



Government of Tamilnadu

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POLITICAL PARTIES AND WELFARE SCHEMES

The Justice Party

The Justice Party rule in the Madras Presidency constitutes an important chapter in the history of South India. The ideology and objectives of the Justice Party had been unique and somewhat different from those of the Congress Party. The Justice Party represented the Non-Brahmin Movement and engineered a social revolution against the domination of Brahmins in the sphere of public services and education.

Birth of the Justice Party

- Various factors had contributed to the formation of the Justice Party, which represented the Non-Brahmin Movement. The social dominance of the Brahmins was the main cause for the emergence of the Non-Brahmin Movement. Their high proportion in the Civil Service, educational institutions and also their predominance in the Madras Legislative Council caused a great worry among the non- Brahmins.
- The Brahmins had also monopolized the Press. The rediscovery of the greatness of the Tamil language and literature also provided a stimulus to the non-Brahmins. Particularly, the publication of the book entitled *A Comparative Grammar of the Dravidian or South Indian Family of Languages* by Rev. Robert Caldwell in 1856 gave birth to the Dravidian concept.
- Later the ancient Tamil literature had been rediscovered and printed by various Tamil scholars including Arumuga Navalar, C.V. Damodaram Pillai and U.V. Swaminatha Iyer.
- V. Kanakasabhai Pillai in his famous historical work, *The Tamils 1800 Years Ago* pointed out that Tamils had attained a high degree of civilization before the Advent of the Aryans. This led to the growth of Dravidian feelings among the non Brahmins. These factors collectively contributed to the birth of the Non-Brahmin Movement and the Justice Party.

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- The precursor of the Justice Party was the Madras United League which was renamed as the Madras Dravidian Association in November 1912. Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliar played a significant role in nurturing this organization. In 1916 the South Indian Liberal Federation was formed for the purpose of ‘promoting the political interests of non-Brahmin caste Hindus’.
 - The leaders who stood behind the formation of this organization were Pitti Theagaraya Chetti, Dr.T.M.Nair, P.Ramarayaninger (Raja of Panagal) and Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliar.
 - The South Indian Liberal Federation published an English newspaper called *Justice* and hence this organization came to be called the Justice Party. The other news paper which supported the Justice Party was *Dravidan* (in Tamil).
 - Besides, the Justice Party organized a series of public meetings, conferences, lectures to popularise Non Brahmin movement. Similarly, the Justice Party formed District Associations, the Non-Brahmin Youth League.

Justice Party Rule

- The Justice Party came to power following the election of 1920 held according to the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms. The Justice Party captured sixty three out of ninety eight elected seats in the Madras Legislative Council. As P. Theagaraya Chetti declined to lead the ministry, A. Subbarayalu Reddiar formed the ministry.
- In the election of 1923 it fought against the Swarajya Party. The Justice Party again won the majority and the ministry was formed by Raja of Panagal. In the election of 1926 a divided Justice Party faced the opposition of a united Congress.
- Therefore, an independent, A. Subbarayan with the help of the Swarajya Party formed the ministry. In 1930 when the next election was held the Justice Party won the majority and formed a ministry with B. Muniswami Naidu as the leader.
- In 1932 Raja of Bobbili replaced him as Prime Minister of the Presidency. In 1934 Raja of Bobbili formed his second ministry, which continued in power until the election of 1937.

Achievements of the Justice Party

- The Justice Party remained in power for a period of thirteen years. Its administration was noted for social justice and social reform. Justice rule gave

adequate representation to non-Brahman communities in the public services. It improved the status of depressed classes through education reforms.

Justice Party introduced following reforms in the field of Education:

1. Free and compulsory education was introduced for the first time in Madras.
 2. Nearly 3000 fisher boys and fisher girls were offered free special instruction by the Department of Fisheries.
 3. Midday Meals was given at selected corporation schools in Madras.
 4. The Madras Elementary Education Act was amended in 1934 and in 1935 to improve elementary education.
 5. The Education of girls received encouragement during the Justice rule in Madras.
 6. Education of the Depressed Classes was entrusted with Labour Department
 7. Encouragement was given to Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani medical education.
- The government took over the power of appointing district *munsiffs* out of the control of the High Court. The Communal G.O.s (Government Orders) of 1921 and 1922 provided for the reservation of appointments in local bodies and educational institutions for non-Brahmin communities in increased proportion.
 - The Staff Selection Board, created by the Panagal Ministry in 1924, was made the Public Service Commission in 1929. It was the first of its kind in India. The women were granted the right to vote on the same basis as was given to men. The Hindu Religious Endowment Act of 1921, enacted by the Panagal Ministry, tried to eliminate corruption in the management of temples.
 - Justice Party Government introduced economic reforms. To assist the growth of industries State Aid to Industries Act, 1922 was passed. This led to the establishment of new industries such as : sugar factories, engineering works, tanneries, aluminum factories, cement factories and oil milling so on. This act provided credits to industries, allotted land and water. This proved favourable for industrial progress.
 - Similarly, Justice Party Government introduced schemes for rural development to help agrarian population, public health schemes to prevent diseases. To improve village economy village road scheme was introduced. In the city of Madras the

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Town Improvement Committee of the Madras Corporation introduced Slum Clearance and Housing Schemes. As a social welfare measures the Justice Party Government gave waste lands in village to Depressed Classes.

- The *devadasi* system, a disgrace to women, was abolished. The Justice administration reorganized the working of the University of Madras. During the administration of Justice Party, the Andhra University was established in 1926 and Annamalai University in 1929.

End of Justice Party Rule

The Government of India Act of 1935 provided for provincial autonomy and the electoral victory meant the assumption of a major responsibility in the administration of the province. K. V. Reddi Naidu led the Justice Party, while C. Rajagopalachari led the Congress in the South. In the election of 1937, the Congress captured 152 out of 215 seats in the Legislative Assembly and 26 out of 46 in the Legislative Council. In July 1937 the Congress formed its ministry under C. Rajagopalachari. Thus, the rule of Justice Party which introduced important social legislations came to an end. In 1944 the Justice party conference was held in Salem. There Perarinar Anna passed a resolution thereby the name of justice party was changed as Dravidiar Kalagam.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

Annadurai, on 17th September 1949 along with V.R. Nedunchezhiyan, K.A. Mathiazhagan, K.Anbazhagan, N.V. Natarajan, E.V.K.Sampath and thousands of others in Robinson park in Royapuram in Chennai announced the formation of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam holds the distinction of being the first party other than the Indian National Congress to win state-level elections with clear majority on its own in any state in India.

The Election Symbol of the DMK, as approved by the Election Commission of India, is the "Rising Sun" with the sun rising between two mountains. This symbol is very significant as people in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry immediately connect with the symbol.



In 1953, MGR joined the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, popularised the party flag and symbol which at that time stood for secession from India by showing it in his movies. Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam entered the electoral fray rather unsuccessfully in 1957 with even senior leader V.R. Nedunchezhiyan losing from Salem although M. Karunanidhi won after initially having opposed all Indian Government and later supporting only those parties which promised to help its secession from India cause.

Annadurai wanted a separate Dravida Nadu but the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam changed its stance with the Chinese invasion in 1962 and suspended its demand for the length of the war and supported India raising funds for the war. When the war ended, nationalistic feelings were so strong that Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam gave up the separate Dravida nation idea.

In 1967, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam came to power in Madras province 18 years after its formation and 10 years after it had first entered electoral politics. This began the Dravidian era in Madras province which later became Tamil Nadu.

In 1969, party general secretary and founder, C.N. Annadurai died. After his death, there was a power tussle between M. Karunanidhi and Nendunchezhiyan and the post of party president was created as a compromise with Karunanidhi becoming the president and Nendunchediyan becoming general secretary.

Since 1969, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is headed by M. Karunanidhi, the Former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The political feud between MGR and the party president Karunanidhi emerged as an aftermath of the latter calling himself "Mujib of Tamil Nadu"

In 1972, MGR called for a boycott of the party's General Council. With the crisis falling into call for corruption probe by MGR, he was eventually suspended from the General Council. Thus emerged a new party All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

◆.....◆ **Achievements**

The DMK has initiated all-round development in the villages of Tamil Nadu, by implementing the famous 'Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme', which ensures employment to the youth in villages of Tamil Nadu.

- Impetus has been given to industrial growth in the state, by improving the condition of roads, building four-lane and six-lane roads and constructing bridges across the state.
- Various projects, linking up rivers within the state have been implemented. Examples of such projects are Cauvery-Gundaru Linking Project taken up at a cost of Rs.189 crores; Tamirabarani-Karumeniyaru-Nambiyaru Linking Project taken up at a cost of Rs.369 crores.
- A historic food security scheme has been launched in the state, wherein lakhs of beneficiaries have been given rice at rupees one per kilogram of rice. Also, distribution of palm oil, red gram, black gram, suji, maida and fortified wheat flour under Special Public Distribution system at subsidized rates have been initiated. Again, 5 Eggs or Bananas per week as part of Nutritious Noon Meal, has been started by the DMK.
- Zero interest on agricultural loans has been implemented, to help farmers carry on their agricultural activities more comfortably.
- More than one crore of people have been given free house sites in the state, for construction of a proper shelter with government aid.
- In protest against Hindi being made the official language, the DMK has successfully introduced Tamil as a compulsory language till 10th standard, in all schools in the state of Tamil Nadu.

All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is a state political party in the states of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, India. The party was founded in 1972 by M.G. Ramachandran (popularly known as M.G. Ramachandran), a veteran star of the Tamil film industry and a popular politician, as a breakaway from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.



The party headquarters is in Royapettah, Chennai, and was gifted to the party in 1986 by its former leader Janaki Ramachandran, wife of M.G. Ramachandran. The party came to power in 1977 after trouncing Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam in the next elections to the legislative assembly in the state and M.G. Ramachandran was named the Chief Minister. He was sworn in as chief minister of the State on June 30, 1977.

In 1979, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam became the first Dravidian and non-congress party to be part of the Union Cabinet, when two All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Members of Parliament, Satyavani Muthu and Aravinda Bala Pajanor, joined the short-lived Charan Singh Ministry which followed the Morarji Desai-led Janata Party Government of 1977-79.

MGR continued to enjoy popular support in his third tenure, which ended with his demise on December 24, 1987. MGR's wife Janaki Ramachandran subsequently rose to the party's leadership and led the Government as the state's first woman chief minister until the state assembly was suspended and President's rule imposed.

The Election Symbol of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is "two leaves". This symbol has a prominent history. When MGR died in 1987 and the major clash over taking-over the AIADMK began between Janaki Ramachandran and Jayalalithaa, the Election Commission of India refused to recognize both these factions of the AIADMK as a true successor of MGR.

As a result, separate electoral symbols were assigned to both these groups. The Janaki Ramachandran faction was allotted the symbol of "two doves" and the Jayalalithaa faction was allotted the symbol of "crowing cock". However, with the party breaking up further and the DMK's rise to power, the crisis was resolved and Jayalalithaa restored the "two leaves" symbol of the AIADMK in 1989

The party, in the absence of a personality of MGR's calibre, began to crumble, with infighting, and broke into two factions, one under Janaki Ramachandran and the other under J. Jayalalithaa, a former film star and associate of MGR. The factions led by Jayalalitha and Janaki merged in 1988 under the former's leadership. The All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam swept to power in the elections of 1991.

◆.....◆ **Achievements**

- MGR involved himself in a number of philanthropic activities and initiations. He was the first donor to donate a large sum of 75,000 rupees to Indian Army, during the important Indo-China War in 1962. He also helped the distressed and needy in critical times like floods, fires, riots etc.
- MGR built a number of educational institutes under his personal supervision. This he did to spread the beautiful message of education, literacy and awareness to the under-privileged sections of the society primarily.
- The AIADMK initiated a number of fiscal and general policies to help farmers, SC/ST/OBCs, pregnant women, teachers, handloom weavers and physically challenged individuals. For example, the AIADMK introduced the distribution of bio-pesticides, certified seeds, soil health cards, and gypsum etc. to farmers. It has introduced urban cooperative banks for self-help maternity loans during pregnancy of a woman as well as the delivery of the child. It has very significantly introduced the Nutrition-integrated Child Development Service Scheme.
- There is a fund called the National Teachers Welfare Fund, for teachers introduced by AIADMK.
- During the December 2004 Tsunami, the Tamil Nadu government, headed by Jayalalitha, introduced various schemes and financial policies to attract huge profit, which was directed to help the tsunami victims.

Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is a political party in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu formed in 1994 by V. Gopalswamy (also known as Vaiko), a member of Rajyasabha and a party activist of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. Mr. V. Gopalsamy grew in the party from his student days. He actively participated in the party agitations and courted imprisonment several times.

He was detained under MISA during emergency with other party leaders and workers. His sympathy for the cause of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam is widely known. With the looming possibility of a vote of confidence in Parliament against the UPA,

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Two party MP's, L. Ganesan and Genjee N. Ramachandran, claimed that they enjoy the support of the majority of party cadre, decided to pledge support to the UPA Government

The Election Symbol of Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, as approved by the Election Commission of India, is “Top”. It is usually drawn on a tri-coloured party flag of the MDMK, which is coloured red in the top and bottom panels and black in the middle panel.

They later withdrew their claim and joined Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam when it was found that they had forged letters of support of Party executives.

Achievements of MDMK

- The MDMK has a number of frontal organizations under its banner. One of the most competent and significant is its labour wing called Marumalarchi Labour Front (MLF) which has actively protested for the rights and demands of the peasant and farmer sections of the society in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. The MLF has ensured that agricultural loans at lesser interest rates are given to the peasants and free electricity is supplied for them to operate successfully in the fields.
- The MDMK newspaper Sangoli is a widely published daily in Tamil Nadu, voicing the concerns of the marginalized and the downtrodden sections of the state, along with the opinions of the elites and others. Sangoli represents the MDMK's political objectives and realities such that it can reach everybody.
- Vaiko has undertaken several foot walks (Padayatra) to highlight the protest agendas of his party. The most prominent of his walks was the one from Kanyakumari to Chennai which he undertook, at the time of the formation of the party. In this Padayatra, he enlightened the people of the newly-formed party's political visions, which earned him respect from many people.
- The MDMK has put up a determined consistent fight against the imposition of Hindi in the Tamil-speaking belt of India. The Hindi agitation, which the MDMK participated in, raising its voice against making Hindi the official language of India is a famous struggle.

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- In fact, the MDMK asserts that Tamil should be made one of the official languages as it is one of the oldest languages in the country.
 - The party observes that reservations for the socially minor communities should be enhanced as this would lead to social justice movement, which is a primary aspect of the MDMK.
 - The MDMK believes that the rivers of Kerala should be re-directed to Tamil Nadu through channels and tunnels, so that irrigation in the state can be carried out without shortage of water.

Pattali Makkal Katchi

Pattali Makkal Katchi was founded by Dr. Ramdoss and the state president is G.K. Mani. Ramdoss had earlier worked with the Vanniyar Sangham (Vanniyar Union) founded by him in 1980. Pattali Makkal Katchi is based amongst the Other Backward Classes community. Pattali Makkal Katchi has advocated the bifurcation of the state of Tamil Nadu, a proposal that was seen as a casteist line. Pattali Makkal Katchi is stronger in the northern half of the Tamil Nadu State.

Achievements of the Party

- The Pattali Makkal Katchi has under its banner, a number of frontal mass organizations such as the PMK Minority Wing, the PMK Youth Wing and the PMK Students Federation, each of which have fought for interests of the various sections it caters to.
- One of the most phenomenal contributions of the PMK is in its Union Minister's efforts to improve the rural healthcare facilities of people across the country, especially women and children. It was to this end that Anbumani Ramadoss as a Health Minister established the famous National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in 2005. This government initiation brought massive development to the rural poor, in terms of better medical facilities and enhanced treatments.
- Ramadoss has been a strong advocate of the anti-tobacco campaigns, and it was his concerted efforts which made ads against the sale of tobacco mandatory in television or

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in movies. As a Health Minister, he implemented strict measures to control sale of tobacco and alcohol in the country. His strong advocacy banned the drinking and smoking of alcohol and tobacco, or their respective advertisements in and around educational institutes or in the interest of the public

Questions:

1. Elaborate the services of the Justice Party for the upliftment of the society.
2. What are the Achievements made by various Political Parties in Tamil Nadu in Various Periods?

