Chapter -10

Conclusion
CONCLUSION

Madras State was administered by the Nationalists Government between 1951 and 1967. The elected representatives belonged to the Indian National Congress Party. The Madras cabinets headed by C.Rajagopalachari, K.Kamaraj and M.Bhaktavatsalam implemented successfully the first three five year plans. Their intention was to develop agriculture and industries during the post colonial era.

Agricultural sector was given importance in order to prevent the starving population to the jaws of death. The entire population of the Madras State were benefitted by the execution of the first three five year plans by both agricultural and industrial sectors.

The success achieved during the First Plan even exceeded the targets. The index number of agricultural production increased from 95.6 in 1950-51 to 114.3 in 1953-54 and 116.8 in 1955-56. The targets of production set out in the plan were exceeded in the case of food grains and oil-seeds in 1953-54.

In the case of jute and sugarcane, production had gone down in 1952-53 and 1953-54 but there was a remarkable recovery in their production in 1954-55 and 1955-56. Sugarcane production reached of 15.9 lakhs tons in 1954-55 but in 1955-56 manufactured 8.7 lakhs tons.
The tempo of agricultural development was accelerated during the plan period, resulting in an increase in production by 19 per cent. Food grains output increased 13 million tons at the rate of increase being 5% per year. The special attention was devoted to increase the production of food grains and other cash crops by expansion of cultivation to new lands but primarily through intensification of inputs and improvements in yields per acre.

The measures undertaken related to work scheme programme such as the adoption of improved agricultural practices- comprising Japanese method of rice cultivation, double-cropping, proper spacing and seed rate, proper transplantation methods and eradication of weeds- construction and repairs of wells, tanks, dams, channels and tube-wells, the installation of water lifting appliances; scheme of contour binding and clearance, reclamation of waste lands and consolidation of holdings.

Besides these, other programme were undertaken under the title of supply scheme which included the distribution of fertilizers, organic measures, improved seeds and plant protection, digging of compost pits, bringing maximum areas under green manuring, afforestation and soil conservation programmes, insecticides and pesticides, improved village practices.
Special crop campaigns were also launched to intensify agricultural production, especially for rice, bajra, ragi, maize and jowar. The poor progress of agriculture, during the Second Plan, led to a rise in the price level. The programmes which require large-scale participation on the part of people, such as soil conservation made only limited progress.

During the year 1961-1966, there had been steady expansion in the total agricultural effort and it had been a constant aim to identify and remove technical and administration weakness in the execution of agricultural programmes. Unfavourable weather condition had been an adverse effect on the volume of Agricultural production.

The best year of the Third Plan, from the point of view of agricultural output was 1964-1965. During the first four years of this plan, the average increase in agricultural output worked out to be 26%. As a result of the drought conditions in 1965-1966, agricultural production was unprecedented and thus the target of 100m.tons had realized.

Madras State which was a deficit one in food production had become a self-sufficient during the period of study. New industrialized-Big- Small-Medium and Rural Enterprises had appeared fairly well distributed all over the state and provided gainful employment to the people.