the island. This stand of the Centre is against the traditional rights of TN fishermen. The DMK will, therefore, take sustained efforts to get the affidavit withdrawn and also to restore Katchatheevu island back to India.

9. ADMINISTRATION

- The DMK will urge to transfer Centrally Sponsored Schemes under the State subject with funds to the States.
- The DMK will urge to bring Constitutional amendment to make the decisions of the Inter-State Council binding on the Union Government.
- DMK will impress that National Development Council will be granted Constitutional status.



10. SCAMS OF NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE

- **Probe into the purchase of Rafale fighter planes**

Allegations of serious irregularities have been levelled in connection with the purchase of Rafale Aircrafts for Indian Air Force. It has also been alleged that the Prime Minister's Office, brushing aside the objections raised by the Ministry of Defence, established contact with the French Company in this matter. DMK will insist on the formation of a Joint Parliamentary Committee to probe into the matter to bring out the facts.

- **ENQUIRY INTO THE SEIZURE OF CONTAINERS WITH HUGE CURRENCY**

In the wake of the State Assembly Elections in 2016 held in Tamilnadu, 3 containers with a huge unaccounted money of Rs.570 crores were seized on the Tirupur- Salem highway. Though it was claimed after several days that the money belonged to a Nationalized Bank the secrecy surrounding this matter is yet to be brought out to clear the air of suspicion. Therefore, the Central Government will be urged to take up an impartial enquiry by an appropriate authority without any further delay and to bring out complete truth in the matter.

- **BLACK MONEY**

In the recent past income tax authorities have conducted raids on the business establishments and residences of a large number of people to unearth illegal and black money in Tamilnadu. However, no seriousness has been shown to take the matters forward. The Central government will be prevailed upon to take this action to logical conclusion of forfeiting all ill-gotten wealth to exchequer and punish the guilty.



- **CBI PROBE INTO KODANADU ESTATE MURDER AND ROBBERY**

On the midnight of 23-4-2017, the former Chief Minister of Tamilnadu Selvi J.Jayalalitha's residential premises in Kodanadu Estate in Uthagamandalam was broken into by gangsters and in the incident a security guard was found murdered. Further, it was reported that certain valuable materials were stolen away by the culprits. Subsequently, a number of criminal incidents including the killing of the car driver of the former Chief Minister, in a road accident, also happened in bizarre situations. Serious allegations of involvement have been levelled against highly placed persons publicly in the media. People have strong suspicions about the mystery surrounding the above-mentioned criminal activity. Therefore, DMK urges the Centre that the entire matter should be thoroughly investigated by CBI to bring out the facts and to book the culprits.

11.POLL REFORMS

The present system of polls and electoral process is fast losing the credibility with the people. Hence, as demanded by our great leaders like Arignar Anna and Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan, it is necessary to bring in major reforms such as proportional representation and reintroduction of ballot papers in place of Electronic Voting Machines as is being demanded today. DMK will urge the Centre to take up such important reforms with a view to strengthening the democracy in the country.



12. INDEPENDENCE OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITIES

- The independent functioning of important institutions including Supreme Court, CAG, CBI, ED, IT, RBI, UGC, MCI, AICTE, Election Commission, Central Educational boards etc. has been undermined and misused under the BJP rule. It is high time that this tendency is stopped forth with so that autonomy is restored back to these vital institutions to ensure that democratic and constitutional process is strengthened. Necessary measures will be taken in this regard.
- Further, the present BJP Government has, in violation of the Constitutional provisions, planned direct appointments in the cadre of Joint Secretary in Central Government bypassing the UPSC. These appointments shall be cancelled forthwith. Necessary measures will be taken to restore the authority of UPSC.

13. APPOINTMENT OF LOKPAL

- Tamil Nadu was the first State to legislate a law in 1973, namely, The Tamil Nadu Publicmen (Criminal Misconduct) Act, 1973 enabling appointment of enquiry commission on charges of corruption against any publicmen including the Chief Minister. This law was passed when the DMK was in power and Kalaingar Karunanidhi was the Chief Minister. But the ADMK which came to power later scrapped the law, as they found it inconvenient.
- As a forerunner in the anti-corruption movement, DMK is committed to a strong anti-graft legislation. During the UPA Government, the Lok Pal and Lok Ayukta Act, 2013 was enacted. However, even after the lapse of 5 years and despite the tall claims being made by Narendra Modi for eradication of corruption, the BJP Government has not appointed the Lok Pal as yet. Hence, the DMK assures that it would make all out efforts for the appointment of Lok Pal without further delay.



14. REGIONAL COURTS OF APPEAL

We will strive for giving practical shape to the learned opinions expressed by legal experts for establishing Regional Benches of the Supreme Court in the four regions of the country with the objective of expeditious disposal of cases. In these lines, we demand to establish a Bench of the Supreme Court in Chennai.

15. FULL-FLEDGED STATEHOOD FOR PUDUCHERRY

- Due to the fast development of Puducherry Union territory in all spheres, and rapid population growth the administration is finding it difficult to meet the aspirations of the people due to inadequate devolution of powers. So it is an urgent need that full statehood is given to Puducherry as States like Mizoram which have lesser population than Puducherry have been accorded the status of fullfledged Statehood. Therefore, the DMK will make all efforts to ensure that Puducherry gets full Statehood status.
- DMK will make all efforts to include Puducherry as a member of the Central Finance Commission.
- DMK will urge the Union Government to write off all the loans given to Puducherry before the commencement of the Public Account in 2007 in the State.

16. GOVERNMENT SERVANTS' PENSION

- Ever since the introduction of the new pension scheme from 2004, there has been a huge demand for restoration of old pension scheme by State/Central Government employees.
- We will recommend old pension scheme and discourage diversion of pension and provident funds to stock market and privatised financial institutions.



EMPLOYMENT

- Government of India should make it mandatory that recruitments made in all Central Public Sector Undertakings situated in the States, like Railways, Banks, LIC, etc., should employ not less than 90% of the employees, from the people belonging to the State in which the Public Sector Undertaking is situated.

DMK will also insist that the written tests and interviews for selection of candidates for all Union government jobs should be conducted in all official languages of the States in addition to English and Hindi.

17. ABOLITION OF DEATH SENTENCE

The DMK will urge the Centre to bring out suitable amendments to Indian Penal Code for the total abolition of death sentence, which has been already abolished in 150 countries.

17.(A) Release of the seven persons including Perarivalan

The DMK urges the Central and State Governments to take appropriate action to release on humanitarian ground the seven persons including Perarivalan who were convicted in the case of assassination of the former Prime Minister Thiru Rajiv Gandhi and are languishing in prison for more than 27 years.

18. REJUVENATION OF INDIAN ECONOMY

The state of Indian economy is today in doldrums and shambles due to various bad decisions of BJP govt at centre. Unless urgent and timely corrective measures are taken, there is every possibility that the country's economy will crumble. Therefore, a special and empowered high level committee of reputed economists should be setup immediately by the Central government and based on the recommendations of this committee, appropriate actions should be taken by the government to rejuvenate the Indian economy and restore back the robust health.



Increase in Per Capita Income

DMK urges the Central Government to take all steps to bring out a remarkable improvement in the economy through multifaceted strategies and action plan so that the per capita income of the people of the country increases to Rs.1,50,000 per annum from the present level of Rs. 86,689, by the year 2024.

19. ECONOMY

- We will impress upon the Centre to make all out efforts to achieve a minimum of 8 to 10 percent growth rate on sustained basis for Tamil Nadu as well as for the Indian economy as a whole.
- We will revive the growth dynamics of the Tamil Nadu economy by bringing more investments and infrastructural projects.
- We will impress upon the Centre to contain the fiscal & revenue deficits within the stipulated limit of FRBM Act.
- Current account deficit will be brought down by encouraging more FDI/FII and through export promotion. These two measures will help to stabilise the value of the Indian Rupee.
- Cess collected by Government of India for various purposes should be duly shared with the States for the respective purposes.
- Necessary amendments will be made to include all the surcharges under the tax revenue meant for devolution of funds to States.
- We will also strive to reduce Non-Performing Assets (NPA) in public sector banks by introducing suitable amendments to Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) and this measure will improve the regular flow of commercial credits to industry and service sector.
- Inflation will be contained within targets set by the RBI.



- Efforts will be made to bring back the return of black money stashed away by Indians in foreign countries.
- The DMK will urge the Central government to take steps to bring, simple progressive and stable tax structure to eliminate tax evasion.
- We will strive to halt any further dilution of Government equity in public sector banks and strengthen the public sector in banking and insurance with strict adherence to priority sector lending norms.
- Keeping in view the experiences gained so far, the MUDRA bank loan scheme for small and medium sector business/trade will be revisited and appropriate modifications will be made so that the scheme delivers desired success.
- DMK will strive to set up a strong regulatory framework for the non-banking financial companies to protect the investors.

Compensation to victims of Demonetisation

- On 8-11-2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, without consulting Reserve Bank of India or renowned economists announced the demonetisation of Rs.500 and Rs.1000 currencies which came as a rude shock to the people of India. Subsequent to this, all over the country large number of people stood in long ques in front of Banks for hours together to change their demonetised notes. In this ordeal more a hundred persons lost their valuable lives. Families of the victims who lost their lives while standing in the bank queue for changing Demonetised notes will be compensated adequately.

20. PETROL / DIESEL PRICES

- The NDA Government has empowered the oil companies to fix the prices of petrol, diesel etc. on a daily basis. Due to continuous volatility in crude oil prices in international market, the prices of the petroleum products have reached unprecedented levels, putting unbearable burden on middle and poor classes. Unless these prices



are stable, it will endanger the health of economy as a whole. Therefore in the interest of common people, Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) will be reintroduced to control prices of petrol, diesel, domestic gas and fertilizers.

- The present practice of reimbursing subsidy on domestic gas cylinder through bank account will be discontinued and the cylinder price will be fixed after deducting the subsidy amount.

21. CONTROLLING PRICE RISE

Besides taking legal action for keeping prices of consumer goods within control, we will take suitable action for controlling the prices of all essential commodities for benefiting poor and middle class families with less purchasing power.

21 (A) Rollback of hiked Cable TV charges

Recently, Cable TV charges have been increased to a very high level on the orders of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), without any justification. This has come as a rude shock to the people all over India. Therefore, DMK will urge the Central Government to roll back the recently hiked Cable TV charges to the previous level.

22. SAFEGUARDING THE INTERESTS OF BANK CUSTOMERS

- After the infamous demonetisation of 500 and 1000 Rupee notes in 2016, customers of banks are being exorbitantly charged for all routine regular transaction services like issue of cheque books, ATM withdrawals etc. Also, the customers are penalized for not maintaining the minimum balance in the savings accounts. This is nothing short of unscrupulous swindling of the small savings of the hard earned money of poor and middle class people, by the Banks under the Modi Government. According to reports, Banks have



derived undue benefits to the tune of eleven thousand crores in this manner. This unethical action of the Banks deserves strong condemnation. Therefore, DMK will insist on the Centre that all these unjust charges and penalties being imposed by banks after BJP government's demonetisation decision are scrapped.

- Further, DMK will impress upon the Central Government that all the penalties and undue charges misappropriated by the banks for customers not maintaining minimum balance, etc., will be refunded with interest and credited to the respective customers accounts.

23. INCOME TAX RELIEFS

- The present exemption limit of Rs.2,50,000 (**since raised to Rs.5,00,000**) should be increased to Rs.8,00,000, and in respect of senior citizens, differently-abled persons and women the limit will be revised to Rs.10,00,000 instead of Rs.3,00,000
- The limit of concessions under 80(G) should be increased from Rs. 1,50,000 to Rs.3,00,000
- The medical insurance tax exemption limit should be increased to Rs. 75,000 for individuals and Rs.1 lakh for family members.
- The pension amount of pensioners will not be taken into account for tax purposes.
- All terminal payments including encashment of Earned Leave should be exempted from Income Tax.

24. PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission was created to ensure that in a vast country like India all States attain equal level of development. 12 Five Year Plans formulated in consultation with States have been implemented so far. After BJP came to power in 2014, Planning Commission was dissolved and in its place 'Niti Ayog' was set up.



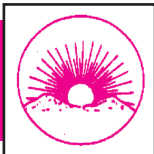
However, Niti Ayog has not made any constructive work till now. Therefore, DMK will strive to disband Niti Ayog and bring back the Planning Commission in the Centre.

25. DEVOLUTION OF FUNDS TO STATES

- 60 percent of the total tax revenue of the Centre should be shared with the States. The DMK insists that the constitution of the Finance Commission and its terms of reference should be decided only in the Inter-State Council.
- The criteria for allocation of tax revenue should give equal weightage for performance and equity factors so that developed States like Tamil Nadu will also get their due share to encourage their further growth which, in turn, will support the country's development as a whole.

26. GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

- The present GST regime has been launched by the BJP Government in undue haste causing a lot of difficulties to the business and trade as well as general public. The unreasonably high rate of taxes, up to 28%, goods and commodities which are of essential need to ordinary people has pushed the prices up severely. Instead of bringing one tax for one Nation, the multiple rate of 0.25%, 5%, 12%, 18% and 28% have created so much confusion and subsequent series of amendments have added to the confusion and collapse of many small business. We will bring acceptable GST rate to mitigate all the troubles through GST Council.
- Concerns of the manufacturing States will be fully addressed to protect their interests.
- Premium for Life Insurance and Medical Insurance policies should be exempted from GST.
- Domestic electricity supply should also be taken away from the ambit of GST.



27. AGRICULTURE

Separate Budget for Agriculture

- India's economy is well entrenched in our country's agricultural resources. When most of the nations' economy was shattered by the recent global economic recession, India stood unscathed because of the strong fundamentals of our agriculture. Now, Indian agricultural sector is beset with a variety of such serious issues that today its very survival is a big question. Apart from meeting the food requirements of 135 crores of our population, today Indian agriculture is facing stiff competition and challenges from foreign countries. Hence, Central and State Governments must extend full financial support to agriculture sector and provide much needed assistance to farmers and agricultural labour.
- The most serious threatening aspect is that our population is escalating fastly taking India to number one position among the largest populated countries in a few years. Subsequently, it will result in increasing the need for food production. On the contrary, year by year, cultivable lands in the country are decreasing alarmingly. Keeping this in view, DMK will strive and urge the Union Government to take necessary steps by way of suitable legislation to preserve the existing agricultural lands from declining further.
- Therefore, Agricultural sector needs special and focussed attention of the Central Government to chalk out appropriate strategies and actions. To ensure this, DMK urges the Central Government to present separate Budget for Agriculture in Parliament.
- Efforts will be made to ensure that Minimum Support Price (MSP) is fixed in such a way that farmers get back in full the production cost besides fair profit.



- DMK will strive for fixing the MSP for paddy at Rs. 2500/- per quintal and Rs.4000/- per metric ton for sugarcane to increase agricultural production. Further, fair and reasonable MSP will be fixed for other agricultural products including millets, turmeric, etc.
- DMK will strive for paving way to make payment to sugarcane growers fully both support price fixed by the Centre and additional price paid by State government within 100 days of procuring sugarcane from the farmers by all sugar mills - cooperative, public sector and private. The arrears due to them will be cleared within a time frame.
- DMK will insist on establishing in every district sufficient number of warehouses, particularly refrigerated warehouses for perishable items, for proper storage of food grains, vegetables, fruits and flowers produced in the country.
- The DMK will urge the Centre to work with the States to set up seed culture labs in each district and regional agriculture innovation labs to conserve agro-biodiversity and to identify and preserve rare indigenous varieties.
- Genetically Modified (GM) crops/foods will not be allowed without full scientific evaluation on its long-term effects on soil, production and biological impact on consumers and protect the interests of native farmers.
- The Central and State Governments are implementing projects like petroleum/gas cross-country pipelines, inter-state high-tension electricity towers etc., through fertile agricultural lands against the strong opposition of the people. It is, therefore, urged that such projects should be implemented along the highways/roads.

i. WELFARE OF THE SMALL AND MARGINAL FARMERS

- The DMK will strive to fix fair minimum wages for agricultural workers, ensuring equal wages for women agricultural workers.



- Considering the wide spread distress encountered by the farmers, free electricity will be provided to all farmers for agriculture, in India as in Tamil Nadu.
- The DMK will make all endeavours to implement the recommendations of Dr. M.S.Swaminathan Committee report.

ii. PROMOTION OF ORGANIC FARMING

The DMK will urge the Centre to set up the 'Organic Farming and Fertilizers Corporation of India' to promote organic farming and fertilizers, in line with the practices followed by Nammalwar, the popular agriculturist of Tamil Nadu and provide incentives and support for marketing organic produce.

iii. RELIEF FOR AFFECTED COCONUT FARMERS

The DMK will urge the Centre to alleviate the sufferings of coconut growers by providing proper compensation for lakhs of coconut trees affected and lost by natural disasters during the past ten years in Tamil Nadu.

iv. PADDY HARVESTING MACHINE FOR FARMERS

As there is an acute shortage of manpower for harvesting paddy, the Centre should provide required paddy harvesting machines with 100 percent subsidy to every cooperative society in villages. The society shall collect a minimum rent from the farmers for maintaining the machines.

28. WAIVER OF CROP LOANS

The DMK will urge the Centre to waive all kinds of crop loans obtained by small and marginal farmers and the government should supply them seeds, fertilizers, other inputs and pesticides on subsidy.



29. MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

The DMK will urge the Centre to bring suitable changes in (MGNREGS) the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme so as to meet the shortage of agricultural labour during the peak agricultural seasons:-

- i. Procure and distribute accessories like hoe and crowbar for those working under this scheme and
- ii. Provide employment opportunities to all labourers in the rest of the year other than cultivation period.
- iii. In drought hit areas the minimum number of days should be increased to 150 days.
- iv. Rules will be made in such a way that the beneficiaries get their wages in full and without room for any shortcoming in a transparent manner.

30. FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

- National Food Security Scheme will be strengthened and expanded as a Universal PDS as in the case of Tamil Nadu.
- The Food Security Act will be reviewed.

31. DRINKING WATER

Piped water supply to all households will be ensured.

- The DMK will urge the Centre to set up desalination plants for drinking water supply in coastal areas.
- Steps will be taken to examine ground water to eliminate toxic chemicals, particularly arsenic and fluorides, to ensure protected drinking water.
- Protected drinking water supply grid in water scarce areas will be setup.



32. LINKING OF RIVERS AND IRRIGATION

- Linking of rivers flowing across the country is a priority task today as it will help to increase agricultural production.
- As a first step DMK will try to link the peninsular rivers to save our farmers from starving for work.
- DMK will urge the Centre for Nationalisation of Inter-State rivers by way of a Constitutional Amendment / separate law to be enacted by Parliament for the purpose.
- DMK will urge the Central Government to implement the Godavari-Krishna-Cauvery rivers linking project at the earliest.
- **Check dams across Palar River**

For most part of the year, there is an acute water shortage for drinking and irrigation in more than 20 urban and rural areas including Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Vellore, Ambur, Vaniyambadi, etc., of Palar River Basin in Tamilnadu. Likewise, it is necessary to construct checkdams at suitable places on Thenpennai river also. DMK will, therefore, impress upon the Central Government, as a permanent solution, to extend full financial assistance under a special Centrally Sponsored Scheme for construction of check dams on priority basis in Tamilnadu in order to save surplus water flowing during monsoon season which otherwise flows into the sea without being utilised.

- **Law for Restoration of Water Bodies**

During the DMK rule in Tamil Nadu under Kalaighar Karunanidhi, the State had enacted “The Tamil Nadu Protection of Tanks and Eviction of Encroachment Act, 2007” to protect and restore the water bodies. DMK will pressurise Central Government to enact a similar law with stringent punishment provisions to restore, preserve and maintain all existing minor and major water bodies across the country and to protect them from being encroached upon.



33. MULLAIPERIYAR DAM / MEKEDATU PROJECT

- The DMK will urge the Centre to implement Supreme Court judgement for increasing water level in Mullaiperiyar dam to 152 ft. as it was prior to 1977.
- DMK will oppose tooth and nail any effort for construction of any new dams on Mullaiperiyar dam.

Mekedatu Dam Project

- Karnataka Government has commenced pre-project activities on the proposed dam on Cauvery at Mekedatu in Karnataka with the active support of BJP Government at the Centre, detrimental to the interests of Tamilnadu. DMK will stoutly oppose the efforts of Karnataka and the Government of India to take up this project.

34. PARAMBIKULAM-ALIYAR PROJECT

- According to the agreement already entered into with Kerala, some more dams have to be constructed under Parambikulam-Aliyar project', the lifeline of the farmers of Coimbatore, Tirupur and Erode district in Tamil Nadu. The important scheme among them is the project for constructing a tunnel to bring water of Melneeraru (Upperneeraru) river originating in Tamil Nadu to Tirumurthy dam.
- If this project is executed it will fulfil the irrigation requirement of 4 lakh acres lying within Tamil Nadu in the above mentioned districts. But Kerala government is creating hurdles to this project by delaying for the last 40 years even after completing Idamalayaru project. DMK will take all possible steps to remove the hurdles in this regard.



35. HEALTH

- DMK will urge the Centre to allocate 3 percent of Gross Domestic Product for public health schemes.
- DMK will urge to establish All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) in two more places in Tamilnadu, besides Madurai.
- Crores of people in India are following natural medical systems in India like Siddha, Ayurveda, Homeopathy and Unani. We will urge the Centre to establish University for Siddha and Unani Medical Systems' in Tamil Nadu on the lines of Dr.Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan Ayurveda Medical University in Rajasthan for carrying out higher research in Indian medical systems.
- DMK will ensure control of the prices of essential medicines.
- National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) will be strengthened in line with the Kalaigalar Kapppeettu Thittam successfully implemented in Tamilnadu, with adequate budgetary allocation.

36. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

- DMK will strive to set up three more Central Heavy industries in Tamilnadu.
- DMK will persuade the Centre to drop the Neutrino Project in Tamil Nadu.
- DMK will urge the Centre to set up a task force to review and revive MSME Sector (Micro, Small and Medium scale Enterprises); enabling it with better access to formal credit and technology for modernization.

Protection of fire cracker industry

- A high level committee will be formed to study and report on the use of fire crackers and create an environment in order to protect the fire cracker industries which gives employment to more than a



million people and facing closure due to stringent legal restrictions. We will prevail upon the Union Government to exempt the fire crackers manufacturing factories from the provisions of the Environment Protection Act, 1986.

- **Solar Power Project**

Though the Tamil Nadu has emerged as a leader in wind power, it has lagged behind in putting up plants in the solar sector. The State has abundant solar potential especially in Ramanathapuram and Dharmapuri Districts. DMK, therefore, demands that steps should be taken by the Central Government to generate at least 20,000 MW solar power from these districts.

- **MOBILE PHONE INDUSTRY**

The BJP Government's much trumpeted "Make In India" scheme has been an utter failure and a non-starter. This is corroborated by the fact that the Rs.1,50,000 crores mobile phone market in India is 100 % occupied by imported smart phones; out of this, the China made smart phone market share in India is to the tune of Rs.51,000 crores. Therefore it is necessary to change this scenario. The Centre will be prevailed upon to develop a suitable policy frame work to increase domestic production of Smart Phones in both private and public sector and also joint sector and also to establish a Cellphone Manufacturing Hub in Chennai.

SELF-RELIANCE IN ARMS PRODUCTION BY 2025

In order to achieve self-reliance in the manufacture of war planes, warships, rockets and other defence equipments, all public sector defence manufacture units need to be modernised and strengthened. DMK will urge the Central Government to formulate special policies and programmes to achieve self-reliance in this sector by 2025 so that India would stop completely import of warfare equipments. Further, in Tamil Nadu, particularly in



Chennai and Tiruchy, several defence manufacturing industries are in operation for several years. In view of this, the DMK will impress upon the Central Government to take necessary steps to implement the proposed Defence Corridor in Tamilnadu on priority basis.

37. COMMON EFFLUENT TREATMENT SCHEMES

Industrial centres having large number of medium / small units are responsible for land and water pollution. The DMK will urge implementing a scheme, with the assistance of the Centre, for all industrial centres including treatment of effluents from dying units, tanneries and washing units in Tirupur, Erode, Karur, Dindugal and Vellore.

38. METHANE GAS IN CAUVERY DELTA REGION

From time immemorial, Cauvery Basin is called the granary of the South. The entire Cauvery Delta area will be preserved as an Exclusive Agricultural Zone and no other activities which will affect agriculture will be permitted in that area. The Central government has made an agreement with a private firm for commercially extracting methane gas from under the ground in Cauvery delta regions of Tiruvarur and Thanjavur districts and also Neduvasal in Pudukkottai. As it was assured at that point of time that there will be no impact due to the Methane project, the proposal was accepted in good faith. But, actually when methane gas wells were deeply bored, besides the underground water level steeply falling down and sea water entering, the lands became uncultivable. Hence the farmers of Cauvery delta area have been strongly opposing the project. The DMK will urge the Centre to give up the Methane project in Cauvery delta region in order to protect agriculture.



39. DEEP SEA OIL EXPLORATION

We are against exploration and production of crude oil in fertile areas having agricultural lands. People also are strongly opposing oil and gas projects in such areas. Keeping this in view and that the deep sea near the Indian coast has potential for oil and gas, government needs to take up priority action plans towards exploiting oil and gas reserves in these areas without, in anyway, affecting the agricultural activity, fisheries and marine resources.

40. NEW EXPLORATION LICENSING POLICY

Presently India is importing Petroleum Crude Oil to the extent of more than 80%. At this high level of imports, it will be very difficult to sustain the supply of Petroleum products and control the price line. It is, therefore, of extreme importance that domestic production of crude oil and Natural Gas is increased substantially to reduce our dependence on imports. With this end in view, a New Exploration Licensing Policy needs to be formulated and launched by the Central Govt.

41. GAS HYDRATES IN ANDAMAN OFFSHORE

- In 1996, during the United Front Government rule, Government of India has already discovered that there is a huge Gas Hydrates deposit off the Andaman sea area. This natural gas reserve in this area is so huge that it can be exploited for a very long period.
- Compared to country's demand, domestic production of natural gas is very low and therefore imports in the form of Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) to meet the wide gap is also expensive. Hence DMK will urge to implement a well planned program to commercially exploit the vast Gas resources which are present in the form of Gas Hydrates in Andaman offshore, on top priority.



42. WELFARE OF LABOUR

- We will ensure strict enforcement of minimum wage laws.
- Job security to all labour class both in organised and unorganised industries will be assured.
- We will ensure health insurance as well as pension coverage for all labour groups and Employees Insurance Corporation in all districts.
- The DMK will press the Centre for the complete removal of all ceilings on Bonus and Gratuity. The DMK will also urge for setting up a National Authority for Labour Welfare for monitoring implementation of welfare schemes for workers.

- **Transport Workers**

The BJP Government at the Centre is pursuing hard to amend the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961. The amendment will go against the interests of the several lakhs of workers employed in the transport industry. Keeping in view the importance of protecting welfare of the transport workers, DMK will strongly oppose the move of the Central Government to bring amendments which would be detrimental to the core interests of transport workers and the rights of States.

- **Welfare of Information Technology / Information Technology Enabled Services (IT/ITES) Employees**

In India, IT sector has become the leading job and income generating sector. The industry has about 45 lakh employees including 30% women employees. Export revenue of the industry is expected to grow at 7-9 per cent on year-on-year basis to US Dollar 135-137 billion in Financial Year 2019-20. The industry is expected to grow to USD 350 billion by 2025.



While the industry is so important, multifarious issues and problems are being faced by the IT/ITES employees and there are no appropriate forums / official set up to look into their grievances. Therefore, in order to ensure the job security to IT/ITES employees, and also the safety and equality for women employees, the DMK will urge the Central Government to ensure enactment of suitable legal provisions including constitution of High Level Committees at State/National level, exclusively for IT employees with the representation of Labour Department, Company representatives and Employees' Representative Forums like FITE.

- **EMPLOYEES PENSION SCHEME (EPS 1995)**

The existing pension amounts of employees under Employees Pension Scheme is too small for Employees/Workers to eke out reasonably decent living to the senior citizens who have retired after long years of service. Therefore, the Central Govt needs to increase the minimum amount of pension under EPS 1995 scheme to Rs.8,000. Further the pension amount should be hiked once in 5 years on the basis of 50% of last pay drawn by the pensioners.

- **WELFARE BOARD FOR UNORGANISED WORKERS**

The DMK will urge the central government to setup welfare boards all over India for the benefit of all categories of unorganised labourers such as Agricultural Labour Welfare Board, Auto And Taxi Drivers Welfare Board, Barbers Welfare Board, Tailors Welfare Board, Craft Workers Welfare Board, Construction Workers Board, Domestic Workers Board, etc., as formed by the DMK government in 1997 covering 35 labour sections under the welfare board schemes.

43. TRADE

- To safeguard the livelihood interests of lakhs of small traders, DMK will urge the Centre not to permit Foreign Direct Investment in multi brand retail trade.



- In the wake of the recent economic recession, particularly after the demonetisation of high-value currencies in 2016, by the Modi Government, the knitting industry in the State has been very seriously affected. Therefore, DMK urge the Central Government to establish a Permanent Exhibition-cum-Trade Centre in Tirupur, the hub of hosiery units so as to rejuvenate this industry.

44. RURAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Rural Products Marketing Corporation (RPMC)**

DMK will urge the Centre to set up a Marketing Corporation with its units at all districts/taluks/block towns to help farmers to sell their produce directly without intermediaries. The RPMC will also fix the prices of the commodities in such a way that it is remunerative to the farmers.

- DMK will urge the Centre to identify 100 most backward districts of the country with a view to bringing them on par with the other developed districts through suitably prioritized and integrated development projects.

45. EDUCATION

- As the champion of States' rights, DMK will strive to bring back Education to the State List.
- Public expenditure for education will be increased to 6% of GDP of which the Union Government share will be minimum 3% of GDP.
- During the UPA Government at the Centre reservation of 27% for Other Backward Classes in the admissions to the Higher Educational Institutions under Central Government was provided by an Act of Parliament with effect from 4-1-2007. But in the last five years, the BJP regime at Centre has not taken care to ensure the reservation in full as per the law. Therefore, DMK will impress upon



the Central Government to take proactive measures for ensuring 27% reservation to OBCs in all Central Government funded and controlled educational institutions.

- DMK urges to set up Indian Institute of Technologies (IIT) at Madurai and more IITs and IIMs all over India.
- UGC will continue to function with more strength with adequate funding to support all the State Universities.
- DMK will impress upon Central Government to upgrade education system, provide Skill Development Trainings to youth and create more employment and self-employment opportunities.
- Highest priority would be given to address the acute shortage of teachers and researchers, quality of education and research, and also the employability factor associated with most of the courses.
- DMK will seek to establish a national E-Library to enhance the knowledge level of school teachers and students.
- DMK will endeavour to raise the standard of education and research, so that Indian universities become on a par with the top global universities and find their places in the global league.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON EDUCATION

- DMK will urge to set up a National Commission on Education with qualified and reputed persons in the academic field as Members to revisit the present policy and will be required to furnish an unbiased and objective report within a year on the state of education and recommend on the reforms needed. Based on the report, we will impress upon the Central Government to implement a National Education Policy to meet the changing dynamics of the population's requirement with regard to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make India a knowledge superpower by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge and to eliminate the shortage of manpower in science, technology and industry.



- The DMK will insist upon the Union Government to extend full scholarships to the students of SC and ST communities to meet the tuition fee, examination fee and other fees so as to provide free education to SCs and STs to take up medical, engineering and professional education without any obstacle. This scheme will be called '**Dr.Ambedkar Free Education Scheme**'.

46. ABOLITION OF 'NEET'

The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) which is being presently enforced for selection to admissions for graduate and post graduate courses in medical colleges is against the interest of the poor, rural and oppressed class students, across the country. In the interest of social justice, DMK will strive for the abolition of NEET forthwith.

47. WAIVER OF EDUCATION LOAN

- Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward classes and Most Backward Classes students and students belonging to economically poor, downtrodden and middle class families have availed educational loans from nationalised banks and completed their studies; many are continuing their studies. When such students complete their studies and are unable to get employment, the banks are pressurising their parents for repayment of loans. Moreover details of students who had availed loans are put up on notice by banks, which mentally affect the students and their parents.
- The DMK assures that it will strive to change this hard approach of the banks and waive the entire educational loans given to students.

48. YOUTH AND EMPLOYMENT

- Stipend will be provided to unemployed graduates all over India as introduced by Dr.Kalaignar Karunanidhi in Tamilnadu.
- Preference will be given to first generation graduates in Government appointments.



49. ONE CRORE YOUTH TO BE EMPLOYED AS ROAD WORKERS

Similar to the appointments made for maintenance of State highways during DMK rule led by Kalaigarnar Karunanidhi, we will press for appointment of 1 crore youth, who have studied up to 10th standard as road workers for maintaining roads, with high standards laid under Central government projects such as 13,000 km Golden Quadrilateral roads, and east-west; north-south national highways.

50. PERIYAR - JYOTIRAO PHULE SAMATHUVAPURAMS

Similar to the Periyar Memorial Samathuvapurams set up by Kalaigarnar Karunanidhi in Tamil Nadu during DMK rule, Samathuvapurams (Casteless Model Villages) will be set up all over the country and will be **named Periyar - Jyotirao Phule Samathuvapuram.**

51. WELFARE OF SCHEDULE CASTES AND SCHEDULE TRIBES

- Steps will be taken to put an end to manual scavenging and to implement time-bound rehabilitation schemes with adequate Budgetary allocations.
- DMK will urge the Centre to fill all backlog vacancies for ST & SC in all Government services within a time frame.
- People belonging to some of the sections of the Scheduled Castes in Tamil Nadu have put forth a strong demand to rename their group of communities as 'Devendra Kula Vellalar'. The National commission for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes and the Central Government shall be urged to look into their demand and find an appropriate decision in the matter.



52. HOUSING FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULE TRIBES

- During the rule of Kalamannar Karunanidhi in 1971, Slum Clearance Board was set up and multi-storied apartments for housing poor and downtrodden people among SCs., STs. and OBCs were constructed in urban areas.
- Besides pressing for giving priority and implementing schemes with the participation of Central and State governments to construct standard houses to all SC and ST people living in huts in rural areas and left out in the above schemes, the DMK will take up efforts to get the share of Central and State governments increased to Rs.3 lakh from the present Rs.1 lakh to ensure faster provision of housing facilities to the downtrodden.
- The Central Government will be impressed upon to extend 100% funding to meet the expenditure on construction of toilet facilities in these houses.

53. WELFARE OF BACKWARD CLASSES

- DMK will try for the constitutional empowerment of the National Backward Classes Commission to look into the grievances of Other Backward Classes so as to ensure effective functioning of the Commission.
- DMK will take steps to abolish the creamy layer concept for OBCs in reservations.
- DMK will strongly urge the Central Government to give separate reservation for Most Backward Communities (MBC) at national level in educational and employment opportunities in all Central Government Departments and establishments as in Tamilnadu.



54. IMPLEMENTATION OF MANDAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS IN TOTO

- Due to the efforts made by Kalaingar Karunanidhi, 27 percent reservation for OBCs was provided in Central Government employment during the rule of former Prime Minister V.P.Singh. But even after 25 years, 27 percentage reservation is not fully implemented till now, and it is a matter of concern that only 14 percent reservation has been realised in postings in A,B,C and D groups in the Central government.
- Hence, the DMK will press the Centre to take effective steps to fill up the backlog of vacancies on the basis of 27 percent reservation provided for OBCs according to the recommendations of the Mandal Commission and in future the 27% reservation will be implemented in letter and spirit, in employment and in education.
- DMK will urge the Centre to provide reservation in promotion in the services of Union Govt.

55. WELFARE OF MINORITIES

- During the DMK rule in Tamil Nadu, the Dalit community people who embraced Buddhism were given all the concessions and rights which were available to the Adi Dravidars. Likewise, in order to enable the Dalit Christians to be included in the list of Adi-Dravidars (SCs). In this regard, DMK will continue to impress upon the Central Government to implement the recommendations of the Commission headed by Justice Ranganath Misra.
- In order to enable the Minority Communities to get their due share in educational and employment opportunities, DMK will urge the Centre to implement the recommendations of Justice Sachar Committee in this regard.



- DMK assures the implementation of Ranganath Mishra Commission recommendations to include the Muslims in OBC list.
- The working of Minorities Welfare Commission will be reviewed.
- Government financial assistance to Moulana Azad Education Foundation should be increased.
- The gruesome murders of Prof. Bansare, Kalburgi, Gowri Lankesh must be investigated by a Special Investigation Team and the culprits must be punished.

56. RESERVATION IN PRIVATE SECTOR

- The employment opportunities provided in Government and public sector units are very low. Moreover, in view of the public sector units being gradually privatised, reservation should be hereafter compulsorily followed in private sector too. That only will be the just and appropriate outcome of social justice. It is pointed out that such an affirmative action is already in vogue in the USA also. Hence, the DMK will continue to urge the Centre for compulsorily following reservation system in private sector also.
- Corporate Taxes for private companies which are implementing reservation in employment on a full scale in accordance with the Central Government norms will be reduced from 30% to 21%. This will incentivize private corporate companies to come forward and implement social justice. Further cut in corporate taxes will be extended if they proportionately employ minorities and women.

57. CASTE-BASED CENSUS

- The Centre, which accepted Caste-based census, the long time demand of the SC, ST and OBC people, after a debate in Parliament, has not so far made public the findings of the caste based census. Moreover, the Centre announcing caste based census along with census for below poverty line people is contrary to the assurance given in Parliament. It should be noted that the norms for BPL are variable.



- Hence, the DMK will urge the Centre to take caste based census hereafter, during the usual census count.

58. NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

The National Commission for Women which is mandated to look into the atrocities and injustices inflicted against innocent and vulnerable women in the country needs adequate powers to enable it to function effectively and safeguard the interests of women folk. DMK will impress upon the Government of India to take necessary measures to empower and strengthen the National Commission for Women.

Women's Welfare and Safety

- The poor sections among women in the country need special attention and support from Government. This need is more felt in the cases of working women and girl students. In the light of this, DMK will urge the Centre to take steps to provide free supply of sanitary napkins which will be made through installation of automatic vending machine by the respective departments and organisations in public places like Govt offices, Schools, Colleges, etc.
- To ensure safety of women in working places, all establishments employing women should install CCTV cameras surveillance facility in their premises. Further in all towns with population of 5 lakh and more, all important public places and roads should be brought under CCTV surveillance. Union Government will be impressed to take necessary action in this regard.
- As part of the physical education programme, educational institutions should start training to girl students in martial arts, such as, Karate, Silambam, etc., so that they will be physically equipped for self-protection. Trained teachers should be appointed in all schools for this purpose.



- The network of women / working women hostels will be expanded and improved upon.
- Although the Bill for providing 33 percent reservation for women in Parliament and State Assemblies was introduced in Parliament, so far it has not been passed. The DMK will strive for getting this Bill passed without further delay.
- The DMK will make efforts for providing free education to women deserted by their husbands and to girl children without support.
- The DMK will continue to urge for providing 30 percent reservation for women in Central government jobs as provided by Kalaingar Karunanidhi during DMK rule in Tamil Nadu.
- With a view to facilitate the Women Self Help Group Members to meet for having interactions and consultations on issues concerning them, the Central Government will be urged to set up meeting halls in each and every taluk headquarters.

- **Welfare of Widows**

It has been estimated that there are more than 4.5 crore widows in the country who are facing a plethora of problems. The Government has a moral duty to provide them necessary support and security so that they could live with honour and dignity. Therefore, with a view to alleviating their sufferings, DMK will impress upon the Central Government to legislate a suitable law to provide necessary relief and support in order to safeguard the interests of multitude of hapless widows.

59. 50 LAKH WOMEN TO BE EMPLOYED AS PEOPLE'S WELFARE WORKERS

Similar to the scheme of appointment of Peoples Welfare Workers (Makkal Nala Paniyalargal) during the DMK rule in Tamilnadu, a Rural Women Employment Scheme will be launched for creating



awareness among beneficiaries about government schemes so that deserving people avail the benefits. We will press for appointment of 50 lakh rural women who have studied up to 10th standard as Women Rural Workers, at all India level.

60. INTEREST FREE LOAN OF Rs.50,000/- TO RURAL WOMEN

DMK will urge Central Government to extend financial assistance as interest-free loan, an amount of Rs. 50,000 to all rural women belonging to below poverty line strata, one person per family, to enable them to take up agricultural related small trade/ professions including cattle rearing, fisheries, pot-making, etc., so as to ensure their livelihood.

61. WELFARE OF WEAVERS

- State-of-the-Art Modern showrooms to popularise and increase the sale of handloom textile products shall be setup in all towns having a population of 2 lakhs and above, across the country, similar to Gram Udyog Bhavan showrooms.
- Under the DMK rule in Tamil Nadu. 100 units of free electricity was provided to small weaving units. At all India level, free electricity, without any ceiling, should be given to poor weavers to ensure their livelihood.

62. WAGE SETTLEMENT FOR BANK EMPLOYEES

- The Bipartite Wage Settlement for employees of nationalized banks anticipated since 2012 has not yet been signed. The DMK will urge the Centre on this very important issue for an early settlement.
- DMK will also urge the Central Government to ensure revision of pension after every wage settlement according to the revised pay.



63. WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS

- The World Health Organization estimates that there will be 1,000 million senior citizens in the world by 2020 and in India alone there will be 142 million senior citizens. Considering this scenario, we will prevail upon the Centre to formulate and implement a new policy for protecting the welfare of senior citizens. DMK is committed to the welfare of senior citizens, especially their livelihood, security and health care.
- DMK will urge the Centre to provide financial support, exploring ideas like additional tax benefits and higher interest rates on bank savings and deposits of senior citizens.

- **Universal Old Age Pension Scheme**

Universal Old Age Pension Scheme covering all persons, including farmers, small traders, informal sector labour etc, above 60 years of age, who are not covered under any other pension scheme, will be introduced. A sum of Rs.2000/- will be provided as monthly pension

- **NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

In order to coordinate and formulate suitable policies aimed at ensuring the welfare of the senior citizens, there is an urgent and felt need to set up an apex body at national level. In pursuance of this, DMK will impress upon the Central Government to set up a National Commission for Senior Citizens as a Constitutional Authority with adequate powers.

- Dwelling Homes for senior citizens shall be established with Central Government financial assistance in every Taluk through out the country.



64. SEPARATE MINISTRY FOR FISHERMEN DEVELOPMENT

The DMK will urge to create a separate and full-fledged Ministry at the Centre under the charge of a Cabinet Minister for protecting the welfare of fishermen and the interests of fishermen from the threats of other countries.

65. FISHERMEN WELFARE

- It has become a routine occurrence that fishermen of Tamil Nadu venturing into fishing off East Coast areas and near Katchatheevu, are being harassed and arrested by Sri Lankan Navy. Subjecting our fishermen to tortuous treatment and seizing their catches has become quite common and an everyday affair. DMK will press the Centre for finding a permanent solution to this issue which is persisting for several years now by the Governments of two nations holding consultations with fishermen community and to form a Crisis Management Centre at the coastal areas of both countries for resolving this issue.
- DMK will press for changing the National Savings Scheme for fishermen in the equal ratio of 1:1:1 among the fishermen, State and Central governments as it was earlier.
- DMK will urge the Centre to establish new fishing ports in the coastal areas and to upgrade the existing fishing ports in Kanyakumari, Tuticorin, Nagapattinam, Cuddalore, Puducherry, Kasimedu (Chennai) and other fishing ports included in Sethu Samudram Project, viz., Muthupettai, Sethubava Chatram, Mallipattinam and Thondi with essential requirements like electricity and fuel filling facility; to establish warehouses of international standards with modern refrigeration facilities; to impart training to fishermen in handling modern fishing techniques to make the occupation profitable and to distribute modern equipments at subsidised prices.



- **National Commission for Fishermen Welfare**

The DMK will strive for formation of a National Commission for Fishermen Welfare to protect the welfare of all sea and inland fishermen in India.

- **FISHERMEN IN THE LIST OF SCHEDULED TRIBES**

Traditionally fishermen are engaged only in the occupation of fishing. Bearing this in mind, the DMK will strive for including fishermen in the list of Scheduled Tribes so that they will be able to get all the benefits available for STs.

66. NEW LEGISLATION FOR PROTECTION OF COASTAL COMMUNITY FROM NATURAL CALAMITY

- After the Tsunami, people in coastal areas, particularly Tamil Nadu are living in constant fear of yet another high tide calamity. The DMK will press the Centre for enacting a new law, viz., 'Protection of Coastal Community Natural Calamities Act' to take necessary precautionary actions to protect fishermen and public living along the coast.
- Moreover, the DMK will insist on averting loss of fishermen lives by creating a Seamless Communication Network System for fishermen with Indian Navy and Coast Guard and setting up helipads to save fishermen venturing into deep sea-fishing.
- The DMK will press for removing the difficulties in obtaining death certificates by the families of fishermen who are dead / lost in deep sea, and issue death certificates on the affidavits of fishermen organisations.



67. SALT PRODUCTION AND SALTERN WORKERS

The DMK will strive for devising a scheme to save salt producers from the circumstances in which they are affected by sea water rise and lose their means of livelihood and give due protection to them. The job of saltern workers are not permanent and during monsoon season they continue to suffer without income. The DMK will urge the Centre to change this situation by creating a Commission for the welfare of saltern workers and protect them.

68. MIGRANTS' WELFARE

- DMK will urge the Centre for establishing a special section in Indian embassies for providing proper legal consultations to Indians going abroad for official, professional, tourist and private visits.
- DMK will urge the Centre to set up an organisation for properly regulating the employment agencies by imposing strict rules who facilitate jobs for Indians in other countries and monitoring their functioning.

69. CITIZENSHIP FOR TAMIL REPATRIATES FROM SRI LANKA

In accordance with the Lal Bahadur Shastri – Srimao Bandaranayaka Agreement (Indo-Ceylon Agreement 1964), it was agreed that 5,25,000 Indian population would be repatriated to India. However, until 1981, only 2,80,000 persons had been repatriated to India. The remaining people of Indian origin, who came to India after 1981, were kept in the refugee camps in violation of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement. The DMK will, therefore, urge the Government of India to naturalise all those Tamils from Sri Lanka who are kept in refugee camps till now.



70. WELFARE OF EX- SERVICEMEN

To render justice to the retired defence personnel, the DMK will strive for implementing 'one rank one pension' policy in letter and spirit. Further, DMK will urge the government for appointment of ex-servicemen in government departments and all other Government institutions suiting their qualification.

71. TRANSGENDERS

It was during the rule of Kalamannar Karunanidhi in Tamilnadu and for the first time in India, as a recognition of transgenders, ration cards were issued to them. Ways and means were also provided for getting their required surgery free of cost. Moreover a welfare board for transgenders was also setup. In continuation of these efforts, the DMK will strive to bring a comprehensive legislation, in line with the Private Member Bill moved by the DMK in Rajya Sabha and adopted by the House, for the welfare of transgenders.

72. WELFARE OF DIFFERENTLY-ABLED PERSONS

- DMK will urge the Election Commission to facilitate casting of vote by differently-abled persons by providing easy access upto the polling booth.
- Deposits by persons with disabilities in public sector banks, financial institutions to earn 0.5 % extra interest per annum.
- Taxes of all forms should be eliminated for assistive devices used by persons with disabilities including spare parts for such devices. This includes the GST and other taxes.
- All persons with disabilities requiring high support needs should be provided with electronic assistive devices or devices of artificial intelligence to make them lead a life with ease and dignity.



- National fund created under Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 can be nurtured and nourished from consolidated fund of India or from the statutory CSR funds of Companies.
- Social security pension scheme shall be renamed as “disability social security allowance” and quantum shall be enhanced to Rs. 3000 per month and further, Rs. 5000 for persons with disabilities requiring high support needs.
- As envisaged in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, there shall be strictly one unified identity card to serve all sorts of rights and entitlements for persons with disabilities from appropriate governments and Government of India.

73. Comprehensive Law to Eradicate Human Trafficking

As a forerunner in Social Justice, DMK Government enacted the Bonded Labour System Abolition act in 1976. it is estimated that there are 1.84 crore Indian victims of human trafficking and 90% of them are women and children from most disadvantaged socio-economic strata, migrant workers, SC/STs. etc., Human trafficking is resorted for sexual and economic exploitations, child begging, trafficking for organs, etc. The gravity of the problem calls for stern legal action and DMK is committed to enact a comprehensive law to eradicate all forms of human trafficking to protect weaker sections of the society.

74. TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

- We will urge the Centre to construct new six-way Pamban bridge to link Rameswaram and new six-way bridge at Kollidam near Sirkazhi.



- The Chennai-Trichy-Madurai National High way in Tamil Nadu is the most important highway in the State from all aspects. Presently this is only a 4 lane high way. Keeping in mind the fast growing traffic requirements on this road it has to be upgraded to a 6 lane highway. The Central Govt will be impressed upon to take up this project immediately.
- Likewise the Nagapatnam-Thanjavur-Trichy-Coimbatore highway which cuts across the state from east to west is of great importance. Accordingly, efforts will be made to upgrade this highway as a 4 lane/6 lane National high way without affecting agricultural lands.
- **Chennai-Salem 8 Lane Expressway Project**

The Chennai-Salem 8 lane Expressway Project being implemented by Central/State Governments , has not been accepted by the farmers and people of the 5 districts through which the proposed road traverses, the reason being the destruction of large tracts of agricultural lands, hills, forest resources, etc. Totally 8 hills, 154 large tanks, 314 small lakes, 300 acres of forest land, 20 schools, centuries old temples, 30,000 coconut trees and lakhs of other trees will be destroyed. Moreover, about 4000 wells, 6700 bore-wells and 28,000 habitations will also be destroyed. The laying of this road will bring catastrophical impact on the livelihood of the people especially the women folk and the children. Therefore, DMK will not accept this project. However, all the existing highways and roads between Chennai and Salem need to be widened and upgraded by utilising the already acquired lands lying on both the sides of the highways/roads. DMK will take necessary action in this regard.

75. ABOLITION OF TOLL ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

DMK will urge Central Government to stop collection of toll on all National Highways wherever the concession period has expired.



76. SETHUSAMUDRAM PROJECT

- The works on the Sethusamudram project, the dream project of Arignar Anna and Kalaignar Karunanidhi, for which the Centre gave approval and allocated funds and when the works were progressing in full swing, had to be halted due to the opposition of the ADMK Government. The BJP Government at Centre has filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court for exploring the possibility of alternative route, different from the already finalised route, before continuing the already stopped work on the project. If Sethusamudram project is completed, the number of ships coming and leaving Tuticorin port will increase, resulting in faster economic development of southern Tamil Nadu and increase in employment opportunities. On the whole Tamil Nadu, particularly Southern part of the State, will be benefited to a very great extent. Further, at global level Sethusamudram ship canal will become as famous as Panama and Suez Canals.
- Forgetting all these, the ruling ADMK regime has filed a petition against this project in the Supreme Court, which is a great betrayal of the cause of Tamils. Since 2009, the DMK had been continuously urging the Centre to take required steps to expeditiously execute this without delay and defeat the evil designs of reactionary forces.
- With the Centre filing affidavit favouring restoration of project works, the DMK will urge to create a congenial atmosphere for recommencing the work by expediting disposal of the case pending in the apex court, and help the development of southern districts.

77. CHENNAI PORT DEVELOPMENT

Keeping in view the urgent need to develop Chennai Port's access infrastructure, DMK will prevail upon the Centre for constructing a sea link (Road bridge over the sea) from Chennai Port to Manali road and Thiruvotriyur Junction.



78. NEW MAJOR PORT AT TARANGAMBADI

DMK will urge Centre to establish a new Major Port at Tarangambadi in Nagapattinam District.

79. CHILD WELFARE

DMK stands for abolition of child labour and bonded labour. DMK will impress upon the Centre to ensure strict enforcement of existing laws in this regard and if necessary, through appropriate amendments thereof.

80. NEW AIRPORTS

- Airports in Tuticorin and Salem are without sufficient facilities including night landing facilities for aircrafts. Tuticorin is one of the cities in southern Tamil Nadu with increasing industrial development and close to Tirunelveli & Kanyakumari. And Likewise, to promote industrial development in Tiruppur, Erode, Karur and Namakkal Districts, the DMK will urge the Centre to take suitable action for upgrading these two airports.
- DMK will urge the Centre to set up new Green Field airports at Ramanathapuram and Hosur, and to develop the airstrip Vellore as full pledged Airport.

81. AVIATION UNIVERSITY

DMK will strive for implementing the assurance given by Civil Aviation Minister in Parliament for establishing Aviation University at Sriperumpudur in Tamil Nadu for imparting higher technical education in the field of aviation,



82. SECOND ROCKET LAUNCHING CENTRE

The Indian Space Research Organisation had already announced setting up of its second rocket launching centre. A committee has also been constituted to select a site for the new launching centre. Kulasekarapattinam is ideally located and expenditure in launching rockets will be considerably lower. Further, more than thousand persons will get direct and indirect employment opportunities. The DMK will strive for setting up the second rocket launching centre at Kulasekarapattinam in Tuticorin District.

83. INDIAN SPACE-LIQUID PROPULSION SYSTEMS CENTRE

- There are only a very few experts in space and liquid propulsion field. As the Liquid Propulsion Technology Centre will be a specialised institution with capacity for courses relating to designing of aircrafts and helicopters, creation of ultra speed aircrafts and space technology researches, with the establishment of this centre opportunities will be created for the shaping of a lot of students as Scientists not only from Tamil Nadu but all over the Country.
- DMK will press the Centre for setting up the 'Indian Space-Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre' at Mahendragiri in Tirunelveli district. By establishing this centre, not only the region will develop but it will also be the basis for technological revolution in our country.

84. RAILWAY PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU

- The DMK will urge the Centre for gauge conversion of all remaining rail routes in Tamil Nadu.
- To provide seamless flow of passenger vehicles, adequate subways or flyovers will be established across unmanned level crossings.



- Rail Buses, DEMU coaches will be introduced in Towns like Trichy, Madurai, Coimbatore, Villupuram, Tirunelveli, Thanjavur, Salem, Erode, Tirupur, Tutocorin, Virudhunagar, Cuddalore, Vellore and Tiruvannamalai to nearby places.
- Railway Budget should be presented separately as was in practice earlier
- The Railway budget announced the establishment of second unit in Chennai ICF Coach Factory. But so far this work has not yet started. We will take suitable action for immediately starting the second unit.
- Metro Rail Schemes in all corporation cities will be introduced.
- Nagorcoil- Tirunelveli railway areas would be brought under Madurai Division.
- Tiruchy-Golden Rock Railway Workshop will be upgraded to manufacture electric locomotives and Metro rail coaches.

New Railway lines in Tamilnadu

In order to fulfil the rail connectivity requirements as also to fully exploit the already existing Railway network in the State it is necessary to take up the following New Rail Projects in Tamilnadu;

- ❖ Third / Fourth lines in Chennai-Tiruchy-Madurai-Nellai-Kanniyakumari railway line
- ❖ Third / Fourth lines in Chennai-Katpadi-Salem-Coimbatore railway line
- ❖ Dindugal-Periyakulam-Theni-Cumbum railway line



- ❖ Karur – Vellakovil - Tirupur railway Line
- ❖ Ariyalur-Perambalur - Thuraiyur – Athur railway line
- ❖ Ramanathapuram – Tuticorin railway line
- ❖ Conversion of Villupuram - Cuddalore-Chidambaram- Mayiladuthurai-Kumbakonam- Thanjavur railway line into a double line and electrification.
- ❖ Needamangalam-Kumbakonam-Vridhachalam new railway line
- ❖ Avadi-Irunkattukottai-Oragadam-SingaperumalKovil railway line
- ❖ Karaikal-Tirunallar-Peralam line
- ❖ Mayiladuthurai-Sembanarkoil-Thirukadaiyur- Tharangambadi railway line
- ❖ Erode-Satyamangalam-Palani railway line
- ❖ Puducherry-Tindivanam-Gingee-Tiruvannamalai- Jolarpet-Krishnagiri-Hosur-Bangalore railway line

Central government will be impressed upon to take the work on these new Railway lines under a time bound action plan.

NEW RAILWAY TERMINALS AT ROYAPURAM & AMBATTUR

Keeping in view the increasing traffic towards western destinations it is necessary to develop a new Terminals at Royapuram and Ambattur. DMK will impress upon the Centre to take immediate action in this regard.



Shatabdi Express on Chennai Egmore- Trichy-Madurai Rail route

Keeping in view of the urgent need for fast trains services on the Chennai-Trichy-Madurai route which is most important railway corridor in Tamilnadu, the Ministry of Railways should take steps to introduce daily Satapthi Express Train service on this route.

85. FREE RAIL TRAVEL FACILITY FOR STUDENTS

With a view to helping poor students who travel by train to their educational institutions, all school and college students will be provided with free train travel facility.

86. MASS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM (MRTS)

The Centre will be urged for laying the new railway route from Tiruvanmiyur to Mamallapuram in the first phase and extending it upto Puducherry and for commencing study for Mass Rapid Transit System in larger corporation areas like Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchi and Salem in Tamil Nadu.

87. UNIVERSITY OF RAILWAY TECHNOLOGY

The DMK will urge the Centre to establish a “University of Railway Technology” in Tamil Nadu.



88 . NUCLEAR POWER PROJECTS

DMK is of the strong and considered view that Nuclear Power Projects should be established only after obtaining the unanimous consent of the people of the area and observing mandatory safeguards. Further, the Central government should evolve a policy to the effect that electricity generated from nuclear power station will be fully distributed within the State where the plant is located.

89.SHELTER HOUSES

DMK will make efforts for launching of a pioneer scheme by the Central Government to provide Shelter Houses in big cities to help people sleeping on the roads.

90. SPORTS

- DMK will urge the Centre to establish in all district headquarters modern basic infrastructure of international standards required for training the youth to attain efficiency and skill to participate in international events.
- DMK will urge the centre to establish multipurpose stadiums in villages and small towns in every Taluk.

91. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

- The Archaeological survey work at Keezhadi in Sivagangai District had started unearthing clinching evidences through various findings and artefacts to establish the fact



that Tamil civilization and culture and also Tamil Language are the most ancient in the world. Therefore the Government of India will be impressed upon to provide adequate financial allocation and all other support to continue with the excavation work and archaeological studies at Keezhadi without any let up.

- Further, a Museum with artefacts and other findings collected there would be established at Keezhadi itself.
- The Report on the Findings of the Archaeological Survey conducted at Adhichanallur in Thoothukudi District long time ago should be made public.
- A fresh Archaeological Survey should be conducted at Eral Sivakalai in Thoothukudi District and also at Kodumanal in Chennimalai Taluk
- Fresh Archaeological underwater Surveys should be organised in the sea off Poompuhar and in the sea off Kanniyakumari (announced by Dr.Kalaigarnar Karunanidhi in the World Classical Tamil Conference held in Coimbatore in 2010.)

92. FAMILY PENSION TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Family Pension is not given to the wives of pensioners of Freedom Fighters including members of Indian National Army. DMK will urge the Centre to give family pension after the demise of pensioner. Further the amount of pension to the Freedom Fighters should also be enhanced.



93. ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

Mining Activities

- Various types of ongoing mining activities in the country including Tamil Nadu have inflicted severe damage to environment due to irregular and over exploitation of mineral resources. Therefore, DMK urges that the existing policies should be revisited and necessary corrective measures are taken.
- The natural calamities such as Tsunami, cyclones, etc., which devastated India recently emphasises the need for protection of environment and forests. Therefore, the DMK urges the Central Government to implement a scheme for large scale urban afforestation with the active public participation including women and students.
- The DMK urges the Government of India to implement a fully funded special scheme for development of palm plantations in coastal and also in inland areas of the country. This scheme will not only help the social forestry cover over vast areas but also go a long way in providing livelihood support to the below poverty line population.

94. CYCLONE RELIEF

- The Central and State Governments have not provided adequate relief and compensation to people affected in devastating cyclones viz., Vardha, Tane, Gaja and Okhi in Tamil Nadu. Hence, DMK will urge for setting up a reserve fund to the extent of a minimum of 0.5% of the budget for disaster relief like cyclones, floods, earthquake, etc., and other natural calamities to ensure immediate release of funds to the affected people



- All the cyclone prone areas across the country shall be provided with permanent shelter homes, proportionate to the coastal population.

95. REMOVAL OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Growing unemployment among youth in urban as well as rural areas across the country is a matter of great concern today. Though the BJP had promised 2 crore jobs every year in its election promise in 2014 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP led NDA Government has failed miserably in this. Continuing large scale unemployment does not auger well for the nation, as the dejected youth may turn to undesirable pursuits. Therefore, the Central Government should, as its foremost priority, chalk out suitable strategies for creation of employment opportunities on a large scale at national level. DMK will impress upon the Centre to launch a scheme for providing job to at least one person per family according to educational qualification.

In pursuance of this, Central Government must take steps to:

- (i) Fill up all vacancies in all Central Government Departments, Offices, Public Sector Undertakings, etc., which have remained vacant for the last 5 years.
- (ii) Appoint persons in advance to fill up all retirement vacancies.
- (iii) To direct all the States to have similar action plans for providing employment and the Central Government to extend financial support to States.



96. PROVIDING 50 LAKH JOBS UNDER CSR

To mandate every Company to provide employment to persons residing within 20 K.Ms. of their area of operation with a minimum pay of Rs.10,000/- p.m. under a special Corporate Social Responsibility programme which shall be implemented and monitored by Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Under this Scheme, a total number of 50 lakh jobs will be provided to youths.

97. RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY AT SRIPERUMPUTHUR

At present, the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) is functioning at Sriperumputhur. This Institution was set up in 1993 in memory of late Thiru Rajiv Gandhi and it was made an Institution of National Importance under an Act of Parliament in the year 2012 during the UPA regime. But, even after several years of existence, this Institution has not been able to make any remarkable impact in its sphere of activity. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that this Institute is strengthened and upgraded suitably so that it could perform its tasks successfully and become an Institution of Excellence. Hence, DMK will impress upon the Central Government to develop the RGNIYD as a full-fledged Central University.

98. Preventing Social Media From Posting Obscene Materials

Nowadays, sexual harassments against girl children are on the increase due to various factors. One of the important factors is the social media which is indulging in rampant and uncontrolled publishing of obscene materials. So it



becomes expedient to stop this menace to protect innocent girl children. DMK will urge the Centre to take steps to bring an appropriate law by the Parliament to prevent all types of the social media from publishing any kind of obscene pictures, photos and other pornographic literature and materials. Further, a Special Cyber Crime Branch should be set up in every district to deal with cyber crimes against women to ensure speedy action.

99. Cauvery Delta - A Protected Exclusive Agricultural Zone

Cauvery River Basin areas have long been known as the Granary of the South. However, of late, the area has witnessed unchecked large scale diversion of fertile agricultural lands to a variety of activities which are detrimental to not only agriculture but also the green environment. This alarming trend is a matter of great concern and should be stopped forthwith. Hence, this fertile area needs to be protected as a Protected Exclusive Agricultural Zone to safeguard agricultural production. The DMK will impress upon the Central Government to bring forward an appropriate legislation for this purpose immediately.

100. PROTECTION OF RELIGIONS AND RELIGIOUS HARMONY

- The DMK, as a secular movement, is functioning without prejudices to any religion in the country. In fact, “One Community; One God” was the slogan of Anna. On that basis, the DMK has been functioning inside as well as



outside the Government, with the motto “God is seen in the smiles of poor” while DMK does not nurture any antagonism against any religious or caste faith, it is staunchly committed to promoting and safeguarding communal harmony, which is one of its main principles. DMK will, therefore, urge the Central Government to take appropriate steps to protect the peoples religious faith and honour of all religions irrespective of whether they are in majority or minority.

- Of late, theft of precious and invaluable idols of deities etc., from ancient and renowned temples, especially from Tamil Nadu, is on the increase and the idols had even been smuggled out of the country and sold out. As international network of criminals is involved actively in this kind of criminal activities, DMK will urge the Central Government to create a special police force to protect the precious and invaluable idols, artefacts and other treasures. Likewise, irrespective of majority or minority status, the idols and other treasures available in places of worship of all religions shall be protected, if necessary, by enacting a suitable law, by the Central Government.

We assure that the candidates, who contest on behalf of the DMK alliance and get elected as Members of Parliament, will continue to strive for implementing schemes/projects incorporated in this election manifesto for the overall development and progress of Tamil Nadu and India.



People of Tamil Nadu, are well aware of the history of achievements accomplished by the DMK whenever it has been in power in Tamil Nadu and at the Centre. Through this manifesto, the DMK gives the assurance that we will do our Parliamentary democratic duty very sincerely and serve up to the expectations of the people and the confidence reposed by them on DMK.

Therefore, we appeal to the people that we may be mandated to serve you as:

We'll re-establish secular good governance!

We'll preserve harmony among religions!

We'll protect human rights!

We'll not exclude any religion! We'll protect all religions!

We'll protect social justice! Promote equality!

We'll work for the fast growth of Indian economy!

We'll strive for democracy to flourish!

We'll unassiduously march forward on the path of Anna to establish an egalitarian society!

We'll follow the footsteps of Kalaignar and make historical achievement!



Please Support and

Vote For Rising Sun!

