

TWAN

ANNUAL REPORT 89

தமிழர் நலன்புரி சங்கம் (நியூகாம்) யூ.கே
TAMIL WELFARE ASSOCIATION (NEWHAM) U.K



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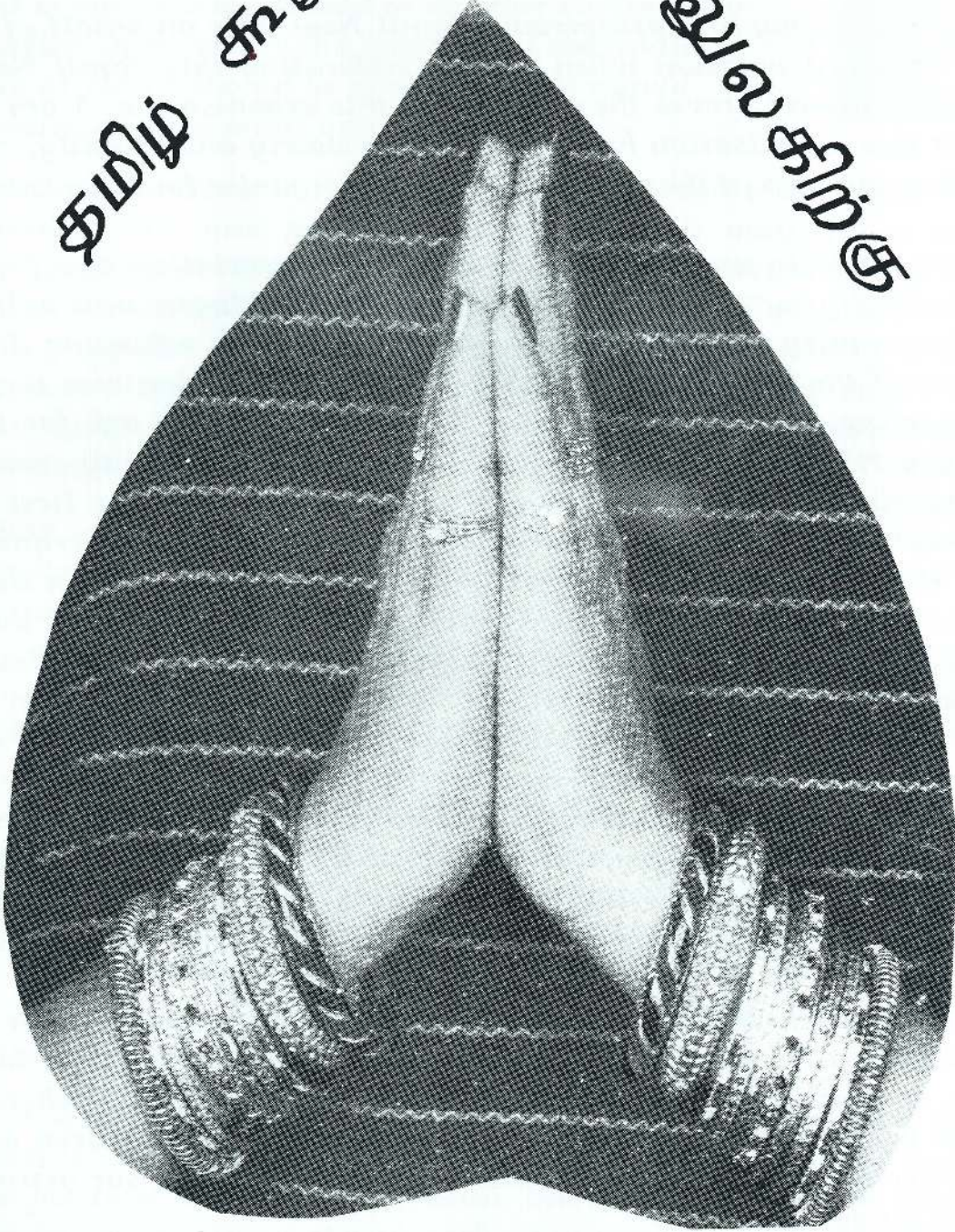
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தமிழ் கூறும்

நல்லுலகிற்கு



எமது உளங்கனிந்த
புத்தாண்டு வாழ்த்துக்கள்

தமிழர் நலன்புரி சங்கம் (நியூகாம்) யூ.கே

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues and Members of TWAN,

I wish you a happy and prosperous Tamil New Year on behalf of TWAN. This is the third occasion when we are celebrating this Tamil New Year night. This in itself proves the stability of this organisation. I am glad to note that this organisation has been growing slowly and steadily, not only in numbers but also in the activities which we organise for the public.

As I have stated in my last year's message this association was formed in 1986 principally for the purpose of helping Tamil refugees and uniting the Tamil Community. We have gone a long way towards achieving these two goals. One of the unique achievements of this organisation was the calling of the meeting just before European Election in order to ask for the help from Euro MP's and other voluntary organisation. If my recollection serves me right, I believe that it was at this meeting for the first time it was brought to the notice of members of the public that the Government had decided that in common with other Nationalities the Sri Lankan should in future be granted exceptional leave to remain in accordance with the policy announced by the Home Secretary on 28th July 1988. Exceptional leave was to be granted for one year initially and then periods of three years. Family reunion was to be allowed usually after four years settlement may be granted after seven. Every member of this association especially Mr. Janarthanan our Co-ordinator can be proud of this achievement. I informed you in my last year's message that we intended to study at great length matters relating to poll tax. Our voluntary worker who advises from our office is already helping public with various queries raised about this tax.

Another achievement of this organisation more specially our NTWA (Newham Tamil Women Association) was the help rendered to Tamil children to learn Tamil language and culture in the summer school. I am sure that you would be surprised to note that almost 60 children attended the summer school. In the future also we wish to further our activities in the fields set out above.

I wish to thank you for your help and your assistance without which this organisation wouldn't have survived.

THANKING YOU.

(Sgd) S.S. THIRU.

COMRADES,

Another year has passed and the progress TWAN have achieved is one that is second to no other community organisation in Newham. The foresight of the leading members of TWAN should be praised and so should their continued hard work and dedication.



The Conservative Government has ensured through their legislation that new communities and the best able to pay their way, for a variety of reasons, will be hardest hit. They hope the Education Act will be the catalyst to increase public education at the expense of state education. The Social Security Act has and will continue to decrease money going to the unemployed. They hope this will force people to accept low paid jobs which will give greater profits to the employers and this in turn will let the employers give more contributions to the conservative party.

But what will affect all of us most will be the Housing Act. The ramifications of this act are still to be felt by the homeless and those in council and housing associations properties. The secure tenancies given by housing associations will be removed and replaced by assured tenancies, which will allow the landlord to evict tenants without recourse to the present restrictions, while rents increase. At the same time councils will be forced to sell their housing stock to "pick a tenant" landlord, while proposed "Ring fencing" finance will ensure council rents are increased. The Government also intend to de-regularise private sector rents. All of these changes mean that the initiative to create a housing association by TWAN is not only necessary, but essential. If refugees are to be helped to resume a normal life. TWAN can try to limit any severe increase in rents and at the same time help house the most needy through their housing association.

I have only glossed over the legislation and apologise if I have been Anti Conservative. This is not my intention, as help should never be restricted to any one political party. In the future there may be avenues open to you, which may not be of your chosen paths, but one which are forced upon you. This should not and I believe will not deter you in maintaining your position and strengthening your base in fighting for what you believe is just.

May I take this opportunity in wishing all the members of TWAN and their families a happy and prosperous new year.

RON AUGLEY.

OM MURUGA



இலண்டன் ஸ்ரீ முருகன் கோயில் LONDON SRI MURUGAN TEMPLE

Charity Registration Number: 271097

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Date

11.4.1990

தமிழர் நலன்புரி சங்கம்
33 ஸ்டேஷன் சாலை
மேஜர் பார்ட்
இலண்டன் கிழக்கு - 12

வரலாற்றுச் சிறப்புமிக்கதும் தற்கால நாகரீகத்தில்
உயர்ந்து விளங்குகின்றதமான இங்கிலாந்து நாட்டில் இலண்டன் மாநகரில்
வாழும் தமிழ் இனச்சமூகத்தின் உயர்வையே கருத்தில்கொண்டு தமிழ்
சமுதாயத்தினருக்கு ஏற்படும் இன்னல்களை நீக்கியும் அவர்களுக்கு தேவையான
ஆலோசனைகளை கூறியும் அரும்பணியாற்றுவரும் "தமிழர் நலன்புரி சங்கம்"
தமிழ் புத்தாண்டு விழாவினை கொண்டாட இருப்பது அறிந்து மிகவும்
மகிழ்ச்சி அடைகிறோம்.

இறையருளால் இந்த விழா நன்முறையில் நிறைவு பெற்று
தமிழர் நலன்புரி சங்கத்தினர் தங்களுடைய தமிழ்த் தொண்டின் வழியே
உயர்ந்த அடைந்திட எல்லாம் வல்ல இலண்டன் ஸ்ரீ முருகப் பெருமானை
வணங்கி வாழ்த்துகின்றோம்.

இங்ஙனம்

சீ. சம்பந்தகுமார்

தலைவர்
இலண்டன் ஸ்ரீ முருகன் கோயில்

புத்தாண்டு வாழ்த்துச் செய்தி
NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE



இராம வீரசிங்கம் RAMA VEERASINGAM

தலைவர், நியூஹாம் தமிழ்ச் சமூகப் பேரவை President, Newham Tamil Community Council

“புத்தாண்டு வாழ்த்துக்கள் ! நலம் மலர்க !”
“HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!”

பிரமோதூத ஆண்டு நம் அனைவர்க்கும் உடல் நலத்தையும்
செழுமையையும் நல்குவதாகுக !

May PREMOHTHOOTHAA year shower us with good health and prosperity!

“தேமதுரத் தமிழோசை உலகமெலாம் பரவும் வகை
செய்தல் வேண்டும்” என்பது பாரதியின் இலட்சியம்.

“தெருவெலாம் தமிழ் முழக்கம் செழிக்கச் செய்தல்
வேண்டும்” என்பது அவரின் பேரவா !

“வீரனின் வீரமும் ! வெற்றியும் ! மாண்பும் நீயே !
வாழ்ந்தால் நான் வாழ்வேன் ! நீ நைந்தால் நானும் நைந்து போவேன் !”
என்று, தமிழ் அன்னையைப் போற்றித் தமிழ் இயக்கம் நடத்தியவர்
பாரதிதாசன்.

ஈடு இணையற்ற இப்பெருங் கவிஞர்களின் இலட்சிய
உணர்வுகளைப் போற்றி, பிரிட்டனில் தமிழ்ச் சமூகத்திற்குச் சேவையாற்றி
வருகின்றது தமிழர் நலன்புரிசங்கம். மொழியையும் கலையையும் விழிக-
ளாகப் போற்றி, கவின்கு செயல்கள் கிளைக்கின்ற பட்டறையாய் மிளிர்-
கின்றது தமிழர் நலன்புரி சங்கம்.

தமிழ் மொழிக்கும், கலைக்கும், மேலாக சமூக நன்மை
க்கும் ஒப்பிலா சேவை புரிந்து உயர்ந்து நிற்கின்ற உன்னத இயக்கம்,

வளர்க ! வாழ்க ! என்று வாழ்த்துகின்றோம் !

**"The sweet sound of Tamil should be made to be heard all over the World!
If we seek to flourish' Tamil should be made to resound
on every street!"**————>These were Bharathi's wish.

On the other hand, Bharathi Thasan's Tamil movement proclaimed that a
Tamilian's health, strength and honour paralleled and invested in the glory of mother Tamil.

We do see* that the Tamil Welfare Association of (Newham)U.K. cherish the
wills and wishes of these great Tamil poets and regard Tamil Language and culture as both eyes. Their
standard of activities and commitments are unique and they outstand as a workshop that distributes
actions!

TWAN's steadfastness in seeking glory to the Tamil language and arts and most
importantly their incomparable services towards the betterment and prosperity of the Tamil Community
must be recognised. We greet them with gratitude!

“ஒன்று பட்டால் உணுவாழ்வே - நம்மில்
ஒற்றுமை நீங்கின் அனைவர்க்கும் தாழ்வே
நன்றது தேர்ந்திடல் வேண்டும் - இந்த
ஞானம் வந்தாற்பின் நமக்கெது வேண்டும் !”

என்பதையும்

“மனதிலுறுதி வேண்டும் வாக்கினிலே இனிமை வேண்டும்
நினைவு நல்லது வேண்டும் நெருங்கிய பொருள் கைப்பட
வேண்டும் ”

என்ற பாரதியின் வாக்குகளையும் நமது இலட்சியங்களுக்கு அடிப்படை
யாக்கி, உயர்வோம் !

**“U nited there is life for us
Divided! we will fall in strife!
This we should well heed,
Thus enlightened nothing else we need!”**

And,

**“L et the heart be steadfast
L et the speech be sweet
L et our thoughts bear the good
L et things proximate be grasped.”**

are Bharathi's aims.

Let us persevere with the same basic aims and succeed in our objects!
We shall prosper!.

√ANAKKAMI.

வணக்கம்

Sgd Rama. Veerasingham

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

21st JANUARY 1990

TAMIL WELFARE ASSOCIATION OF NEWHAM

33a STATION ROAD, MANOR PARK,
LONDON E12. TEL:- 01- 478 0577

AGENDA

1. Election of A.G.M. Chair
2. Apologies
3. Last year minutes from Secretary
4. Project report from the Co-ordinator
5. Finance report from the Treasurer
6. Constitutional amendments
7. Election of office bearers
8. Future plans
9. Questions and discussions

1. Election of A.G.M Chair

Mr.Anandalingam was elected the chairperson for the meeting. His name was proposed by Mr.J.Asokan and seconded by Mr.V.Janarthanan.

2. Apologies

We only received one apology which came from Mr.Yoganathan. Mr.Yoganathan couldn't attend the meeting because of certain reasons that he couldn't foresee.

3. Last year minutes from the Secretary

Last year minutes was read by our Secretary Mr.P.chandradas and it was agreed and accepted by the house unanimously.

4. Project report from the Co-ordinator

PROJECT 1

1. Advisory Work

This is the most vital organ of our organisation's body. This laid the foundation for creating this organisation.

At the peak of atrocities committed against the Tamils in Sri Lanka by the Sri lankan army thousands of tamils fled the country and sought refuge in countries like the U.K, West Germany and France. This influx reached the highest level in May 1985. During this time about 58 tamil refugees were held at Ashford Detention Centre for a long time without any help from the so called organisations supposed to serve the tamils which have already been functioning in the U.K.

Certain individuals who came to know about these people's plight came forward to help them. They contacted the immigration and succeeded in getting them out of detention centre on temporary admission. As most of these individuals were from Newham borough, they took these refugees to the Newham Borough Council for help in providing them with food and lodging.

The council was so sympathetic with the refugees plea that they advised them to form a collective body with an office bearer and an address to deal with their cases effectively and efficiently.

We are very proud to say that TWAN is the first and foremost organisation which was formed for the benefit of the refugees by the refugees in the U.K. We would like to thank some individuals at this stage for the valuable advice and support they gave at the crawling stage of our organisation. We wouldn't have come to this position if they had not involved themselves whole heartedly at the time of our need. Still some of them are in our committee and render their services tirelessly.

Because ours is an organisation without any political colour or creed we are able to grow stronger day by day. The organisation which started without any proper place to work from, was able to get an office of its own at 33, Station Road, Manor Park, London E12 and now functions from there. We are able to achieve this only from our sheer hard work which we have done to the Community in the Borough for which we have been given support. The following are the main areas where we advised our Community.

a. IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY

1). INJUNCTION ORDER AGAINST DEPORTATION

In the past the M.Ps had a right to put a stop order temporarily on the people who were going to be deported when they were not given temporary admission. But the Government took this right away from the MPs. This made our refugees difficult to take any other step to prevent the deportation.

Still refugees were being given deportation orders to which the only way out was to take injunction orders against these in the courts. We were able to stop all deportation orders by taking injunctions in the courts.

At this juncture we would like to thank Mr. Ron Leighton who is our MP for taking every step to put stop orders to three of our members who were on temporary admission and had been served with deportation orders by using his rights.

Newham Rights Centre and Newham Advisory Service also helped us in dealing with certain immigration cases.

Temporary Admission

Nowadays all people who arrive at the ports and seek asylum in this country are given temporary admission without much hustle. This was not the case before. Thanks to TWAN for this great achievement. The case we took up on behalf of Mr. Vathanan and Mr. Rajalingam paved a way for this. They were served with deportation orders and we filed a case against the Home Secretary's decision and the case was represented by the solicitors Messers Chris Randall, David Burgess and Sriharan. Even though we lost the case in lower courts and they were deported with another three refugees we appealed against the decision which the Home Secretary took.

The court of appeal over turned the lower court's decision and ordered the Home Secretary to bring them back to this country at the earliest possible time. Now Mr. Vathanan and Mr. Rajalingam are here and it is our effort with the help of the solicitors made a legal history as far as refugees are concerned and it was the best achievement we had in the past year.

Judicial Review

People who arrived in this country before 1989 had to satisfy the immigration officers regarding their claim for either refugee status or political asylum. If the immigration officers were not satisfied with their claim at the airport they were detained at the detention centres and the only way out for us to take them out was taking them on bail. Those who were given bail were ordered to go to their respective local police stations and sign there once a week or twice a week and in some cases three times a week. People in this category were unable to find work or as far as young boys were concerned they couldn't follow any courses in colleges because of the adjudicator's order. Even though still some of them have to sign at the police stations we succeeded in revoking this order to some of them by writing to the adjudicator's office explaining the cases individually. We also succeeded in getting visas to some of them who were in this category.

Exceptional leave to remain

Most of the people who arrived in this country, during 85-87 are being given exceptional leave to remain in this country. People who are allowed on temporary basis have the right to ask for exceptional leave to remain once they have completed six months on temporary stay. We helped a number of applicants who

were on temporary stay in this country to obtain the exceptional leave to remain by taking up their cases with the Home Office. This helped them to get employment, Educational grant in the case of students and they were able to go to other countries on holidays. Above all they had a feeling of being a person with some form of hope about his or her future in life.

Refugee status

Although we haven't achieved any success in obtaining refugee status to anyone yet we are already moving towards that goal. We have applied for refugee status to some who have already completed three years on exceptional leave to remain in this country stating why they should be given refugee status. Family reunion is another area where we put our effort into in the past year. It is a heartache for people especially married people leaving their husbands in case of wives who are here and wives in case of husbands living here, without seeing their children for quite a number of years. With political instability back home and with question mark hanging over their heads about their future, both parties suffer worrying about their loved ones. Family reunion is only possible if they are given refugee status and we are co-ordinating with J.C.W.I. (Joint Council of Welfare and Immigration) to achieve positive results.

Visa Renewal

This comprises of (a) renewing visa to people who have already got exceptional leave to remain in this country. (b) visa renewal for students. (c) tourists visa renewal.

For people who have already been given one year exceptional leave to remain we send for the renewal for the second year stating why they should be given further extension expressing the political developments back home and the individual's political involvement in the past and present. We prepared their cases individually and helped them in obtaining their visas.

We also helped students getting their visas renewed. Some of these students were refused further extensions on the grounds that they did not full fill the Home office requirements for further extension of visa. We wrote to the Home office on their behalf why they couldn't satisfy the Home Office pointing out how they were individually affected by the political developments back home.

We helped the tourists in getting their visas extended as well giving valid reasons why they should be given extension.

Travel Documents

Those who had been given visas already either had no passports or mutilated passports on which the visas could not be given and for those who had the passports visas couldn't be stamped on because of their expiry by being held in the Home Office for a long time. For these reasons Home Office gave visas on piece

of papers which cant be used for any purpose at all. For these people we applied to the Home Office for travel documents on which the visas had been transferred later. They use these travel documents to travel to other countries other than Sri Lanka.

We stressed to the Home Office that it was not possible for a refugee to apply for a Sri Lankan passport because of the fear of persecution which he or his family will face back home and our refusal to approach the Sri Lankan High Commission whom we think not as our friends but as foes.

Entry Visas Refusal Appeals

There were people who applied for entry visas in Sri Lanka to come to UK had been refused at the British High Commission and were asked to appeal against their decision if they felt it was unreasonable. For cases like this we got their application down here and with the help of J.C.W.I and Chris Randall the solicitor we fought the cases and succeeded in some of them by obtaining the visas.

2. SOCIAL WELFARE RIGHTS

As usual we had to pay more attention in this area next to the immigration because nearly all the refugees in need of one or other benefit. We found that most of them didn't have any idea of the social benefits they are entitled to.

Income Support

As far as the refugees are concerned the benefits they are entitled to is only income support because of restriction on seeking employment most of them felt that they would be deported if they claimed income support and went through financial hardship. We explained to them that their fear was baseless and helped them to claim their benefits.

National Insurance Number.

In the past we were able to apply for National Insurance Numbers to those who were given temporary admission without any problems. Nowadays when they are given temporary admission they are given letters mentioning they cant take up employment in this country. So forwarding an application for National Insurance Numbers has become difficult. But there is a regulation in Home office which says that these people can write to the Home office requesting them to revoke their condition once they have completed six months in this country on temporary stay. Most of the refugees don't know this as there is no period mentioned in their temporary admission letters. When they sought our help in this matter in most cases we rang up the Home office and requested them to lift this condition to those who Had been already for more than six months and home office responded to our request effectively and with their letters a number of people got their Natinol Insurance Numbers.

Housing Benefits.

Most of the refugees are living in houses belonging to private landlords. They find difficulties in finding their ends meet when they have to pay £30-£40 per week towards their rent while they get less than £30 a week from DHSS as income support. A number of landlords hesitated to give rent books for various reasons. We negotiated with such landlords on their behalf and enabled them to get the rent book. So now they are able to claim their housing benefit which has eased their burden financially.

Family Credit

There are many couples with children who find very difficult to manage their families with the money they get from Income support. We helped them to claim the family credit and thereby eased their difficulties tremendously.

Other Benefits

People who arrive in this country with children fear that it is against the law to claim child benefit for those children who were not born in this country. Because of this wrong information we found that a lot of parents lost substantial sum of money in child benefit. We advised them and a number of people are able to claim this benefit.

We helped one parent families to get one parent family allowance as well. When the women are in full time employment we advice them to pay full stamp contribution in order to claim maternity benefit once they become pregnant. when Couples who wanted to get married at local registrar office in Newham approached the Registrar's office they were told to bring their passports with them. As far as Sri Lankan refugees are concerned their passports are either in the Home office or they don't have one. Because of this some couples found it difficult to get married. When they approached we contacted the Registrar's office and explained about the Sri Lankan Refugee's situation in this country and they agreed to conduct the wedding if they produced the temporary admission letter. Nowadays the couples don't face these problems at registrar's office as some couples did in the past.

3). ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is the second worst problem which the refugees face next to immigration. In 1985 with the advice of Newham Borough Council we formed a body called Newham Housing Co-op through which we were able to get 30 single person's flats. As the refugees were pouring in the demand for accommodation increased. Now this Co-op has got eight houses in which altogether 35 people dwell. It is in the process of getting 12 houses this year. This body which was created by TWAN is now functioning an an independent body run by the people who live in those houses. This body runs on a Cooperative basis. The rent

is low compared to the council houses. This Co-op is running efficiently and the meetings are attended by more than 25 people when it is convened monthly. These people who attend the meeting are not the people who have already got accommodation but who seek accommodation.

Private Accommodation

We have to wait for months to get houses from the council to accommodate the refugees. Because the influx of the refugees are more the urgency for accommodation becomes imperative. So TWAN started to accommodate these people in private accommodations run by the estate agents. At present TWAN has got 3 houses in this category and their rent is being paid by the housing association of New ham.

Temporary Accommodation

Still when the immigration contacts our organisation regarding refugees arriving at the airports and when we take them on temporary admission we accommodate them temporarily for two or three days in any of our member's houses and move them to a permanent accommodation. We haven't taken a Bed and Breakfast yet to accommodate any refugee, because of great help given to us by our members in finding alternate accommodations.

4). EDUCATION/TRAINING

School and College Admissions

Children of the asylum seeking parents faced great difficulties in obtaining school admission. Some schools requested the status of the parents in this country before considering the applicant and when they found that they were refugees they hesitated to give them admission. We contacted the education authority and paved way for them to get places at schools.

As far as the secondary school students were concerned they faced difficulties at the early stages as they were asked to pay foreign student's fees which amounted to a few thousand pounds. Education authorities were contacted regarding this and we succeeded in getting them places after paying only £1.00 which was the registration fees before and now it is only £5.00 per student.

Educational Grant

We advised people to get the grant according to the courses they followed. If the grants were refused still we tried to find the reasons for the refusal and submitted the relevant documents in getting the grants. A number of students have benefited because of the advice we gave them. We are very grateful to all the boroughs which consider the refugees who are living in this country on temporary admissions as persons who have already been given refugee status and treated them accordingly. It is because of this they are able to get better education at a cost which is negligible.

SECOND LANGUAGE

Most of the refugees are handicapped because of the language barrier. Their English knowledge is so poor that they are unable to find decent jobs anywhere even if they have legal right to work in this country.

A lot of youths find it difficult to follow courses in colleges because they were only taught in their mother tongue at schools back in Sri Lanka. This has only led them to do either odd or unskilled jobs in his country.

So we, with the help of Mrs. Carol Fox and Bharthi Ruwala started teaching them English in order to put them in the right path to get some qualifications. Now the classes are being conducted at 15, Lemma Road, Leytonstone, and nearly 35 people benefit out of this at present. Those who follow this course are paid travelling expenses plus an additional sum of money on top of the income support they receive. This is an added bonus for the refugees and we would like to request more people to join in this scheme and reap the benefits.

EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

It is a fact that certain percentage of refugees who are in this country at present did work like carpenting and building back home in Sri Lanka more and more of the refugees want to get into these profession as there is great demand for this in this country. With the help of Carol they are being taught English and they get training in jobs they would like to specialise. A lot of people attend these courses such as accounting, computing, building trade, electrical wiring, secretarial and office work etc.

5). LEGAL MATTERS

Mr. Thiru who is our Chair person rendered his valuable legal advice to people who live in the borough concerning immigration, housing, insurances and motoring offences. His service to our community is highly appreciateable.

6) TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION

Members of TWAN took refugees to DHSS and unemployment offices for interviews when claiming benefits and acted as interpreters. Home Office and U.K.I.A.S also approached us for the same purpose.

7). RACIAL & POLICE HARASSMENT

Police harassment on the refugees was severe at one stage in the borough and after TWAN went on a delegation and met the then Home Secretary it has died down and now because of the steps taken by our organisation the refugees are able to move freely without any fear. We link our organisation with racial equality unit and work together in achieving peace in

the borough and help given by the racial equality unit is tremendous.

PROJECT 2

CHILDREN'S PROJECT

a. HOLIDAY PROJECT- EASTER

During Easter holidays when the schools were closed for holidays parents found very difficult to go to work because they did not have anybody to their children when they went to work. So TWAN conducted classes for them at St. Paul's Church hall in East Ham where about 40 children were looked after by four teachers. The teachers taught them Tamil language, Art and music. These children were picked up from four different points and brought to school and they were dropped back in the same points again in the afternoon.

Additionally we arranged two trips during these two weeks in which they were taken to a local Dairy farm and then one day to Safari Park.

SUMMER PROJECT

This was the most successful of all the projects which we carried out last year. during the summer holidays about 60 children participated in this project organised by TWAN. the duration of this project was one month in which the teachers tried their best to teach the children our language and culture which are the back bone for the survival of our community. We strongly feel that if our race has to survive, teaching our language and culture are very important and the young ones must be taught of our civilisation which we are very proud of. so these children were taught to read and write Tamil. Dance and music were also taught and it was a success because the teachers put a lot of effort into it to make it a success. On the final day a variety show was presented by the children who participated in the project.

A prize giving too took place at the end of the occasion. The parents and the teachers gave whole hearted support throughout the period to make the project a success.

PROJECT 3

ACTIVITIES OF TWAN (Newham Tamil Women Association)

As usual it helped many women to overcome their problems last year especially in the area of education, employment and family matters Our organisation participated in a women conference held in Ealing by Ealing Women Unit. They also participated in the various workshops such as social services and immigration. There are a lot more to be done to the women community but backing for our project is not forth coming enthusiastically from women. Therefore we appeal to the women community to come forward and work with our women unit to achieve better results for them in all their aspects of life. TWAN will be there as usual to give

its full backing where and when they need.

PROJECT 4

TAMIL PRINTING PRESS

Even though thousands of Tamils live in the UK it is a handicap that there are not enough facilities to print any matters in Tamil to inform them of what is happening around them now. We felt that people especially who live in New Ham Borough should be informed in Tamil of what is happening in the Borough itself and around it. We felt that handouts sent out by the borough also should be translated in Tamil and sent to Tamil homes. If other leaflets issued by offices like DHSS are also translated in Tamil it will be an advantage. Therefore we decided in our meeting that a printing press should be set up by TWAN to meet the requirements as a whole, and efforts have been made to make this possible by working jointly with another Tamil Group. We hope that this will be possible during this year if all our plans are carried out effectively. This will provide jobs for about fifteen people as well.

PROJECT 5.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

It is very encouraging to see a number of organisations work very hard in teaching our young ones our culture and civilisation which are the basic ingredients for the existence of a community. Tamils are a community which is proud of having a culture and civilisation as the Greeks and the Egyptians had. Although we have been uprooted from our Native land and live in this country these cultural organisations which are at every nook and corner of this country where the Tamils live in concentration keep this light burning in the hearts of the young ones who are going to be our future leaders.

We have an idea of uniting all the existing cultural organisations and bring them under one umbrella to achieve better results. A community has been set up to carry this forward.

PROJECT 6

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

We arranged a summer trip to Hastings last year. We took about 150 people including children for the outing in two coaches. Hastings it is not only a beach resort but also a place of historical importance. Hence the trip turned out to be an educational as well as outing one.

For the first time we had a Christmas party organised by TWAN in which about 200 people took part. Youths really had a good time that day having Discos. Food was provided free of charge by the members of TWAN. The function was a success even though it was organised at a shorter notice.

New year cultural show

TWAN organised the New year Cultural night at East Ham Town Hall. Large crowd turned up to watch the performance of some of the leading cultural artists in this country. MP's and councillors attended the occasion and addressed the gathering. This gave added colour to the occasion. We are indeed grateful to London Tamil School and Local Tamil Artists who came towards to present these wonderful performance.

PROJECT 7

SEMINARS/CONFERENCES

Last year we participated in three conferences and all three were successful. Our New Ham Tamil Women Association participated in a conference organised by Ealing Women Unit. It was a full day programme and we together thrashed out all the possible ways of finding solutions to the problems which effect the tamil women community in London. We concentrated more on educational training, employment, housing, self organisations and funding and other other matters concerning them.

TWAN also held a meeting on Europe 1992 in which people who have knowledge on this topic participated and assured their help to us when and where they are needed.

We also worked closely with J.C.W.I which we hopewill yield better results to the people who have been affected by the tough immigration laws.

EUROPE 1992

We are very proud to mention here that as an organisation we are the first one who thought about what the future was going to hold for refugees in 1992 when there was going to be a great change when all The European countries are going to come together as one unit.

We invited European candidates and leading European authorities in our area for a meeting and requested them to give us speeches in detail how we were going to be affected after 1992. The speakers spoke in detail about the status of refugees and how they could be helped once Europe became one body. They said that the state of the refugees would be better and brighter after 1992 once the countries merged. They touched on different matters as well. They answered to the questions raised by the gathering and cleared their doubts. We would like to thank Mrs.Carol Thong and Mr.Alf Lomus who were European Parliamentary candidates before and now the M.P's for participating in our discussion that day and giving their valuable advice.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

We have an office at 33 Station Road, Manor Park, where we function from. We have an officer there working from Monday to Friday from 9-1. She

advises the people on everything which affect the community. She is paid by the funds raised by the organisation only and we would like people to come forward to help us financially to run this afficiently.

Mainly people are advised on immigration and benefits. we are very greatful to Mr.Balasingham Mrs.S.Thiyagarajah and Mrs.Yogachandran for the valuable service they gave to the public when they were with us. Service now given by Mrs.Loganathan is very appreciateable.

5) Treasurer's Report & Financial Statements

SEE PAGE 18

6) Constitutional Amendments

- 1). Our association (TWAN) is to undergo a change of name. We are to change the name to 'British Tamil association. The registering at undre the new name is to take place any time this year.
- 2). The executive and central committee members should not be paid for any services they render towards the association. Their services are treated as voluntary services only.
- 3). The office of the association is solely to be used for welfare activities only.

7) Election of Office Bearers for 1990

- 1). CHAIR PERSON: Mr.S.Thiru
Prop- Mr.P.Chandradas
Sec- Mr.V.Janarthanam.
- 2). Joint Secretaries: (1).Mr.P.Chandradas
Prop-Mr.V.Janarthanam
Sec- Mr.B.Pushpaharan
(2). Mrs.J.Vivekanandan
Prop- Mr. Mr.J.Asokan
Sec- Mr.V.Janarthanam
- 3). Treasurer: Mr.J.Asokan
Prop- Mr.B.Pushpan
Sec- Mr.V.Janarthanam.
Assistant Treasurer- Mr.Jeyathevan
Prop- Mr.P.Chandradas
Sec- Mr.V.Janarthanam
- 4). Co-ordinator: (1). Mr.V.Janarthanam
Prop- Mr.Anandaligham
Sec- Mrs.Yogachandran

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- 1). Mr.V.Loganathan
Prop-Mr.V.Janarthanam
Sec- Mr.P.Sivsubramaniyam
- 2). Mrs.Thambiah
Prop- Mr.Yogachandran
Sec- Mr.S.Thiru
- 3). Mr.B.Pushpaharan
Prop- Mr.V.Janarthanam
Sec- Mr.Jeyathevan

- 4). Mr. Jeganathan
Prop- Mr.P.Chandradas
Sec- Mr.V.Janarthanan
- 5). Mrs.T.yogachandran
Prop- Mr.P.Chandradas
Sec- Mr.V.Janarthanan
- 6). Mr. Kulasingam
Prop- Mr.Anandaligham
Sec- Mrs.Yogachandran
- 7). Mr. R.Yoganathan
Prop- Mr.Anandaligham
Sec- Mrs.Yogachandran
- 8). Mrs. S.Thiyagarajah
Prop- Mr.V.Janarthanan
Sec- Mr.J.Asokan
- 9). Mrs. S.Thiyagarajah
Prop- Mr.J.Asokan
Sec- Mrs.Yogachandran
- 10).Mr.Thayaparan.
Prop- Mr.P.Chandradas
Sec- Mr.V.Janarthanan
Spokesman :- Mr.P.Sivasubramanian

8) Future Plans

We have plans to develop the following areas:

- a) Employment training
- b) Dockland development Project:

a) Employment training:

We are planning to select 3 people and provide training in different branches of office work. Once these three are trained, they will be asked to our office work to carry out different functions.

b) Dockland development Project:

People of ethnic groups too could derive some privileges or take advantage of Dockland development Project. We should guide and encourage Tamils of Newham to venture into this new project.

9) Questions and Discussions

Questions:- None.

Maintenance of office.

- 1) We had to spend some money out of our own project to repair the office premises the landlord was not helpful. Because of financial difficulties we could not move to a permanent well equipped office premises.
- 2) The available funds is quite inadequate to employ a full time worker and improve our existing services. Hence we are appealing all Tamils from Newham to come forward and render financial support by means of fixed monthly standing order.
- 3) Mr .Anandalingam was elected as a fund raising officer.



This is an organisation which is trying its best to serve the tamil community as a whole and its successful operation entirely relies on the support you give to it. Although we have got a number of people who come forward and help us whenever we need them, still we are looking for more people to join our organisation in order to achieve the best results. Therefore we appeal to the Tamil community as a whole to join us and be part of it to take our people into a better future.



TAMIL WELFARE ASSOC

Proudly Tamil New Year

On Saturday 21

* PROGRAMME *

FOLK DANCE

Students of TWAN Summer Play Group

Thurkka Poobalasingham
Thenushya chandradas
Pratheeshya Chandradas
Suganya Sagathevan
Kavitha Asokan
Sugitha Harichandran

Presented by: SMT. Suthamathy Srisatkunam

ORCHESTRA

Students of London Sri Murugan Temple

VIOLIN - Anuja Manoharan
Sheeja Somadathan
Senthuran Srinivasan
Priya Darshini Srinivasan
Vimaladevi Ranganathan

VEENA - Ranitha Dayalakumar
Vijayalakshimi Pathmanathan
Rajani Vasu

FLUTE - Prayanth Alagaratnam
Ranjith Kanagasundaram

Presented by: SMT. Rudrani Balakrishnan



OCIATION (NEWHAM) U.K.

Presents r Cultural Night

21st April 1990

VIOLIN

Students of Natha Vidyalaya

Janani Atchuthan
Jeyavani Atchuthan
Thuwaraka Vetpillai
Kalyani Selvaratnam
Pairavi Ganeshwaran

Presented by: SMT. Kalaivani Indrakumar

BHARATHANATYAM

*Students of Bharatha Choodamani Academy of Fine Arts,
Madras*

Vidya Kugananthan
Sathiya Kugananthan

VEENA

The London Veena Group

Arumugam Balendran

VOCAL

Presented by: SMT. Mathini Sriskantharajah

Assisted by

VIOLIN - SMT. Rudrani Balakrishnan

MIRDANGAM - SHRI. Muthu Sivaraja

VOCAL & NATTUVANGAM - Adyar Sri Ramarao

(Adyar Lakshumanan's Brother)

Morsing - Kandiah Sithamparanathan

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**TAMIL WELFARE ASSOCIATION (NEWHAM) U.K.
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
APRIL 1989 TO MARCH 1990**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE PERIOD 01/04/89 TO 31/03/90**

INCOME	£	£
Subscription	633.00	
Grant	8372.00	
Donation	3600.50	
Other Income	5235.37	17840.87
less EXPENDITURE		
Rent & Rates	3460.00	
Wages	3562.00	
Transport	949.95	
Printing, Publicity & Reports	1713.08	
Maintenance	930.67	
Cultural Activity	733.78	
Children's Activity	842.58	
Stationery, Postage & Office Materials	411.69	
Bank Charges	359.50	
Heating & Lighting	115.18	
Telephone	536.52	
Hall Hire	462.70	
Office Equipment Service	29.90	
Catering	604.05	
Registration Fee	35.00	
Insurance	157.50	
Miscellaneous	127.07	
Bills to Landlord Ref: Previous Years	173.93	
Depreciation	144.25	
Baddebts	360.00	15709.35
Surplus of Income over Expenditure		<u>2131.52</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31-03-90

FIXED ASSETS	£	£	£
Office Equipment Brought Forward			270.00
Addition Photocopier			3789.25
less Grant Received			(3369.00)
			<hr/>
			690.25
less Depreciation			174.25
			<hr/>
			516.00
 CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayment		2888.70	
Cash at Bank		782.17	
		<hr/>	
		3670.87	
 less CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Loan	1518.63		
Other Creditors	456.00	1974.63	1696.24
	<hr/>		<hr/>
			2212.24.
			=====
 PRESENTED BY			
Accumulated Fund brought forward			80.72
Surplus of Income over Expenditure			2131.52
			<hr/>
			2212.24
			=====



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all wellwishers and organisations for their financial contribution to our association in the past and request their continuous support in future as well.

J.ASOKAN.

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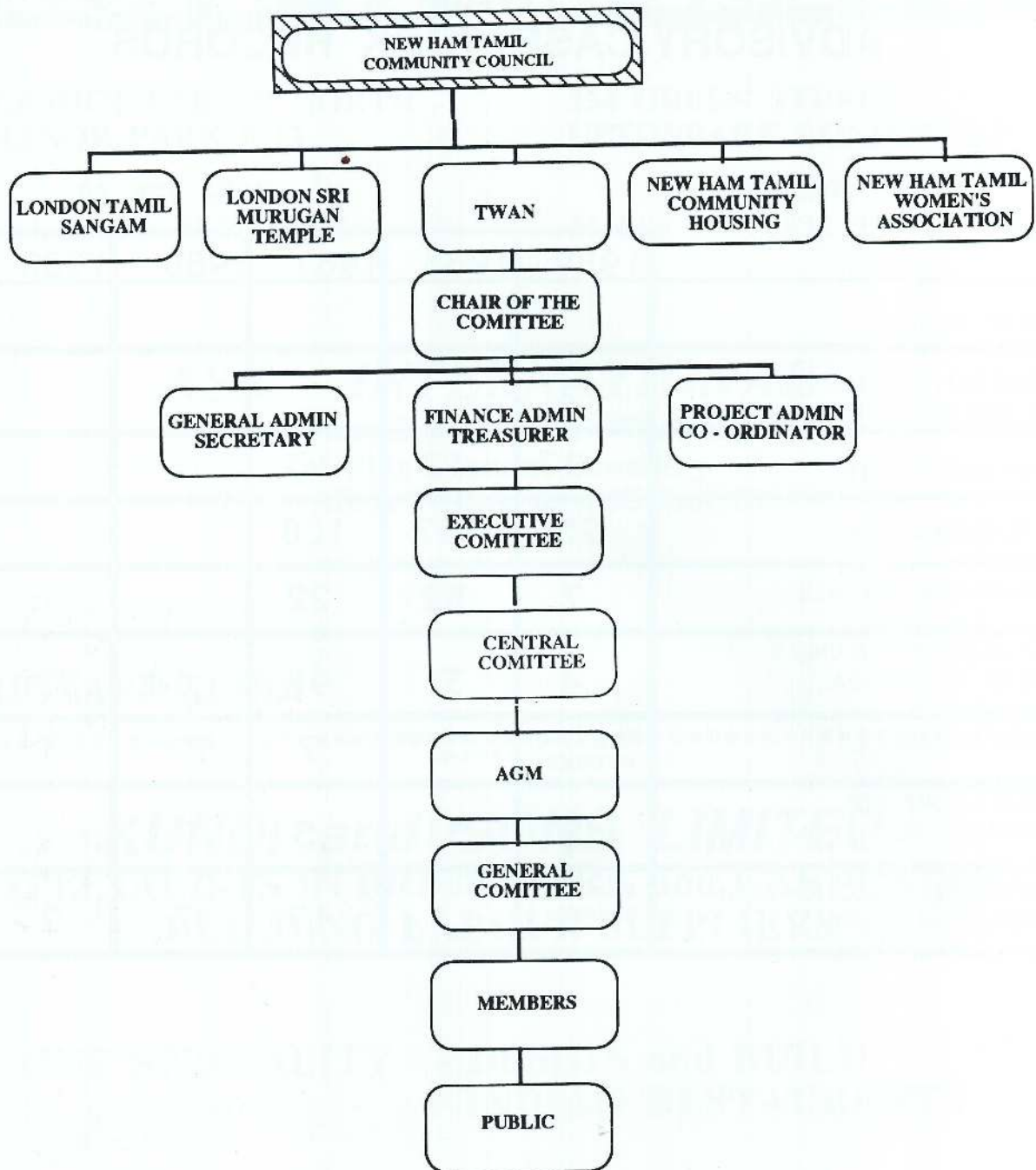
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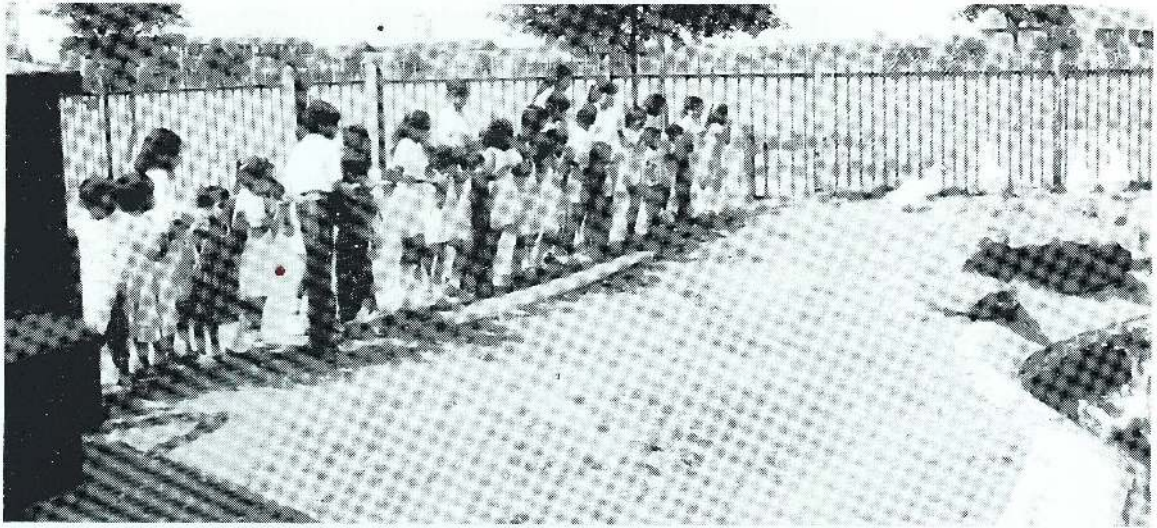
TWAN ADVISORY CASE WORK RECORDS

	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985
TYPE OF CASE					
REGISTRATION / NATURLISATION FOR BRITISH CITIZENSHIP	2				
ENTRY CERTIFICATE	17	12	3		
EXETENSION OF STAY	256	197	108		
IMMIGRATION APPEALS	7	52	22		
HELD IN DETENTION UNDER THREAT OF REMOVAL	4	31	92	64	32
DEPORTATIONS	CASE IS NOT RECORDED	RECCRD IS NOT AVAILABLE	7	12	3
APPLICATIONS FOR PERMANENT SETTLEMENT	27	31	5	2	
ARRESTS IN CONNECTION WITH IMMIGRATION STATUS	CASE IS NOT RECORDED	3	17	7	2



STRUCTURE OF TWAN

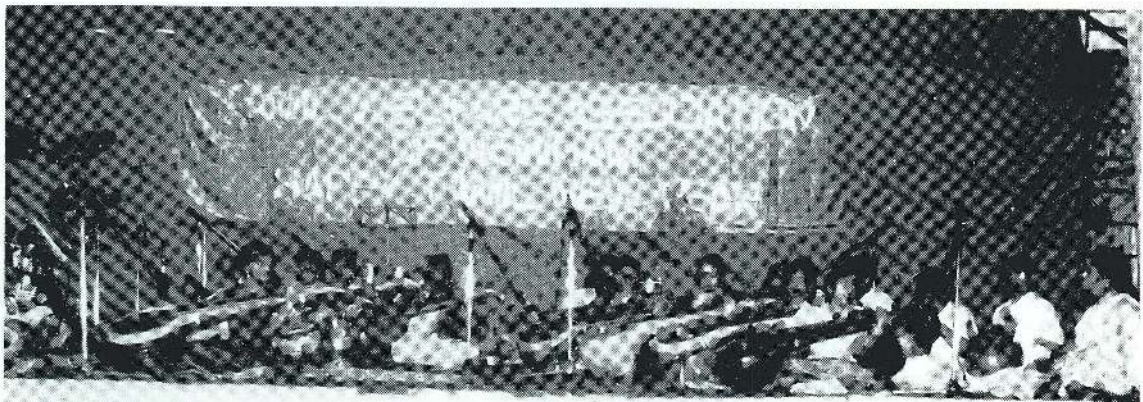




Children's Easter project day outing.



TWN Social activities day trip



TWN New Year celebration day.



Children's Summer project cultural activities.

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Points To Ponder:

1. There are more than 4000 raped victims in Jaffna and more than 30,000 in North & East of Sri Lanka.
2. The proportion of unmarried men to women in Eelam is 1 : 6
3. Only one consultant working in place of 25 in Jaffna Hospital

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Efforts to promote peace through cultural exchanges and understanding are of very great importance to all groups in our society.

We thank all our distinguished guests for gracing our event with their presence this evening.

Our sincere thanks to the following for their unqualified support and assistance :-

All participants & their schools

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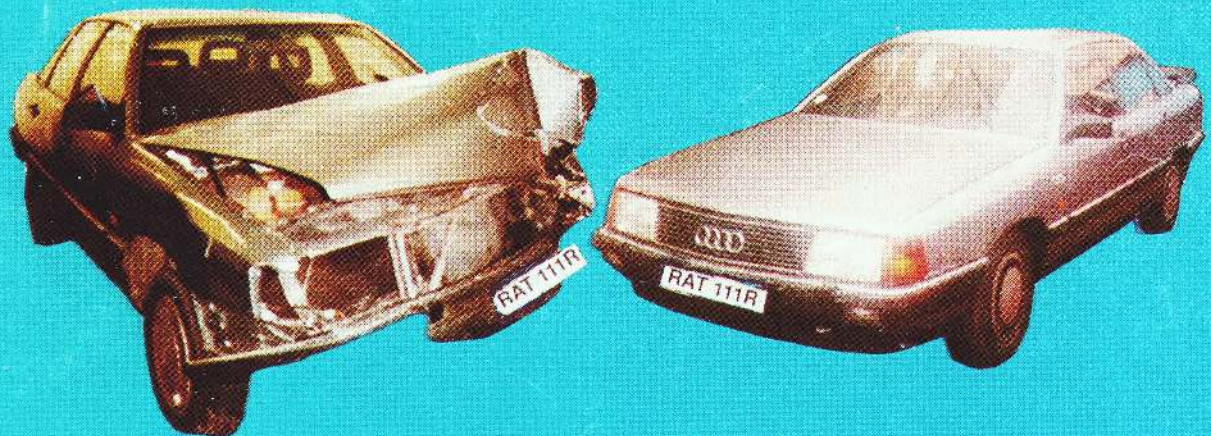
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