

## Nandini Sangamam '98 – The Show of the year

**K**ollam Town never witnessed such a show in recent times. Around 2000 cattle, including calves, heifers and milch cows were brought from different parts of Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Kottayam districts to the Cantonment Grounds. The farmers brought their living exhibits from the early hours of 2nd May 1998. The flow of the farmers and animals was beyond the expectations of the organizers that they were forced to pool more human and material resources. The Show Ground was flooded with visitors from all walks of life.

This grand show was arranged as part of the State level inauguration of Calf Feed Subsidy Programme. Sri Kaikkara Naseer, Chairman, Kollam Municipal Corporation, hoisted the flag by 7:00 am. The registration of calves and other animals was scheduled from 8:00 am to 10:00 am, but the same had to start much earlier and ended very late. The inaugural function was started at 10:30 am at C. Kesavan Memorial Municipal Town Hall adjacent to the show ground. The hall was filled with the farmers, representatives of milk societies and Grama Panchayats, officials and members of District Panchayat, Veterinarians and Para Veterinarians and employees of Department of Animal Husbandry. After invocation, Dr P P Vava welcomed the dignitaries, farmers and

guests to the function. He has given a brief description of the scheme and how it is going to benefit the farmers and change the milk production of the State. Sri E Chandrasekharan Nair, Minister for Animal Husbandry inaugurated the programme by lighting the traditional 'Nilavilakku'. He declared that more calves will be enrolled into the scheme from next year onwards. He promised that the facilities to test the quality of cattle feed will be made functional very soon. He also assured the gathering that a detailed enquiry will be conducted on the reports of unhygienic milk packets are sold in Kerala.

Sri M K Bhaskaran, President, District Panchayat, Kollam presided over the meeting. He told that the District Panchayats are eager to take up schemes as Calf Feed Subsidy Programme. Sri R C Sharma, General Manager and Director, United India Insurance Company handed over the Master Policy documents of the scheme to the Minister. Sri N K Premachandran, MP, congratulated the department for implementing schemes like CFSP and congratulated the organizers for the conduct of this wonderful show. Sri N Anirudhan, MLA, Sri T Nanu Master, MLA, Smt R Latha Devi, MLA, Sri Ezhukone Narayanan, MLA, Sri Prayar Gopalakrishnan, Chairman, KCMME, Sri Devendra Kumar Singh, District Collector, Dr C T Chacko, MD, KLD Board and Sri T P Kurian, Regional Manager, United India Insurance Company felicitated the function. While assuring all assistance including steady and timely supply of Milma cattle feed to the Calf Feed Subsidy Programme, Sri Prayar Gopalakrishnan appealed to the Minister for Animal Husbandry to allocate more funds to procure and supply medicines at veterinary hospitals of the State. Dr P Bahuleyan, District Animal Husbandry Officer and General Convener, proposed the vote of thanks.

After the meeting, the Minister and other dignitaries visited the cattle show and distributed prizes to the farmers whose animals were ranked the best.



Sri. E. Chandrasekharan Nair inaugurating  
Nandini Sangamam