CONCLUSION

Some points of interest emerge from the present study of the three language systems. From the viewpoint of the monolingual systems, the peculiarities of the bilingual system constitute deviations from the monolingual norm. The community in question speaks a language which has Tamil and Malayalam as the underlying systems.

Interference concerns the manner in which a speaker perceives and reproduces the features of one language in terms of those of another. It is observed that the ease or difficulty in reproducing the features experienced by the bilinguals while speaking the other language is due to

1. The competing phonemic and morphemic categories of the systems of Tamil and Malayalam.

2. The allomorphic membership of the phonemic categories and the allomorphic membership of the morphemic categories and

3. The distribution of the categories within the respective systems. The higher the similarity between the phonological and morphological categories of Tamil and Malayalam, the easier it is for the bilinguals to learn Malayalam categories.
Interference due to language contact affects the phonemic and the morphological systems of the primary language. The change in the phonemic system occurs due to interference, the process begins with lexical system. The morphological system of the primary language is affected directly by adopting a category from the secondary language or indirectly by lexical interference which necessitate new constructions or adaptation of morphology to accommodate loan words.

The linguistic situation reported here is the result of the interaction between an immigrant society* (S1) with Tamil as its mother tongue (L1) and the society of the migrated area (S2) with Malayalam as its mother tongue (L2). This interaction of S1 and S2 through the medium of L1 and L2 in the environment of S2 resulted in the intergroup bilingualism and L3 is under the process of development.

* The 'Society' in this context may include community or communities. Here the S2 consists of more than one community whereas S1 consists only one.
At present the communication medium of S1, both for intragroup purposes and intergroup purposes is L3 (BS). L3 has shared features with L1 and L2. It has also features peculiar to L1 and L2. The peculiar features may either be referential modifications or referential combinations. Thus L1 fused with L2 in the new environment and both L1 and L2 became interdependent in the use of the bilinguals. Consequently this fused variety of language (L3) has become the mother tongue or rather the only tongue of this particular group of new comers.