

**Table 1: MGR's Main Playback Singers in 1950s and 1960s**

Category	C.S. Jayaraman	T.M. Soundararajan	A.M. Rajah	S. Govindarajan
Born	1917	1922	1929	1933
Died	1995	2013	1989	1988
Native place	Chidambaram Tamil Nadu	Madurai Tamil Nadu	Ramachandrapuram Andhra Pradesh	Sirkazhi Tamil Nadu
Guru	Sundaram Pillai (father)	Karaikudi Rajamani Iyengar	??	Tirupampuram Swaminatha Pillai
Career span as Singer/Actor	1934-1965	1950-1997	1951-1975	1954-1988
First movie for MGR's voice	<i>Andhaman Kaithi</i> (1952)	<i>Malai Kallan</i> (1954)*	<i>Kumari</i> (1952)	<i>Chakravarthi Thirumgal</i> (1957)
as Music director for movies	yes	yes	yes	no

\*Soundararajan's voice heard first in MGR's *Manthiri Kumari* (1950), for a peasant in the song, 'Upakaram Seipavarke'-but **not** for MGR.