

by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Some of the institutions also provide facilities for the study of such subjects as Book-keeping, Accountancy, Commercial practices and translation.

The following are the Commercial Institutes functioning in the Territory :

1. St. Mary's Commercial Institute, Pondicherry.
2. The Typewriting Bureau, Pondicherry (1916)
3. The Commercial Institute, Pondicherry.
4. Saraswathi Technical Institute, Karaikal (8 November 1972).
5. The School of Commerce, Karaikal (17 January 1962).
6. Progressive Commercial Institute, Karaikal (1 May 1970)
7. Sree Balan's Institute of Commerce, Mahe (15 March 1962)
8. Sreejeth Technical Institute, Pandakkal (2 January 1975)
9. Sri Venkateswara Type Institute, Yanam (1960)
10. Sri Ramalingeswara Type Institute, Yanam (1968)

The institutes in Pondicherry and Karaikal function with the approval of the Board of Technical Education, Tamil Nadu. The institutes in Mahe and Yanam are under the control of the Board of Technical Education of Kerala and Andhra Pradesh respectively. The Progressive Commercial Institute used to coach up students for the Drawing Examination conducted by the Government Arts School, Kumbakonam. While Pondicherry is recognised as an Examination Centre for holding the examination, students in Karaikal go to Nagappattinam. The candidates from Mahe and Yanam go to Tellicherry and Ramachandrapuram respectively.

## V. Schools for Fine Arts

*Pondicherry Fine Arts Academy :*

The Pondicherry Fine Arts Academy was started through the initiative of some private individuals some time in September 1970 as a registered body. To begin with, the Academy confined itself to arranging cultural programmes for the benefit of its members. The Academy opened a music school on 17 October 1972 where vocal and instrumental music was taught. Facilities exist for teaching veena, violin and mridangam and gadam. The Academy received some financial assistance from the Sangeetha Nataka Sangham for running the music school. According to the memorandum of association, the administration of the Academy is carried on by a body of elected office-bearers.

*Sasikalamandram :*

Sasikalamandram is the oldest extant institution in the Territory devoted to the promotion of Bharathanatyam. Started on 13 December 1956, the affairs of the Mandram are looked after by a Committee. Students who have performed the 'arangetram' are trained to appear for the lower/higher grade examination conducted by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Although the government helps the Mandram with some grant from time to time, it subsists mainly on the fees collected from the students. In the midst of its other activities, the Mandram has also arranged several benefit performances in aid of worthy public causes.

*Karaikal Music Academy :*

This Academy was started in Karaikal on 9 August 1974 for the promotion of performing arts in the region. The Academy arranged musical concerts, dance programmes and dramas for the benefit of its members. One of its other objectives was to run a music and dance school.

## VI. Oriental Schools and Colleges

Institutions falling under this description did not come up in this Territory for various reasons. First, because of the small size of the establishments, there was not much scope for such institutions to flourish here. The administration was biased in favour of French education. Moreover, western type of education was available here since 1703. Those few who preferred oriental education sought the guidance of prominent men of letters in the neighbouring State of Tamil Nadu. For instance, Savarayalu Nayagar sought the help of Meenakshisundaram Pillai. Such well known Tamil scholars as Bangaru Pathar and Periasami Pulavar are known to have obtained their *diksha* from Gnanier Adigal of Thirupathiripuliyur.<sup>115</sup>

As late as in 1957 there was a proposal to open a Tamil College in Pondicherry. As an initial step, night classes for coaching up candidates for Vidwan examination were conducted since September 1957.<sup>116</sup> The college however did not take shape.

*Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha :*

Sometime after merger arrangements were made for conducting night classes for teaching Hindi in the Territory. Hindi teaching centres were started in Pondicherry, Karaikal, Mahe, Yanam and Villianur. In 1958 the Dakshina