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# **TAMIL NADU LEADERS SERIES**

(Based on Unit - 8 and Unit - 9 of TNPSC Exam)



## **P.S. KUMARASAMY RAJA**

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## TAMIL NADU LEADERS SERIES

### 5. P.S. KUMARASAMY RAJA

#### EARLY LIFE

- He was born on 8 July 1898 in Rajapalayam.
- His Parents: 'Poosapadi' Sanjeevi Raja - Muthammal.
  - Poosapadi is the village where their forefathers lived.
- He studied at **Hindu High School** in Srivilliputhur.

#### SWARAJYA PALAYAM

- He inspired by the activities of Home Rule League which was started by Annie Besant.
- He hosted the Home Rule Meetings in Srivilliputhur and Rajapalayam in which **B.P. Wadia** participated as the Chief Guest.
  - B.P. Wadia was one of the Prominent leaders in Home Rule Movement.
- He inspired by **writings of Annie Besant** and **Speeches of S.Satyamoorthy**.
- After meeting Gandhi in 1919 (**for first time**), he fully engaged in India's freedom struggle.
- He participated in Rowlatt Satyagraha (1919).
- He was the Vice-President of the Reception Committee in the **first Khilafat Conference** held in Madras in 1920.
- He established **Peasant Association** and **Harijan Sangh** in 1921 at Rajapalayam Region.

- Both Kumarasamy Raja and his **political guru I.B. Arangasamy Raja** were actively participated in Non – Cooperation Movement.
  - I.B. Arangasamy Raja formed the Congress Committee in Rajapalayam.
- He actively campaigned on **eradication of Untouchability** and **promotion of Khadi products.**
- In 1925 he arranged meeting on occasion of Gandhi's Birthday in Rajapalayam. **S. Srinivasa Iyengar** attended the meeting and praised the activities of Kumarasamy Raja which made Rajapalayam as **Swarajya Palayam.**

### SOUTHERN GANDHI

- He established **Gandhi Khaddar Vastralayam** Company at Rajapalayam in 1927, which was inaugurated by Gandhiji.
  - This company was merged with **All India Sarka Sangh** in 1929.
- He participated in Anti – Simon Protest.
- He established **All India Sarvodaya Sangh's** branch in Rajapalayam (This was the **first branch** of Tamil Nadu).
- In 1931, he participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement which involved in **boycott of foreign cloths** and **Toddy Shop Picketing.**
- British Government described Rajapalayam as **Dread Town** (Achamuttum Nagaram) after Kumarasamy Raja's activities.
- He participated in Karachi Congress session (1931).
  - He proposed the idea for No tax movement
  - INC President: **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.**
- In 1932, he was arrested and imprisoned for a year for protesting against British.

- His book **“My Introduction As a Gandhian”** attracted the people’s attentions.
- He was called **“Southern Gandhi”** by people of Rajapalayam.

### PEOPLE’S REPRESENTATIVE

- In 1934, he was elected to the Central Legislative Assembly.
- In 1937, he was elected to Madras Provincial Legislative Council.
- He conducted the Fortieth (40<sup>th</sup>) Tamil Nadu Provincial Political Conference at Rajapalayam in 1938.
  - President of the Conference: **Omandur Ramasamy**.
- In 1940 he was sentenced to **nine months** imprisonment for participation in Individual Satyagraha (Tiruchi Jail).

### FROM GANDHIAN TO GOVERNOR

- He was elected **unopposed** from **Srivilliputhur** Constituency in Legislative Assembly election in 1946. He served a Minister of **Agriculture, Public Works and Cooperative** in the Cabinet of **T. Prakasam** (who was Chief Minister at that time).
- When he was Agriculture Minister he levied **agricultural income tax** to the persons who earns **Rs. 5000/-** and above as agricultural income in a year.
- He was the President of **“Hindustan Scout Association”**. Its headquarters at **Adyar**, Chennai.
- He resigned from his Minister post after different of opinion with Chief Minister Prakasam.
- When India’s attained Independence, he celebrated the occasion in Rajapalayam in grand manner.
- He established Cooperative society and cooperative banks.

- **Bhupathi Raja cooperative bank** in Rajapalayam is the result of efforts of Kumarasamy Raja.
- He formed **Rajapalayam Cooperative Housing Society** in 1948.
- He established **“Gandhi Kalai Mandram”** in Rajapalayam.
- When Omandur Ramasamy was Chief Minister, the conflict between the land lords and their farm labourers in Thanjavur emerged as the problem.
  - Chief Minister appointed the Commission to analyze the about this issue.
  - Chairman of the Commission - **Kumarasamy Raja**.
  - Members - **C. Subramaniam** and **R. Venkatraman**.
- When Omandur Ramasamy resigned from his Chief Minister post, Kumarasamy Raja sworn as Chief Minister on **April 6, 1949**. In his cabinet:
  - T.S.S. Rajan
  - M. Bhaktavatsalam
  - M. Seetharama Reddy
  - K. Chandramouli
  - Pesawada Gopala Reddy
  - K. Madhava Menon
  - Kala Venkata Rao
  - A.P. Shetty
  - P. Parameshwaran
  - C. Perumal Samy
  - Rossah Victoria
  - **Neelam Sanjeev Reddy**
- After enacting Constitution, India become Republic on January 26, 1950. At that time **“Madras Presidency”** became **“Madras Province”**.

- **Kumarasamy Raja was Chief Minister** of Tamil Nadu (Madras Province), when the **country became Republic**.
- Omandurar passed Zamindari Abolition Act in 1948. Due to some practical difficulties it was not fully implemented.
  - Kumarasamy Raja executed this Act bravely.
  - Zamindari Lands was seized by Madras Government. Then it was duly given to Landless farmers with the land document (Patta).
- Complete Prohibition of Liquor, Adi Dravidar Welfare Board and Land Reform which was brought by Omandurar came into effect when Kumarasamy Raja was the Chief Minister.
- During his period the **District Courts were separated from Executive** and brought under the control of High Court in 1949.
  - This gave independence to District Judicial System.
- During his period Communist Party of India was banned in Province on 6 September, 1949 for various reasons.
- During his period, in Champakam Dorairajan Case, Madras High Court passed the verdict that the Communal Reservation was invalid in Madras Province. The Government headed by him appealed to Supreme Court. Later Supreme Court upheld the judgement of Madras High Court.
  - As the Chief Minister of Madras Province, he played a key role in enacting the **First Amendment Act (1951)** for continuation of the Communal Reservation.
  - For this the awareness campaign was conducted by **Periyar E.V.R** and **Anna Durai**.
  - Both **Kumarasamy Raja** and **Kamarajar** insisted Congress Leaders (High Command) to resolve Communal Reservation issue.
- He lost in the Legislative Assembly election held in 1952.
- He served as the **Governor of Orissa** from 1954 to 1956.

- In 1955 he established **the Congress Golden Jubilee Ground** in Rajapalayam.
  - Inaugurated by **Dr. Rajendra Prasad**.
- He died on March 15, 1957.

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