Rani Velu Nachiyar of Sivaganga – Veeramangai, Kalaiyar Kovil 1772, Hyder Ali Alliance, Kuyili & Recovery of Sivaganga (1780) | TNPSC Notes

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Rani Velu Nachiyar (1730–1796) was the queen of Sivaganga who lost her husband and her kingdom to the Nawab of Arcot and the East India Company in 1772 and won the kingdom back in 1780 with the help of Gopala Nayakkar, Hyder Ali and the Marudhu brothers. Remembered as **Veeramangai** (brave woman), she is described in the Tamil Nadu school textbook as **the first female ruler in India to resist British colonial power** – more than 75 years before the Revolt of 1857.

தமிழில் படிக்க

These notes are written for TNPSC Group 1, 2/2A and 4 aspirants. Velu Nachiyar is a core topic in the syllabus unit **History, Culture, Heritage and Socio-Political Movements in Tamil Nadu** and also in the **Indian National Movement** portion (early uprisings against British rule in the South). This page covers every exam-relevant fact – people, places, dates, the difference between documented history and tradition, and the wider Palayakkarar context. Read each section, then use the tables, key points and practice questions at the end.

At a Glance

- **Name:** Velu Nachiyar; popularly **Veeramangai Velu Nachiyar**.
- **Period:** 1730–1796; ruled Sivaganga c. 1780–1790.
- **Birth family:** Sethupathi rulers of Ramanathapuram (Ramnad).
- **Husband:** Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar, second Raja of Sivaganga.
- **Enemies:** Nawab of Arcot (Carnatic) and the English East India Company.
- **Allies:** Gopala Nayakkar of Virupachi, Hyder Ali of Mysore, the Marudhu brothers.
- **Turning points:** Kalaiyar Kovil (1772) – loss; Sivaganga (1780) – recovery.
- **Titles:** Veeramangai; first Indian queen to fight the British; the Tamil Nadu government calls her India's first woman freedom fighter.

Background: Ramnad, Sivaganga and the Nawab of Arcot

In the early eighteenth century the Marava country of Ramnad (Ramanathapuram) included the lands that later became Sivaganga. Around 1730 **Sasivarna Thevar** of Nalukottai received two-fifths of the Ramnad territory and became the **first ruler of Sivaganga** (1730–1750). His son, **Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar**, became the second Raja in 1750.

By the middle of the century the **Nawab of Arcot (Carnatic)**, Muhammad Ali Khan Wallajah, depended on the English East India Company for his throne. He claimed overlordship of the southern kingdoms and demanded tribute (**kist / peshkash**) from Ramnad and Sivaganga. The Company lent him troops to collect it. This clash over tribute is the root of the 1772 attack – and of the wider Palayakkarar revolts in the South.

Birth, Ramnad Royal Family and Training

- **Born:** 1730 (commonly given as 3 January 1730) in the royal family of **Ramanathapuram (Ramnad)**. The Samacheer Kalvi textbook gives her years as 1730–1796. A few sources give other years; 1730 is the year to remember.
- **Parents:** Raja **Chellamuthu Vijayaragunatha Sethupathy** (written as Sellamuthu Sethupathy in the textbook) and Rani **Sakandhimuthathal** (also spelt Sakandhimuthal).
- **Only child:** the royal family had no male heir, so she was brought up like a prince.
- **Martial training: valari** (a traditional curved throwing weapon), **silambam** (stick fighting), the use of weapons, **horse riding** and **archery**.
- **Languages:** the textbook says she knew **English, French and Urdu** besides Tamil. Popular accounts add more languages; remember the three named in the textbook.

Marriage into the Sivaganga Royal Family (1746)

In **1746**, at the age of **16**, she married **Muthu Vaduganatha Periya Udaya Thevar** (called Muthu Vadugar in the textbook), son of Sasivarna Thevar. He became the second Raja of Sivaganga in 1750 and ruled until 1772. The couple had one daughter, **Vellachi Nachiyar**. She is described as the Raja's adviser as well as his consort. The Raja's minister was **Thandavaraya Pillai**, who stayed loyal to the queen after 1772.

The Kalaiyar Kovil Attack and the Raja's Death (1772)

When Sivaganga refused to submit to the Nawab's demands, the Nawab and the Company sent a combined force in **1772**. The Company troops were commanded by **Colonel Joseph Smith** and **Bon Jour (Benjour)**. The Raja expected the attack and prepared defences in the forest around **Kalaiyar Kovil**.

- **June 1772:** the invading columns occupied **Sivaganga town** and advanced on Kalaiyar Kovil.
- **25 June 1772:** in the battle at Kalaiyar Kovil, **Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar was killed** along with many of his men.
- The invaders plundered Kalaiyar Kovil, and the Nawab took over Sivaganga.

The date 25 June 1772 is given by the Sivaganga district history (Government of Tamil Nadu) and other accounts. The textbook summarises it simply: in 1772 the Nawab of Arcot and Company troops stormed the Kalaiyar Kovil palace and killed Muthu Vadugar.

Escape and Exile at Virupachi (1772–1780)

Velu Nachiyar escaped with her daughter **Vellachi** and the minister Thandavaraya Pillai. Loyal commanders, including the Marudhu brothers, joined her. She lived for about **eight years** at **Virupachi near Dindigul** under the protection of the palayakkarar **Gopala Nayakkar**. The region of Dindigul was then held by **Hyder Ali of Mysore**, and the Dindigul district history notes that Hyder Ali allowed Velu Nachiyar and the Marudhu brothers to stay at the fort.

The exile was a period of preparation, not retreat. During these years she:

- organised an army from loyal soldiers of Sivaganga;
- secured an alliance with **Gopala Nayakkar** and with **Hyder Ali**;
- used agents (spies) to find out where the British stored their ammunition;
- kept contact with the people of Sivaganga, who remained loyal to the old ruling family.

Gopala Nayakkar of Virupachi

Gopala Nayakkar was the palayakkarar of Virupachi in the Dindigul region. Besides sheltering Velu Nachiyar, he later became a leading rebel himself. The textbook says he led the **Dindigul League** (with Lakshmi Nayak of Manapparai and Poojai Nayak of Devadanapatti), joined the Marudhu brothers'

rebellion of 1800–1801 and was finally overpowered by the British in 1801. In exams he is linked with **Virupachi / Dindigul** and with protecting Velu Nachiyar for eight years.

Alliance with Hyder Ali

Hyder Ali was the strongest enemy of the Company and the Nawab in the South, so he was a natural ally. The steps, as given in the textbook:

- **Thandavarayanar** (Thandavaraya Pillai), described in the textbook as Dalavay (military chief), **wrote to Hyder Ali** on her behalf, asking for **5,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry** to fight the English.
- Velu Nachiyar explained her case to Hyder Ali in **Urdu** and showed her determination to fight the British.
- Impressed by her courage, Hyder Ali ordered his commandant **Syed at Dindigul fort** to give her the military help she needed.

The timing is worth noting: 1780, the year she recovered Sivaganga, is also the year Hyder Ali began the **Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780–1784)** against the Company, and many palayakkarars of the South backed him in that war.

The Marudhu Brothers

Periya Marudhu (Vellai Marudhu, 1748–1801) and **Chinna Marudhu (1753–1801)** were sons of Udayar Servai (Mookiah Palaniappan Servai) and Ponnathal. They served Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar and rose to be his commanders; both were known for their skill with the valari. After 1772 they joined the queen at Virupachi and became the backbone of her army.

- After the recovery of 1780, **Chinna Marudhu became minister** and **Periya Marudhu became commander-in-chief**.
- The queen gave them wide powers to administer the country, and by the end of the century they were the real power in Sivaganga.

Recovery of Sivaganga (1780)

In **1780**, with military help from **Hyder Ali** and **Gopala Nayakkar**, and with the Marudhu brothers leading her troops, Velu Nachiyar marched on Sivaganga and **recaptured** it. With the help of the Marudhu brothers she was **crowned queen**. The Nawab then agreed that she would govern Sivaganga on payment of tribute (kist). She is therefore remembered as the **first Indian queen to fight the Company and regain her kingdom**.

Kuyili and the Ammunition Store – Tradition

A well-known part of the 1780 story concerns **Kuyili**, the queen's faithful friend and commander. According to tradition, the British had stored their ammunition in Sivaganga. Kuyili smeared her body with ghee, set herself on fire and walked into the arsenal, destroying all the ammunition. Popular accounts add that the queen's soldiers entered Sivaganga in disguise during the **Vijayadasami** festival. For this act popular accounts honour Kuyili as the first woman martyr / first "human bomb" in Indian history.

Note for exams: the textbook states that Kuyili "is said to have" done this in 1780. Evidence for her life is scarce, and her story is known mainly from **folk songs and oral history**. Learn it as tradition linked with the 1780 recovery, not as a fully recorded event. If asked "who destroyed the British arsenal?", the expected answer is Kuyili.

Udaiyal and the Women's Unit – Tradition

The textbook says Kuyili is said to have led a **unit of women soldiers named after Udaiyal**. **Udaiyal** was a shepherd girl who was **killed for refusing to reveal information** to the enemy (the textbook

says information about Kuyili; other accounts say the queen's hiding place). Popular writing describes this as an all-women army of the queen. These details also come from tradition.

Documented History vs Tradition

Documented history (records, textbooks)	Popular tradition (folk songs, oral history)
Birth in the Ramnad royal family; marriage to the Sivaganga Raja	Exact details of her childhood training and the number of languages she knew
Company–Nawab attack and the Raja's death at Kalaiyar Kovil, June 1772	The story of Udaiyal, the shepherd girl killed for refusing to betray the queen's side
Exile near Dindigul under Gopala Nayakkar; help from Hyder Ali	Kuyili smearing herself with ghee and jumping into the burning ammunition store
Recovery of Sivaganga in 1780 and her rule with the Marudhu brothers	Entry into Sivaganga in disguise during the Vijayadasami festival
Succession of Vellachi; Marudhu brothers' later rebellion and execution (1801)	Descriptions of a large all-women army

Rule, Administration and Succession (1780–1790)

- She ruled Sivaganga for about **ten years** (c. 1780–1790).
- Day-to-day administration was in the hands of the **Marudhu brothers** – Chinna Marudhu as minister and Periya Marudhu as commander-in-chief.
- Sivaganga paid tribute (kist) to the Nawab under the settlement of 1780.
- Around **1790** the rule passed to her daughter **Vellachi Nachiyar**, according to most accounts; real power remained with the Marudhu brothers.

Death

Velu Nachiyar died in **1796**; **25 December 1796** is the date commonly cited (used by the Tamil Nadu government on the occasion of her statue unveiling). The history page of the Sivaganga district website, however, says she died about 1790 without a known date – so dates vary between sources. For exams, remember **1730–1796**.

Legacy and Memorials

- **First to fight:** she resisted the Company decades before Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi (1857); the textbook calls her the first female ruler to resist British colonial power in India.
- **Veeramangai Velu Nachiyar memorial** at Sivaganga, opened by the Tamil Nadu government in **July 2014**; a memorial for **Kuyili** was also opened in Sivaganga.
- **Postage stamp:** India Post issued a commemorative stamp on **31 December 2008**.
- **Statue:** Chief Minister M. K. Stalin unveiled her statue at the **Gandhi Mandapam complex, Guindy, Chennai** on **19 September 2025**.

- **Jayanti:** her birth anniversary, **3 January**, is marked every year with tributes by state and national leaders, including the Prime Minister.

Who's Who Table

Person	Who he/she was	Link with Velu Nachiyar
Chellamuthu Vijayaragunatha Sethupathy	Raja of Ramanathapuram (Ramnad)	Father
Sakandhimuthathal (Sakandhimuthal)	Rani of Ramnad	Mother
Sasivarna Thevar	First ruler of Sivaganga (1730–1750)	Father-in-law
Muthu Vaduganatha Periya Udaya Thevar	Second Raja of Sivaganga (1750–1772)	Husband; killed at Kalaiyar Kovil, 1772
Vellachi Nachiyar	Princess of Sivaganga	Daughter; successor (c. 1790)
Thandavaraya Pillai (Thandavarayanar)	Minister / Dalavay of Sivaganga	Wrote to Hyder Ali seeking help
Gopala Nayakkar	Palayakkarar of Virupachi near Dindigul	Protected her for about eight years
Hyder Ali	Ruler of Mysore	Gave protection and military aid
Syed	Hyder Ali's commandant at Dindigul fort	Ordered to give her military help
Periya (Vellai) Marudhu	Commander of Sivaganga	Commander-in-chief after 1780
Chinna Marudhu	Commander of Sivaganga	Minister after 1780
Kuyili	Friend and commander (tradition)	Destroyed the British ammunition store, 1780 (tradition)
Udaiyal	Shepherd girl (tradition)	Women's unit named after her
Smith and Bon Jour (Benjour)	Company commanders	Led the 1772 attack on Sivaganga
Nawab of Arcot (Muhammad Ali Khan Wallajah)	Nawab of the Carnatic, ally of the Company	Seized Sivaganga in 1772

Wider Context: Palayakkarar Revolts and Early Resistance

Velu Nachiyar's struggle belongs to the long chain of resistance in Tamil Nadu that came before the Revolt of 1857. In one line each:

Leader / event	Place	Key facts
Puli Thevar	Nerkattumseval	First palayakkarar to resist Company expansion (from 1755); forts taken by Yusuf Khan (1761), recaptured 1764; defeated by Captain Campbell (1767), died in exile
Veerapandiya Kattabomman	Panchalankurichi	Clash with Collector Jackson at Ramanathapuram (1798); fort besieged by Bannerman (Sept 1799); hanged at Kayathar (Oct 1799)
Marudhu brothers	Sivaganga	Led the South Indian Rebellion (1800–1801); Tiruchirappalli Proclamation (1801); executed at Tiruppattur, 24 Oct 1801
Gopala Nayakkar	Virupachi (Dindigul)	Protector of Velu Nachiyar; led the Dindigul League; joined the 1800–1801 rebellion
Carnatic Treaty	—	31 July 1801: the Company took over the Carnatic; the palayakkarar system ended
Vellore Revolt	Vellore Fort	10 July 1806: sepoys revolted against new dress rules; suppressed by Colonel Gillespie

Note the link: the Marudhu brothers who helped the queen in 1780 later led the South Indian Rebellion, and Gopala Nayakkar who sheltered her joined them – so one network of resistance runs from 1772 to 1801.

Key Terms

Term	Meaning
Palayakkarar (Poligar)	Holder of a palayam (small military-fiscal territory) who collected revenue and kept troops
Kist / Peshkash	Tribute or revenue demanded by the Nawab from the southern rulers
Dalavay	Military chief / chief minister of a Tamil kingdom
Valari	Traditional Tamil curved throwing weapon
Silambam	Traditional Tamil stick fighting
Nawab of Arcot (Carnatic)	Ruler of the Carnatic, dependent on the East India Company
Marava country	Ramnad and Sivaganga region ruled by Marava chiefs

Common Exam Traps

- She was born in the **Ramnad** royal family, not Sivaganga; she married **into** Sivaganga.
- Her husband was the **second** Raja of Sivaganga; the first was Sasivarna Thevar.
- Exile place is **Virupachi near Dindigul** – not Mysore.
- The Mysore ally was **Hyder Ali**, not Tipu Sultan.
- Battle of loss: **Kalaiyar Kovil, 1772**; recovery: **1780**. Do not confuse with 1801 (Marudhu execution).

- Kuyili and Udaiyal belong to **tradition**; the textbook uses "said to have".
- Marudhu brothers were executed at **Tiruppattur** (Sivaganga district), not Tirupattur in Vellore/Tirupathur district.

Quick Revision Table

Year	Event
1730	Born in the Ramanathapuram (Ramnad) royal family; Sivaganga formed as a separate kingdom under Sasivarna Thevar in the same period
1746	Married Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar of Sivaganga at the age of 16
1750	Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar becomes the second Raja of Sivaganga
1772 (June)	Nawab–Company forces occupy Sivaganga town
1772 (25 June)	Raja killed in the battle at Kalaiyar Kovil; queen escapes with Vellachi
1772–1780	About eight years at Virupachi near Dindigul under Gopala Nayakkar; alliance with Hyder Ali
1780	Recovers Sivaganga; crowned queen with the help of the Marudhu brothers; Kuyili episode (tradition)
1780–1790	Rules Sivaganga (about ten years); Marudhu brothers run the administration
c. 1790	Rule passes to daughter Vellachi
1796	Death (25 December 1796 is the commonly cited date)
1799 (Oct)	Kattabomman hanged at Kayathar
1801	Tiruchirappalli Proclamation (June); Marudhu brothers executed at Tiruppattur (24 Oct); Sivaganga annexed
1806 (10 July)	Vellore Revolt
2008 (31 Dec)	Commemorative postage stamp
2014 (July)	Veeramangai Velu Nachiyar memorial opened at Sivaganga
2025 (19 Sep)	Statue unveiled at Gandhi Mandapam, Guindy, Chennai

TNPSC Key Points (PYQ-style facts)

- Title: Veeramangai; first female ruler in India to resist British colonial power.
- Born 1730 in the Ramanathapuram (Ramnad) royal family; father Chellamuthu Vijayaragunatha Sethupathy; mother Sakandhimuthathal.
- Trained in valari, silambam, horse riding and archery; knew English, French and Urdu.
- Married Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar (Muthu Vadugar), second Raja of Sivaganga, in 1746 at 16.
- Daughter: Vellachi Nachiyar.
- Husband killed at Kalaiyar Kovil on 25 June 1772 by Nawab–Company forces (Smith and Bon Jour).
- Exile: about eight years at Virupachi near Dindigul under Gopala Nayakkar.
- Thandavarayanar wrote to Hyder Ali asking for 5,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry.

- She spoke to Hyder Ali in Urdu; he ordered Syed, commandant of Dindigul fort, to help her.
- Recovered Sivaganga in 1780; crowned with the help of the Marudhu brothers.
- Chinna Marudhu – minister; Periya Marudhu – commander-in-chief.
- Kuyili – destroyed the British arsenal, 1780 (tradition); women's unit named after Udaiyal.
- Rule c. 1780–1790; succeeded by Vellachi; died 1796.
- Stamp 31 December 2008; Sivaganga memorial 2014; Chennai statue 2025.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Velu Nachiyar called Veeramangai?

Veeramangai means "brave woman". She earned this title because, after losing her husband and her kingdom in 1772, she lived in exile for about eight years, built alliances with Gopala Nayakkar and Hyder Ali, and recovered Sivaganga in 1780 from the Nawab of Arcot and the East India Company.

When and where was Velu Nachiyar born?

She was born in 1730 (3 January 1730 is the commonly cited date) in the royal family of Ramanathapuram (Ramnad). She was the only child of Raja Chellamuthu Vijayaragunatha Sethupathy and Rani Sakandhimuthathal.

Where did Velu Nachiyar live in exile?

After her husband was killed at Kalaiyar Kovil in 1772, she lived for about eight years at Virupachi near Dindigul under the protection of the palayakkarar Gopala Nayakkar, with the support of Hyder Ali of Mysore.

Who helped Velu Nachiyar recover Sivaganga in 1780?

Hyder Ali of Mysore gave military help through his commandant at Dindigul fort, Gopala Nayakkar of Virupachi supported her, and the Marudhu brothers (Periya Marudhu and Chinna Marudhu) fought for her. Thandavaraya Pillai (Thandavarayanar) had written to Hyder Ali on her behalf asking for help.

Who were Kuyili and Udaiyal?

Kuyili is remembered as a close friend and commander of Velu Nachiyar who is said to have set herself on fire and destroyed the British ammunition store in 1780. Udaiyal is said to have been a shepherd girl who was killed for refusing to give information to the enemy; a women's unit was named after her. Both stories come mainly from oral tradition, and the school textbook presents them as "said to have" happened.

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Practice questions

1. Velu Nachiyar was born in which royal family?

A. Ramanathapuram
B. Sivaganga
C. Pudukkottai
D. Madurai Nayaks

2. In which year was Velu Nachiyar born?

A. 1710
B. 1730
C. 1746
D. 1750

3. According to the textbook, which of these was NOT among the languages Velu Nachiyar knew?

A. English
B. French
C. Portuguese
D. Urdu

4. Who was the husband of Velu Nachiyar?

A. Sasivarna Thevar
B. Kattaya Thevar
C. Puli Thevar
D. Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar

5. At what age did Velu Nachiyar marry?

A. 12
B. 14
C. 16
D. 18

6. Who was the first ruler of Sivaganga?

A. Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar
B. Sasivarna Thevar
C. Periya Marudhu
D. Kilavan Sethupathy

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7. What was the name of Velu Nachiyar's daughter?

A. Kuyili
B. Udaiyal
C. Vellachi Nachiyar
D. Sakandhimuthathal

8. Where was Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar killed in 1772?

A. Kayathar
B. Nerkattumseval
C. Tiruppattur
D. Kalaiyar Kovil

9. Who attacked Sivaganga in 1772?

A. The Nawab of Arcot and the East India Company
B. Hyder Ali of Mysore
C. The Dutch
D. The Marathas

10. Who was one of the Company commanders in the 1772 attack?

A. Major Bannerman
B. Colonel Smith
C. Colonel Gillespie
D. Captain Campbell

11. Virupachi, where Velu Nachiyar lived in exile, is near which town?

A. Thanjavur
B. Tirunelveli
C. Dindigul
D. Coimbatore

12. Which palayakkarar protected Velu Nachiyar for about eight years?

A. Kattabomman
B. Puli Thevar
C. Oomaithurai
D. Gopala Nayakkar

13. Which ruler of Mysore gave military help to Velu Nachiyar?

A. Hyder Ali
B. Tipu Sultan
C. Krishnaraja Wodeyar
D. Chanda Sahib

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14. Who wrote to Hyder Ali on the queen's behalf seeking help?

A. Sivasubramanianar
B. Thandavarayanar
C. Oomaithurai
D. Syed

15. What force did Thandavarayanar request from Hyder Ali?

A. 1,000 infantry
B. 10,000 cavalry only
C. 5,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry
D. 2,000 gunners

16. In which language did Velu Nachiyar speak to Hyder Ali?

A. Persian
B. Kannada
C. English
D. Urdu

17. Which commandant of Dindigul fort did Hyder Ali order to help Velu Nachiyar?

A. Syed
B. Yusuf Khan
C. Mahfuz Khan
D. Chanda Sahib

18. In which year did Velu Nachiyar recover Sivaganga?

A. 1772
B. 1780
C. 1790
D. 1801

19. Who became minister of Sivaganga after 1780?

A. Periya Marudhu
B. Gopala Nayakkar
C. Chinna Marudhu
D. Oomaithurai

20. Who is remembered in tradition for destroying the British ammunition store?

A. Vellachi
B. Sakandhimuthathal
C. Anjalai Ammal
D. Kuyili

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21. According to tradition, the women's unit was named after which shepherd girl?

A. Udaiyal
B. Kuyili
C. Vellachi
D. Ponnathal

22. Who succeeded Velu Nachiyar around 1790?

A. Periya Marudhu
B. Vellachi Nachiyar
C. Chinna Marudhu
D. Gopala Nayakkar

23. In which year was a postage stamp on Velu Nachiyar issued?

A. 1972
B. 1996
C. 2008
D. 2014

24. Where is the Veeramangai Velu Nachiyar memorial located?

A. Ramanathapuram
B. Madurai
C. Dindigul
D. Sivaganga

25. Where and when were the Marudhu brothers executed?

A. Tiruppattur, 24 October 1801
B. Kayathar, October 1799
C. Panchalankurichi, 16 November 1801
D. Vellore, 10 July 1806

Answers with explanations

1. **A) Ramanathapuram** – She was the only child of Raja Chellamuthu Vijayaragunatha Sethupathy of Ramnad.
2. **B) 1730** – The textbook gives her years as 1730–1796.
3. **C) Portuguese** – The textbook names English, French and Urdu.
4. **D) Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar** – She married Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar, second Raja of Sivaganga, in 1746.
5. **C) 16** – She married in 1746 at the age of 16.
6. **B) Sasivarna Thevar** – Sasivarna Thevar (1730–1750) was the first ruler; his son was the second Raja.
7. **C) Vellachi Nachiyar** – Their only daughter was Vellachi Nachiyar.
8. **D) Kalaiyar Kovil** – He was killed in the battle at Kalaiyar Kovil on 25 June 1772.
9. **A) The Nawab of Arcot and the East India Company** – A combined Nawab–Company force attacked Sivaganga.
10. **B) Colonel Smith** – The attack was led by Smith and Bon Jour (Benjour).

11. **C) Dindigul** – She lived at Virupachi near Dindigul.

12. **D) Gopala Nayakkar** – Gopala Nayakkar, palayakkarar of Virupachi, protected her.

13. **A) Hyder Ali** – Hyder Ali gave her protection and military assistance.

14. **B) Thandavarayanar** – Thandavarayanar (Thandavaraya Pillai) wrote to Hyder Ali.

15. **C) 5,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry** – The textbook says 5,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry were requested.

16. **D) Urdu** – She explained her case in Urdu.

17. **A) Syed** – Hyder Ali ordered Syed, commandant of Dindigul fort.

18. **B) 1780** – After about eight years in exile she recovered Sivaganga in 1780.

19. **C) Chinna Marudhu** – Chinna Marudhu became minister; Periya Marudhu became commander-in-chief.

20. **D) Kuyili** – Kuyili is said to have set herself on fire and destroyed it in 1780.

21. **A) Udaiyal** – The unit was named after Udaiyal, killed for refusing to give information (tradition).

22. **B) Vellachi Nachiyar** – Her daughter Vellachi succeeded her; real power lay with the Marudhu brothers.

23. **C) 2008** – India Post issued a commemorative stamp on 31 December 2008.

24. **D) Sivaganga** – The Tamil Nadu government opened the memorial at Sivaganga in 2014.

25. **A) Tiruppattur, 24 October 1801** – They were executed at Tiruppattur fort on 24 October 1801.

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