TAMIL

> **Paper 8689/02**
> **Reading and Writing**

General Comments

Candidates performed well on the whole. They need to read the questions carefully and do exactly as asked. Candidates tend to copy the language used in the question paper rather than rephrasing in their own words. Spelling mistakes and errors of syntax were not uncommon.

Comments on individual questions

In **Question 2**, some of the vocabulary appeared to cause problems and candidates found this word manipulation exercise very tricky.

In **Question 3**, candidates needed to make more of an effort to use their own words. They will not gain marks for simple repetition.

TAMIL LANGUAGE

Papers 8689/03
Essay

General comments

The overall performance of the candidates for this paper was good, with only a small number of candidates at both extremes of the mark range. Weaker candidates' responses were characterised by a combination of poorer language skills (spelling mistakes and poor construction of sentences) and a degree of misunderstanding of the question, especially on **Questions 2, 4,** and **5**, leading to loss of marks for content.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

Two candidates attempted this question. Both of them did very well scoring high marks.

Question 2

Eight candidates attempted this question, achieving marks in the middle of the range (15-35).

Question 3

No candidates attempted this question.

Question 4

This was one of the most popular questions. Nineteen candidates attempted this question. A good range of marks was attained (15-40). Poor spelling and lack of focused content were seen in weaker candidates' responses. Strong candidates' responses were characterised by well-structured, complex sentences and few spelling and grammatical errors.

Question 5

This was the most popular question, attempted by 20 candidates. This question produced the widest range of marks (10-36). Spelling errors, repetition and poor focus on content were seen in weaker responses. Strong candidates' responses were characterised by well-structured, complex sentences with few errors.

Question 6

This question was attempted by three candidates.