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Summer in Singamparai ♦ India

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*“She hath put out her hand to strong things, and her fingers have taken hold of the spindle.” (Prov 31:19). Cotton is one of the crops at Singamparai, but in the picture a mother cuts tobacco leaves in preparation for “beedi rolling” (making small cigars by hand). This is a mainstay industry for the women of the village and occupies every idle moment. Most households have goats and chickens and sometimes cows, bullocks and turkeys. In the fields the farmers cultivate rice, cotton, sugar cane, bananas and ground nuts. Regrettably the evils of the modern world are not absent even in the remotest villages. A television may be found in the most humble abode (politicians have been giving them out for years as bribes) and the demon drink (rum mainly) is the scourge of many a family.*

*Father Methodius, one of our very kind helper priests, meets the faithful after Sunday Mass.*