



Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department

Policy Note 2020- 2021

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Special Programme

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1. Introduction

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE -2020-21

Introduction

"The objective of this Government is to make Tamil Nadu march on the path of development and to make Tamil Nadu the numero uno state."

***-Hon'ble Former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Avargal***

The Government's endeavour is to provide basic amenities and infrastructure facilities, expand livelihood opportunities, improve rural connectivity, provide rural housing and enable a clean and sanitized environment in rural areas, leading to substantial improvement in the quality of life of the people.

Rural Development occupies one of the highest priorities of this Government, since the development of rural areas is indispensable for the overall development of the State. Never before has Tamil Nadu witnessed such huge investment of funds and introduction of several path-breaking

schemes for the comprehensive development of rural areas in the past nine years.

The Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS) is one of the flagship programmes of this Government. This has been formulated to address the gap in housing needs in rural areas as well as to promote green energy. This is the first of its kind scheme in India. From the year 2011-12 to 2019-20, a total of 3.80 Lakh Green houses were taken at an estimate cost of Rs.7,620 crore. During the year 2020-21, this scheme will be implemented with a focus to saturate the housing needs of all the tribal households in the state.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme provides a number of legal entitlements to rural workers through a series of provisions in the MGNREG Act and it is the only social security scheme for poverty alleviation. The scheme provides employment for maximum of 100 days for every rural household willing to do unskilled manual work on demand.

In Tamil Nadu, more than 65% of the expenditure under this scheme are related to

Natural Resources Management works and more than 60% of the expenditure are related to Agriculture & Allied works. Natural Resources Management works like Check Dam, Farm pond, Earthen bunding, Stone Bunding, Dug well, Recharge Shaft, Recharge Pit, Individual and Community Soak Pit, Continuous Trenches, Staggered Trenches etc have been taken up under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in Tamil Nadu to augment the Ground Water Recharge and to ensure soil moisture and water conservation.

Some of the noble objectives and goals of Sustainable Development of United Nations is effectively achieved by the successful implementation of MGNREGS by the State of Tamil Nadu. The goals of 'No Hunger' and 'No Poverty' is achieved through the provision of employment to the unskilled rural household for a maximum of 100 days in a year thereby plays a vital role in provision of livelihood for rural poor. 'Gender Equality' is ensured through the disbursement of equal wages for both men, women without any disparity of wages among them. 'Climate Change / action' is controlled through the soil and moisture conservation works like Rainwater harvesting

works through earthen bunding, check dams, renovation / rejuvenation of traditional water bodies and drought proofing and plantation works in public and private lands.

Rural road connectivity plays a crucial role in eradication of poverty in rural areas which is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. With this objective, the Government had already announced that "Every village with the population of more than 500 will have a black topped road and other habitations will have an all-weather road". The objective is to ensure access to the remotest regions and far flung areas through all weather roads. In order to ensure this, the department has taken various initiatives for the holistic improvement of rural roads like updating the road statistics, creating an online road inventory for better planning, increased allocation of funds by pooling in various resources, introduction of a comprehensive scheme called Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Improvements Scheme and formulation of the Tamil Nadu Rural Road Maintenance Policy for proper maintenance of the roads.

This Government has also introduced a special programme called the Amma - Adi Dravidar Habitations Improvement Scheme for provision of basic amenities to Adi Dravidar Habitations in an holistic manner. The Government has set apart Rs.100 crore every year for this programme.

The Government have taken countless initiatives to ensure the provisions and availability of Improved Sanitation facilities in the rural areas. Steadfast efforts have also been taken to address the gaps in sanitation coverage. Sanitation Motivators along with the field functionaries of the Stakeholder Departments are continuously involved in Behavioural Change Communication which has influenced and paved way for achieving and sustaining the Open Defecation Free (ODF) status. Resource materials are developed and Capacity strengthening activities are being carried out at various levels for effective Inter-Personal Communication. Besides inculcating the habit of Safe Sanitation and Personal Hygiene practices among Children, school toilets are being cleaned and maintained regularly by engaging sanitary workers to ensure their healthy learning environment. Towards establishing and sustaining

an effective Solid Waste Management systems, Thooimai Kaavalars are engaged for collection, segregation and safe disposal of waste. These initiatives have brought many accolades to the State at National level.

Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW) was established on 9th December, 1983 with the prime objective of socio-economic empowerment of women. TNCDW was the first and only Corporation established for the welfare of women in India and has over the last 35 years implementing various state funded, centrally sponsored and externally aided projects with an unwavering focus on SHG Centric-Community Driven Development (CDD).

Poverty is a multi-dimensional problem and hence TNCDW follows a multi-pronged strategy to eliminate poverty from all households in rural and urban areas and to usher Tamil Nadu into an era of peace, prosperity and progress as envisioned by the Hon'ble former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu – Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Today, the Corporation implements the two flagship poverty alleviation programmes of the Government i.e., Tamil Nadu State Rural

Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM) and Tamil Nadu Urban Livelihoods Mission (TNULM). TNSRLM is being implemented in 12,525 Village Panchayats in all 388 Blocks of the State. TNCDW through TNSRLM and its sub-components namely, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP) and Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) aims at empowering women and reducing poverty in the rural areas through a multi-pronged Community Driven Development (CDD) approach. The Participatory Identification of Poor (PIP) process pioneered by the erstwhile World Bank funded Pudhu Vazhvu Project lays the foundation of the CDD approach, by which the target people - Poor, Very Poor, Vulnerable and Differently abled are identified and assisted. Creating, nurturing and developing sustainable Community Based Organizations (CBOs) such as Self Help Groups, Village Poverty Reduction Committees, Panchayat Level Federations, Block Level Federations, Producer Groups, Producer Collections and Producer Organisations is the main strategy for livelihood promotion.

The Tamil Nadu Urban Livelihoods Mission (TNULM) is being implemented from the year 2014-15 onwards. The scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme funded by both the Central and the State Governments in the ratio of 60:40. It aims to reduce poverty and vulnerability of the urban poor households by enabling them to access gainful self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities, resulting in an appreciable improvement in their livelihoods on a sustainable basis by building strong grass-root level institutions of the poor.

Subsequent to the closing of National Rural Livelihood Project, a new scheme namely NRETP (National Rural Economic Transformation Project) has been introduced from the current year (2019-20) and a financial allocation of Rs.40.60 crores has been made for the same. This scheme is being implemented in 5 districts (Cuddalore, Erode, Salem, Thanjavur & Trichy) covering 4 blocks in each districts aiming on higher order interventions in upgrading the livelihoods of the rural poor.

TNCDW is also the nodal agency for implementing the Amma Two Wheeler Scheme

which is a flagship scheme of the State Government. It aims to empower working women by enabling them to purchase women friendly two wheelers (Mopeds/Scooters) to ease their commute to their enterprises and places of employment, banks etc., Every year, one lakh working women in the age group of 18 to 45 are being benefited through this scheme both in rural and urban areas. Priority will be given to women residing in remote places, hilly regions, women headed households, deserted women, destitute widows, differently abled women, unmarried women aged above 35 years, SC/STs women and Transgenders. No educational qualification is required. A maximum subsidy of 50% of the cost of the vehicle or Rs.25,000, whichever is less, is provided to purchase a two wheeler. Differently abled women are eligible for additional subsidy of Rs.6,250 towards the purchase of retrofitted vehicle.

The Deen Dayal Upadhyaya – Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) facilitates skill development with placement in the organised sector for the youth from rural poor families whereas the Mahila Kisan Shashaktikaran

Pariyojana (MKSP) and the Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP) promote women-centric economic activities and individual and collective enterprises in the Farm and Non-Farm sectors. These schemes implemented in tandem and in convergence with other schemes of the Government are the bedrock of the Tamil Nadu Government's efforts to eliminate poverty.

Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project is a World Bank funded project which is in continuation of Tamil Nadu Pudhu Vaazhvu Project. The main objectives of the project are to promote rural enterprises, access to finance and employment opportunities in 120 Blocks of Tamil Nadu. This project is funded by World Bank and State Government in the ratio of 70:30 at an estimate cost of Rs.918.20 crore.

Under the capable stewardship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the Rural Development and Panchayat raj Department rededicates itself to fulfil the mandate with commitment and conviction to enable Tamil Nadu to maintain Numero Uno position in the Country

2. Panchayat Raj

2. PANCHAYAT RAJ

Village Council and autonomous community based governance is an earliest developed and longest preserved institution in the State. Its history is as old as Tamil history and is a part of its tradition and civilization. Since time immemorial, villages have been the basic units of administration. It continued to evolve and flourish through various phases from the Chola period to the present day. The Uthiramerur inscriptions of Sri Vaikundavasa Perumal temple in Kancheepuram District bear testimony to the existence of Village Councils during the Chola Empire. There were two assemblies, called Ur and the Sabha or Mahasabha. The Ur was a general assembly of the village. The villages were endowed with autonomy. The affairs of the villages were managed by an executive committee constituted of persons owning property and who are elected for a period of three years. The elections to these councils were conducted with well laid 'qualification' and 'disqualification' norms for contesting through a secret ballot called 'Kuda Olai Murai'.

Article 40 in Part-IV of the Constitution of India which enshrines one of the Directive Principles of State Policy lays down that the State shall take steps to organise village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government. The Balwantrai Mehta Committee constituted by the Government of India submitted its report in January 1957 and recommended for the democratic decentralization of powers among the various institutions of Panchayat Raj. Since 1960s Panchayats were established across the State and gained importance as the grassroot level institution of governance

Though the Panchayati Raj Institutions have been in existence for a long time, these institutions were not been able to acquire the status and dignity of viable and responsive people's bodies due to a number of reasons including insufficient representation of weaker sections like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women, inadequate devolution of powers and lack of financial resources. In the light of the experience of the functioning of the Panchayats

since 1960s and in view of the short-comings which have been observed, there was an imperative need to enshrine in the Constitution certain basic and essential features of Panchayat Raj Institutions to impart certainty, continuity and strength to them. Hence the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act was passed and it came into effect from April 1993. Part IX was inserted in the Constitution as a sequel to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment and the Panchayats were granted Constitutional Status.

The Government of Tamil Nadu enacted Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994) which came into force on 22.4.1994. The 1994 Act brought in a number of changes in the Tamil Nadu Panchayat Raj structure:

- Three Tier System came into existence in Tamil Nadu.
- "Panchayat" became a generic term for all the three tiers.
- Members of three tiers of Rural Local Bodies and Village Panchayat Presidents are directly elected whereas the Chairpersons of Panchayat Union Councils and District Panchayats are indirectly elected from among the elected ward members.

- All the three tiers of Panchayats are independent of each other and the Village Panchayat Presidents are not members in the Panchayat Union Council.
- Reservation of seats and offices for SCs/STs in proportion to their population and reservation of 1/3rd of the total number of seats and offices for women have been mandated. Now, 50% of the seats and offices of Rural Local Bodies has been reserved for women vide G.O.Ms. No.60, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) Department, dated 23.05.2016
- The rotation of offices in all three tiers will be done once in 10 years.
- Tamil Nadu State Election Commission was constituted.
- State Finance Commission is being constituted quinquennially to recommend the ratio of devolution of resources from the state government to the Rural and Urban local bodies.
- District Planning Committee was constituted to prepare District Development Plan by consolidating the Development Plans of Rural and Urban Local Bodies in the districts.

Article 243 G of Constitution of India has devolved powers, functions and responsibilities to the Panchayat Raj Institutions. On the basis of

this 29 subjects have been listed out in the XI Schedule of Constitution of India.

2.1. Elections to Rural Local Bodies

2.1.1. State Election Commission

The Tamil Nadu State Election Commission was established in 1994 as an independent and autonomous constitutional authority to conduct elections to both Urban and Rural Local Bodies in the State. The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls are also vested with the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission.

2.1.2. State Delimitation commission

Section 28 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act necessitates the delimitation of territorial wards of Rural local bodies after every census. In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 12 of the Tamil Nadu Delimitation Commission Act, 2017 (Tamil Nadu Act 23 of 2017) the Delimitation Commission has been constituted.

Delimitation Commission shall consist of the following ex-officio members, namely:—

- a) The Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner, who shall be the Chairman,

- b) The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,
- c) The Commissioner of Municipal Administration,
- d) The Director of Town Panchayats,
- e) The Commissioner of Greater Chennai City Municipal Corporation,
- f) The Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Election Commission, who shall be the Member-Secretary

The District Delimitation Authorities/District Collectors have undertaken the Delimitation process and the draft delimitation proposals were displayed in the offices of concerned Rural local bodies to receive claims and objections from the general public and political parties.

Regional level sittings were held in Vellore, Kanchipuram, Thiruchirapalli, Madurai, Thoothukudi, Coimbatore and Salem by the Delimitation Commission to hear the views of general public and political parties regarding the claims and objections received by the local bodies. After addressing all the claims and objections, views and suggestions put forth by political parties and general public, the delimitation proposals have been finalized and published in the District Gazette by the District Collectors in December 2018. Based

on the Delimitation process ordinary elections to RLBs of 27 Districts have been completed by the State Election Commission.

2.1.3. Reservation and Rotation of Seats and Offices in Rural Local Bodies

As per Article 243D of the Constitution of India, seats shall be reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in every Panchayat and the number of seats reserved shall bear, as nearly as may be, the same proportion to the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in that Panchayat as the population of Scheduled Castes in that Panchayat area or of the Scheduled Tribes in that Panchayat area bears to the total population of that area and such seats may be allotted by rotation to different wards in a Panchayat.

2.1.4. Enhancement of Reservation of Seats and Offices for Women in Rural Local Bodies (50 % Reservation)

The Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994) provided for reservation of one third of total number of the seats and offices for women in Village Panchayats, Panchayat Union Councils and District Panchayats. The then Hon'ble

Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in 2016 considered that it was necessary to increase the percentage of reservation for women from one third of the total number of seats and offices to one half (i.e. 50 Percent) so as to empower the women and facilitate the political participation of women in Local Governance. Accordingly, Government have enhanced reservation for women in Local Bodies from one-third to one-half by amending relevant sections of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 and Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Reservation of seats and Rotation of Reserved seats) Rules, 1995 vide G.O.No.60 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) Department, Dated 23.05.2016. Accordingly, 50% of the total seats have been reserved to the women in the recently held local body elections for 27 districts.

2.1.5. Conduct of Local Body Elections-2019

In Tamil Nadu, after enactment of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act in April, 1994, the first ordinary elections were held to all the three tiers of Rural Local Bodies in October, 1996. The second, third and fourth ordinary elections to the Local Bodies were conducted in October, 2001, October 2006 and October 2011 respectively.

The State Election Commission issues notification to the seats (i.e. ward members) and offices (i.e. heads) of District Panchayats and Panchayat unions which are held on party basis. Whereas, the elections to the seats and offices of Village Panchayats are held on non-party basis.

During 2019, the state government has trifurcated Vellore district into the districts of Vellore, Tirupathur and Ranipet; and bifurcated Kancheepuram district into Kancheepuram and Chengalpet district. Likewise Villupuram district was bifurcated into Villupuram and Kallakurichi district and Tirunelveli district was bifurcated into Tirunelveli and Tenkasi districts. In total 4 original districts have been bifurcated / trifurcated into 9 districts. Hence the number of districts in Tamil Nadu became 36 as against 31.

State Election Commission has conducted the elections to the Rural Local Bodies in 27 districts as per the orders of Hon'ble Supreme court. Tamil Nadu State Election Commission announced a program of election on 07.12.2019 to Rural Local Bodies in respect of 27 districts. Accordingly, the elections to RLBs have been completed as detailed below.

Table 2.1
Details of elections conducted for
the three tier Panchayat Raj Institutions
(PRIs) during December 2019

SI.No.	Details of Posts	Number
1.	Village Panchayat Ward Members	76746
2.	Panchayat Union Ward Members	5090
3.	District Panchayat Ward Members	515
4.	Village Panchayat Presidents	9624
5.	Panchayat Union Chairpersons	314
6.	District Panchayat Chairpersons	26
Total		92,315

Table 2.2
Reservation of Offices and Seats for Women,
SCs and STs for Rural Local Body Elections, 2019

SI.No.	Category of Reservation	Total No. of office/ seats	Reserved for Women	Percentage	Reserved for SCs	Percentage	Reserved for STs	Percentage
1.	District Panchayat Chair persons	27	14	51.85	7	25.99	1	3.70
2.	Panchayat Union Council Chair persons	314	157	50.00	76	24.20	5	1.59
3.	Village Panchayat Presidents	9,624	4,813	50.01	2,352	24.44	144	1.50
4.	District Panchayat Ward Members	615	264	51.26	121	23.50	7	1.36
5.	Panchayat Union Ward Members	5,090	2,626	51.59	1,155	22.69	51	1.00
6.	Village Panchayat Ward Members	76,744	40,734	53.08	19,770	25.26	861	1.12

In respect of remaining 9 districts, fresh delimitation exercises have been carried out by the Delimitation Commission and after the completion of delimitation exercise elections to the RLBs will be conducted as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme court of India.

Rural Local Bodies

2.2. Village Panchayats

There are 12,525 Village Panchayats consisting of 79,394 habitations in the State spread across 36 rural Districts. The Village Panchayat President is the Executive Authority of the Village Panchayat. Every Village Panchayat unless dissolved shall continue for 5 years from the date of its first meeting after each ordinary election. During 2020, a new village panchayat namely, Karuveppilaipalayam Village Panchayat has been created in Thiruvennainallur Panchayat Union of Villupuram District.

In co-ordination with the Director of Census Operations, the Village Panchayat wise rural population details as per census 2011 for all the Village Panchayats were published in August 2014. The data contains total population of Village

Panchayat, SC/ST and Women. The same has also been uploaded in tnrd.gov.in

Table 2.3
Details of Village Panchayats on the basis of Population as per 2011 census

Sl. No.	Population	No. of Village Panchayats
1	500 and below	46
2	501-1,000	833
3	1,001-3,000	6,822
4	3,001-5,000	2,781
5	5,001-10,000	1,753
6	Above 10,000	290
Total		12,525

The District wise details of rural population as per 2011 census are given below:

Table 2.4
District wise Rural Population Details

Sl. No.	District	Rural Population	Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe (ST)
1	Kancheepuram	734580	253798
2	Chengalpet	1127209	400366
3	Thiruvallur	1585280	541823
4	Cuddalore	1800133	635870
5	Viluppuram	1722903	555125
6	Kallakurichi	1190057	435472
7	Vellore	862476	247498
8	Ranipet	808534	218568
9	Thiruppathur	811546	204412
10	Tiruvannamalai	2039049	589140

Sl. No.	District	Rural Population	Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe (ST)
11	Salem	1957105	466879
12	Namakkal	1087895	303517
13	Dharmapuri	1290530	274147
14	Krishnagiri	1465743	241925
15	Erode	1130722	235773
16	Tiruppur	1139466	265486
17	Coimbatore	1021359	233057
18	The Nilgiris	310591	114213
19	Thanjavur	1667809	385756
20	Nagapattinam	1261288	463090
21	Thiruvavarur	1006482	389679
22	Tiruchirappalli	1471945	319628
23	Karur	668360	159919
24	Perambalur	468017	152640
25	Ariyalur	671100	173716
26	Pudukkottai	1341111	252397
27	Madurai	1300481	277390
28	Theni	575394	144966
29	Dindigul	1457412	338644
30	Ramanathapuram	1009270	214109
31	Virudhunagar	1286543	316993
32	Sivaganga	952610	188972
33	Tirunelveli	770260	157927
34	Tenkasi	875249	204659
35	Thoothukkudi	971273	250673
36	Kanniyakumari	646441	30439
Total		4,04,86,223	1,06,38,666

2.2.1. District wise rural area details

The total rural area of the State is 1,04,149.92 sq.kms. The district wise rural area details are given below:

Table 2.5
District-wise Area of Village Panchayats

Sl. No.	District	No. of Panchayats	No. of habitations	Average No. of habitations	Rural Area (in Sq Km)	Average Area per Panchayat (in Sq Km)
1	Kancheepuram	274	1440	5	1539.19	5.62
2	Chengalpet	359	2072	6	2312.56	6.44
3	Thiruvallur	526	3862	7	2859.84	5.44
4	Cuddalore	683	2403	4	2942.24	4.31
5	Viluppuram	688	2371	3	3606.96	5.24
6	Kallakurichi	412	1116	3	2902.47	7.04
7	Vellore	247	1894	8	1207.13	4.89
8	Ranipet	288	2260	8	1620.58	5.63
9	Thiruppathur	208	1955	9	1194.59	5.74
10	Tiruvanna-malai	860	4267	5	4826.27	5.61
11	Salem	385	5109	13	4561.41	11.85
12	Namakkal	322	2520	8	3119.43	9.69
13	Dharmapuri	251	2835	11	4407.43	17.56
14	Krishnagiri	333	3983	12	4965.73	14.91
15	Erode	225	3199	14	2626.99	11.68
16	Tiruppur	265	2455	9	4545.50	17.15
17	Coimbatore	228	1200	5	2534.24	11.12
18	The Nilgiris	35	1282	37	1170.39	33.44
19	Thanjavur	589	2260	4	3657.67	6.21
20	Nagapattinam	434	2054	5	2400.31	5.53
21	Thiruvarur	430	1704	4	2322.69	5.40
22	Tiruchirappalli	404	2210	5	4028.00	9.97
23	Karur	157	2179	14	2656.25	16.92
24	Perambalur	121	314	3	1609.54	13.30
25	Ariyalur	201	710	4	1710.17	8.51
26	Pudukkottai	497	4062	8	4433.78	8.92
27	Madurai	420	1946	5	3183.18	7.58
28	Theni	130	607	5	1159.89	8.92
29	Dindigul	306	3083	10	4401.34	14.38
30	Ramanathapuram	429	2306	5	4116.19	9.59

Sl. No.	District	No. of Panchayats	No. of habitations	Average No. of habitations	Rural Area (in Sq Km)	Average Area per Panchayat (in Sq Km)
31	Virudhunagar	450	1760	4	3282.08	7.29
32	Sivaganga	445	2723	6	3075.90	6.91
33	Tirunelveli	204	1075	5	2277.48	11.16
34	Tenkasi	221	1028	5	2005.58	9.08
35	Thoothukkudi	403	1761	4	4260.78	10.57
36	Kanniyakumari	95	1155	12	626.14	6.59
Total		12,525	79,160	6	1,04,149.92	8.32

2.2.2. Income range of Village Panchayats

The annual income range of the Village Panchayats are given below on the basis of income of the year 2019-20:

Table 2.6
Annual Income range of the Village Panchayats

Annual Income Range	No. of Panchayats
Rs.10-20 lakh	6440
Rs.20-50 lakh	5371
Rs.50 lakh – 1 crore	605
Above Rs.1 crore	109
Total	12,525

2.2.3. Grama Sabha

All the registered voters of a Village Panchayat constitute Grama Sabha, which is

provided with specific powers and functions. Grama Sabha shall statutorily be conducted in such a way that the intervening period between two Grama Sabhas shall not exceed a period of 6 months.

Section 3 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, stipulates that,

(a) The Grama Sabha shall -

(i) approve the village plan

(ii) Approve the village budget for the year;

(ii-a) approve the audit report on the Village Panchayat accounts of the previous year; and

(iii) Review the progress of the implementation of all schemes entrusted to the Village Panchayat.

(b) The Government may, by notification, entrust to the Grama Sabha such other functions as may be specified.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has made it mandatory to convene Grama Sabha a minimum number of 4 times i.e. on 26th January, 1st May, 15th August and 2nd October of every calendar year. Besides, the Grama Sabha can be convened as and when the necessity arises. The quorum for the Grama Sabha meeting has been fixed by the

Government, based on population of the Village Panchayat, as given below:

Table 2.7
Quorum for Grama Sabha

Sl. No.	Population of Village Panchayat	Quorum
1	Up to 500	50
2	501-3,000	100
3	3,001-10,000	200
4	Above 10,000	300

Recording of the proceedings through proper registers and keeping of photographic records have been made mandatory for the conduct of Grama Sabha.

2.2.4. Statutory Functions of the Village Panchayat

Section 110 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 mandates that it shall be the duty of the Village Panchayat to undertake the following requirements in rural areas:-

- i) Construction, repair and maintenance of all village roads (other than those classified as Highways and Panchayat Union roads), all bridges, culverts and cause-ways
- ii) Street lights in built up areas.

- iii) Construction of drains and disposal of drainage.
- iv) Cleaning of streets and improvement of sanitary conditions through Solid Waste Management activities.
- v) Provision of public latrine.
- vi) Provision of burial and cremation grounds.
- vii) Supply of drinking water.
- viii) Maintenance of community assets.
- ix) Sinking and repairing of wells, the excavation, repair and maintenance of ponds
- x) Other duties that the Government may by notification impose.

2.2.5. Discretionary Functions

Section 111 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 warrants Village Panchayats to carry out the following requirements, which are deemed to be discretionary functions of the Village Panchayats subject to the limits of its resources:

- i) Planting and preservation of trees
- ii) Lighting of public roads and public places other than built-up areas
- iii) Opening and maintenance of public markets
- iv) Control of fairs and festivals

- v) Opening and maintenance of cart stand and cattle sheds, public slaughter houses and reading rooms
- vi) Formation and maintenance of play grounds, parks and gyms, etc.

2.2.6. Drinking Water Supply

Provision of drinking water supply is the basic duty of the Village Panchayat. Hand pumps and Power pumps are the major sources of drinking water supply and Over Head Tanks (OHTs), Ground Level Reservoirs (GLRs) and mini tanks are the major water storage structures in the Village Panchayats. The number of water supply sources in operation in rural areas are given below:

Table 2.8

District wise details of Water Supply sources and Schemes in operation

Sl. No	District	No. of Hand Pumps	No. of Power Pumps	No. of Mini Power Pumps	No. of CWSS	No. of Panchayats covered with CWSS
1	Kancheepuram	2346	2012	2053	9	38
2	Chengalpet	4123	2948	3628	11	28
3	Thiruvallur	4299	3717	2427	9	36
4	Cuddalore	8621	4267	3359	12	60
5	Viluppuram	8253	3953	7909	3	17

Sl. No	District	No. of Hand Pumps	No. of Power Pumps	No. of Mini Power Pumps	No. of CWSS	No. of Panchayats covered with CWSS
6	Kallakurichi	6357	2192	4354	8	60
7	Vellore	1856	2870	4956	8	21
8	Ranipet	2531	1884	3295	5	10
9	Thiruppathur	2627	2365	4275	7	15
10	Tiruvannamalai	11449	5115	8123	25	240
11	Salem	5215	5624	4543	9	262
12	Namakkal	2643	4738	2342	12	298
13	Dharmapuri	10869	4324	6125	8	66
14	Krishnagiri	9022	4603	4733	18	93
15	Erode	3970	4941	1670	41	197
16	Tiruppur	2308	4663	1088	17	265
17	Coimbatore	1160	2951	710	9	228
18	The Nilgiris	19	1112	132	1	4
19	Thanjavur	6389	5368	3194	6	90
20	Nagapattinam	20039	2072	2340	12	291
21	Thiruvarur	12901	2752	1413	4	96
22	Tiruchirappalli	8797	4425	4965	25	327
23	Karur	3372	2938	2978	12	92
24	Perambalur	3249	792	1160	4	96
25	Ariyalur	1167	1585	1462	7	168
26	Pudukkottai	6233	4312	5712	46	208
27	Madurai	2761	3893	3899	7	182
28	Theni	561	913	1330	24	106
29	Dindigul	967	4811	3685	32	116
30	Ramanathapuram	788	1333	1248	52	429
31	Virudhunagar	10839	4936	6046	12	153
32	Sivaganga	4229	3315	5963	34	138
33	Tirunelveli	2162	1883	2026	12	186
34	Tenkasi	1735	1513	2375	14	202
35	Thoothukkudi	10958	2349	2535	22	354
36	Kanniyakumari	221	1422	1760	13	44
Total		1,85,036	1,14,891	1,19,813	550	5,216

2.2.7. Installation of LED lights in Rural Areas

Section 110 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, mandates that maintenance of street lights in rural area is one of the statutory duties of Village Panchayats.

Approximately 35% of income is spent towards Electricity consumption charges. To ensure energy efficiency, durability and effective management, Government has switched over to Light Emitting Diode (LED) Lights. The then Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced on 03.09.2015 and 29.08.2016 under rule 110 that street tube lights will be replaced with LED lights.

The LED lights installed in the place of tube lights have five years warranty. To ensure proper and regular monitoring of the rural street lighting system, pole numbering was done in all the poles of the entire Village Panchayats. The pole numbering consists of District code, Block code, Village code, Habitation code etc. and the replacement of lights and functional status of LED lights are regularly monitored.

As of now, there are 20.79 lakh street LED lights have been replaced in Rural areas. Due to this an amount of Rs. 407.53 Crore has been saved in respect of current consumption charges.

2.2.8. Sanitation – Maintaining Cleanliness and Hygiene in Rural areas

It is mandatory for the Village Panchayat to provide hygienic condition and cleanliness in rural areas. In this connection, following activities are performed by Village Panchayats.

- i) Cleaning of streets and Panchayat roads
- ii) Construction and cleaning of drains and proper disposal of drainage water
- iii) Removal of rubbish heaps and jungle growth
- iv) Maintenance of public toilets
- v) Construction and maintenance of burial and cremation grounds
- vi) Filling up of unused wells, insanitary ponds, pools, ditches, pits or hollows.

For maintaining the cleanliness in rural areas, 26,622 sanitary workers are engaged. Now, solid waste management activities are being carried out in the Village Panchayats by engaging 66,130 workers through Village Poverty Reduction

Committees as ThooimaiKavalars. The remuneration for those ThooimaiKavalars is being met out from state finance commission devolutionary grant.

2.2.9. Preventive and control measures of Epidemics

Panchayat Raj Institutions work in coordination with Health and Family Welfare Department in maintaining cleanliness to prevent the outbreak of epidemics.

To prevent the spread of epidemics in rural areas, the following activities are under taken.

- i) Awareness generation through IEC activities among the public on epidemics by all means of communication and Community Based Organisations (CBOs).
- ii) Periodic cleaning of Over Head Tanks (OHTs), Ground Level Reservoirs (GLRs) and Hand Pump platforms in rural areas and providing drinking water with effective chlorination.
- iii) Daily monitoring of line list of fever cases reported in both Government and Private hospitals by Health and Family Welfare

Department and taking appropriate action at the field level.

- iv) Panchayat Unions engage Mazdoors depending upon requirement to work under the control of the Block Medical Officers (BMOs) to undertake intensive control and preventive measures.

2.3. Resources

In the State, among the three tiers of Rural Local Bodies, Village Panchayat is the only body empowered to levy and collect taxes. The Village Panchayats receive revenue from the following sources:

- a) Tax Revenue
- b) Non Tax Revenue
- c) Grants

2.3.1. Tax Revenue

Village Panchayats are entitled to get tax revenue such as

- i. House / Property Tax
- ii. Professional Tax
- iii. Advertisement Tax

i) House / Property Tax

Section 172 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 empowered the Village Panchayats to levy House Tax/ Property Tax. Every building constructed in the rural areas is levied House Tax / Property Tax by the concerned Village Panchayat. The Guidelines for assessment of House Tax is given in the G.O. Ms. No. 255, RD & PR Dept., Dated 13.12.1999. Self financing unaided institutions are subjected to levy of Property tax from the year 2008-09 onwards. The District wise house tax and property tax collection for the year 2019-20 are as below:

Table 2.9
District wise House tax and
Property tax Collection for the year 2019-20

Sl. No.	Name of the District	House tax	Property tax from Self Financing Educational Institutions	Total
1	Kancheepuram	10.92	1.30	12.22
2	Chengalpet	21.33	1.86	23.19
3	Thiruvallur	19.24	2.45	21.69
4	Cuddalore	8.85	0.58	9.43
5	Viluppuram	3.94	0.26	4.20
6	Kallakurichi	3.11	0.22	3.33
7	Vellore	2.89	0.36	3.25

Sl. No.	Name of the District	House tax	Property tax from Self Financing Educational Institutions	Total
			(Rupees in Crore)	
8	Ranipet	2.32	0.21	2.53
9	Thiruppathur	1.34	0.96	2.30
10	Tiruvannamalai	6.65	0.72	7.37
11	Salem	7.52	2.07	9.59
12	Namakkal	3.36	2.11	5.47
13	Dharmapuri	3.25	0.39	3.64
14	Krishnagiri	7.19	0.45	7.64
15	Erode	6.97	1.57	8.54
16	Tiruppur	8.37	0.53	8.90
17	Coimbatore	16.57	1.97	18.54
18	The Nilgiris	2.89	0.13	3.02
19	Thanjavur	11.37	0.81	12.18
20	Nagapattinam	3.78	0.30	4.08
21	Thiruvarur	2.79	0.18	2.97
22	Tiruchirappalli	6.98	1.01	7.99
23	Karur	4.31	0.64	4.95
24	Perambalur	2.06	0.49	2.55
25	Ariyalur	4.32	0.24	4.56
26	Pudukkottai	4.78	0.65	5.43
27	Madurai	7.86	0.54	8.40
28	Theni	2.56	0.21	2.77
29	Dindigul	10.36	0.77	11.13
30	Ramanathapuram	5.52	0.29	5.81
31	Virudhunagar	8.38	0.62	9.00
32	Sivaganga	5.01	0.21	5.22
33	Tirunelveli	3.84	1.04	4.88
34	Tenkasi	2.76	1.08	3.84
35	Thoothukkudi	6.22	0.23	6.45
36	Kanniyakumari	4.12	0.59	4.71
Total		233.73	28.04	261.77

ii) Professional Tax

Section 198B of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 provides for the levy and collection of professional tax payable by the employees from their salaries or wages and the employer has to deduct the same and remit to the concerned Village Panchayats. The Village Panchayats are empowered to collect professional tax and appropriate the tax amount in to Village Panchayat Fund. Accordingly, during 2019-20, an amount of Rs.117.19 crore was collected.

Table 2.10
District wise Professional tax Collection for
the year 2019-20

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Collection (Rs. in Crore)
1	Kancheepuram	15.78
2	Chengalpet	10.67
3	Thiruvallur	4.52
4	Cuddalore	3.35
5	Viluppuram	3.77
6	Kallakurichi	2.68
7	Vellore	2.34
8	Ranipet	2.69
9	Thiruppathur	1.12
10	Tiruvannamalai	4.42
11	Salem	4.53
12	Namakkal	3.05

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Collection (Rs. in Crore)
13	Dharmapuri	2.05
14	Krishnagiri	3.13
15	Erode	3.25
16	Tiruppur	2.18
17	Coimbatore	6.54
18	The Nilgiris	0.52
19	Thanjavur	2.67
20	Nagapattinam	2.13
21	Thiruvarur	1.73
22	Tiruchirappalli	4.12
23	Karur	1.93
24	Perambalur	0.43
25	Ariyalur	2.35
26	Pudukkottai	2.54
27	Madurai	3.18
28	Theni	1.31
29	Dindigul	2.88
30	Ramanathapuram	3.26
31	Virudhunagar	3.52
32	Sivaganga	2.63
33	Tirunelveli	1.15
34	Tenkasi	1.08
35	Thoothukkudi	2.99
36	Kanniyakumari	0.71
Total		117.19

iii) Advertisement Tax

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 172, 220 and 242 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, Rural Local Bodies are empowered to levy Advertisement Tax.

Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Licensing of Hoardings and Levy and Collection of Advertisement Tax) Rules, 2009, laid rules that the Government by its order shall fix the minimum and maximum rates of annual rent to be collected from the licensees for the erection of hoarding in rural areas. The Executive Authority concerned shall collect the annual rent and credit into the General Fund of the respective rural Local Body.

2.3.2. Non-Tax Revenue

The Village Panchayats are entitled to get revenue from the following sources as non-tax revenue:

- i) Licensing fee for building plan and layout approval
- ii) Fees and charges on Dangerous and Offensive trades
- iii) Market fee
- iv) Water charges
- v) Fee on cart stand
- vi) Social Forestry auctions
- vii) Fishery rentals
- viii) 2-C patta fee
- ix) Income from markets and fairs
- x) Fee from ferries
- xi) Fines and penalties

xii) Mines and Minerals seigniorage fee and lease amount

i) Layout and Building plan approval

Tamilnadu Combined Development and Building Rules, 2019 have been notified in the Tamilnadu Government Extraordinary Gazette No. 43, Dated: 04.02.2019.

The competent authority for issuing of building permit is the executive authority of local body or any agency or person to whom the powers to implement the rules have been delegated by the executive authorities.

ii)Regularization of Unapproved Plots and Layouts Rules, 2017

The Government felt that, it is important to regularise the plots in such unapproved layouts or sub-divisions so as to protect the interests of the innocent purchasers and to provide basic infrastructure facilities to them. So the Government has ordered to regularize the unapproved layouts and plots in the unapproved layouts as a one time opportunity.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 113 of the Tamil Nadu Town and Country Planning Act,1971 (Tamil Nadu Act 35 of 1972),

the Governor of Tami Nadu hereby exempts all unapproved layouts, where any or all plots are sold and registered on or before the 20th October 2016 and all unapproved plots which are sold and registered on or before the 20th October 2016 from the operation of all the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Town and Country Planning Act,1971 and makes the rules for regularization of such unauthorized layouts and plots under section 122 of the said Act.

1. Regularisation of unapproved individual plot in a sub division or layout.
2. Regularisation of unapproved layout.

Block Development Officer is a competent Authority for regularisation of unapproved individual plot in a sub-division or layout in Village Panchayats after the clearance by Directorate of Town Country and Planning.

iii) Water Charges

The Village Panchayats are levying water charges to individual house service connections in rural areas. A deposit of Rs.1000 is collected from the individual by the Village Panchayat to provide water connection. The individual also has to

make payment of Rs. 50 every month as water charges. Accordingly, a sum of Rs.91.28 crore has been collected as water charges for the year 2019-20.

2.3.3. Pooled Assigned Revenue (PAR)

The assigned revenues due to Rural Local Bodies from the proceeds of surcharge on stamp duty is being pooled at the State level for apportioning the same to the Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions.

Accordingly, the Government have sanctioned from the proceeds of surcharge on stamp duty to the tune of Rs. 1053 crore as Pooled Assigned Revenue for the year 2019-20 as detailed below:

1. One third (1/3) of total allocation an amount of Rs.351 crore has been apportioned to the Village Panchayats and the Panchayat Unions in the ratio of 67:33 based on rural population as per 2011 census i.e. Rs.234 crore for Village Panchayats and Rs.117 crore for the Panchayat Unions respectively as untied amount.
2. The balance two third (2/3) amount of Rs. 702 crore has been earmarked for 'Fund for the Priority Schemes in rural areas' for

implementing proposed specific development schemes in the rural areas.

2.3.4. Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue (SCPAR)

Scheme component of Pooled Assigned Revenue is part of the Pooled Assigned Revenue. In this component, certain ratio of Pooled Assigned Revenue is set apart for taking infrastructure works at the state level.

The Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is empowered to approve the works to be taken under the 'Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue'. A sum of Rs.702 crore has been allocated for the year 2019-20 under this component for the execution of infrastructure works such as construction of Panchayat Union Office Buildings, Bridges, Roads, etc.

Integrated Office Buildings for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department offices at district level have been sanctioned from the year 2017-18. 5 Buildings with a total cost of Rs. 32.81 crore for the year 2017-18. 6 buildings with a total cost of Rs. 38.10 crore for the year

2018-19 and 3 buildings with an approximate total cost of Rs. 21 crore for the year 2019-20 under the Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue have been allotted. Details of building allotted during the year are given in the following table:

Table 2.11

Details of Integrated Office Buildings for RD&PR

2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Theni	Kanchipuram	Tiruchirappalli
Villupuram	Tiruvallur	Krishnagiri
Virudhunagar	Tiruvannamalai	Tirunelveli
Nagapattinam	Sivagangai	
Vellore	Madurai	
	Tiruvarur	

2.4. Grants to Rural Local Bodies (RLBs):

i) State Finance Commission Grant:

The State Finance Commission has been constituted in Tamil Nadu regularly once in 5 years as mandated by 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India and Section 198 of the Tamil

Nadu Panchayats Act 1994. Major responsibilities of the State Finance Commission are:

1. Distribution of the net proceeds of taxes, duties, tolls and fees leviable by the Government between the State and the Panchayats.
2. Determination of taxes, duties, tolls and fees, which may be assigned to the Panchayats.
3. Grants to the Panchayats from the consolidated fund of the State.
4. Measures needed to improve the financial position of the Panchayats.

As per the provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, Tamil Nadu was one of the first State to establish the State Finance Commission vide G.O.Ms.No.350, Finance Department, Dated 23.04.1994. So far, five State Finance Commissions have been constituted for devolution of funds to the Local Bodies.

2.4.1. Fifth State Finance Commission

The Tamil Nadu is one of the States in India the State Finance Commissions are constituted as stipulated in the Constitution. The Fifth State Finance Commission constituted by the State Government has given its report with the

recommendations in the month of December 2016 for the award period between 2017 and 2022. The Government has accepted the recommendations of 5th State Finance Commission and accordingly, action taken report on the recommendations of the Fifth State Finance Commission was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 24th March, 2017. The following are the major recommendations for which orders are issued by the Government.

- a) 10% of State's own Tax Revenue (SoTR) will be devolved to Rural and Urban Local Bodies.
- b) Devolution grant will be shared in the ratio of 56:44 between Rural and Urban Local Bodies.
- c) The vertical sharing ratio among three tiers of Rural Local Bodies shall be 8:37:55 for District Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats.
- d) Minimum lumpsum Grant to the village Panchayats increased from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.7 lakh per year from the year 2017-18.
- e) Minimum Lumpsum Grant to Panchayat Unions increased to Rs.40 Lakhs per annum per Panchayat Union.

- f) Horizontal Distribution of SFC devolution to Rural Local Bodies will be done on the basis of the following formula:
- a) Population as per 2011 census : 60%
 - b) Area : 15%
 - c) SC/ST population : 15%
 - d) Per capita consumption
Expenditure Distance : 10%
- g) Capital Grant Fund has been established to replace the infrastructure Gap Filling Fund, which aggregates 20% of the devolution intended for Rural Local Bodies.
- h) Pooled Fund for Deficit Rural Local Bodies has been created with the aggregate 10 % of overall devolution intended for Rural Local Bodies.

The Government has provided (Budget estimate) Rs.6,573 Crore as grant to Rural Local Bodies for the year 2019-20.

2.4.2. Capital Grant Fund (CGF)

The 5th State Finance Commission has recommended for creation of Capital Grant Fund with the aggregate of 20 % of the overall devolution to Rural Local Bodies. Of this fund,

20% shall be set apart for taking up projects which are deemed to be of importance at the state level. These works shall be identified and approved by a committee comprising of the Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Director of Rural Development, a representative of the Finance Department and Member secretary, State Planning Commission. The Balance 80% will be distributed district wise, based on the formula adopted for horizontal distribution among District Panchayats. The allocation of these funds project wise shall be decided by the District Planning Committee based on detailed guidelines to be issued by the RD & PR Department in consultation with Finance and Planning and Development Department.

2.4.3. Pooled Fund for Deficit Rural Local Bodies

A 10 % of the overall devolution intended for Rural Local Bodies be credited into a Pooled Fund for deficit RLBs. 40 % of the amount available in this fund, i.e. 4 percent of the overall devolution intended for RLBs, will be disbursed in the first three years of the award period by the Director of Rural Development & PanchayatRaj

only amongst those Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats which have been in deficit for at least 3 of the last 5 years. 20% of the fund will be retained by DRD&PR and 20% distributed among the District Collectors based on the horizontal District Panchayat wise share. These funds will be utilized by DRD&PR to provide grant to those Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions who have special problems which can not be addressed under any of the existing transfer mechanism. 20% of the Pooled fund for deficit Rural Local Bodies will be provided to TWAD board to meet the deficit on Combined Water Supply Schemes (CWSS).

2.4.4. Central Finance Commission Grant

The 14th Central Finance Commission has recommended Grants-in-aid to the Village Panchayats as Basic Grant and Performance Grant. Out of the total grants-in-aid to Village Panchayats, 90% of the Grant will be the Basic Grant and 10% will be the Performance Grant. The share of Tamil Nadu under the above components to Village Panchayats for the period from 2015-16 to 2019-20 is given below:-

Table 2.12
Central Finance Commission Grant
(Rs. in crore)

Grants	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total (2015-20)
Basic Grant (Rs.)	947.65	1312.19	1516.12	1753.87	2369.86	7899.69
Performance Grant (Rs.)	--	172.12	194.78	221.20	289.64	877.74
Total	947.65	1484.31	1710.90	1975.07	2659.50	8777.43

(i) 14TH Central Finance Commission Basic Grant

For the year 2018-19 an amount of Rs.1753.87 crore has been released to Village Panchayats. All the amount basic grant has been distributed to the Village Panchayats on the basis of population to perform their basic functions such as operation and maintenance of water supply, street lights and sanitation, payment of current consumption charges to TANGEDCO and water charges to TWAD Board.

(ii) 14th Central Finance Commission Performance Grant

The 14th Central Finance Commission has recommended a detailed procedure and operational criteria, including quantum of incentives to be given for the distribution of

performance grant to the Village Panchayats. The incentives are to be decided by the State Governments concerned, subject to the following eligibility conditions:-

The Village Panchayats shall fulfill the mandatory conditions to avail the Performance Grant for the year 2017-18. i.e., submission of audited accounts and increase in Own Source Revenue (OSR) as prescribed by FFC, with the maximum cap of 5 times the basic grant allocation for the respective year to Village Panchayats

Accordingly, notification has been published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette extraordinary vide No.95, dated: 28.02.2019.

2.4.5. Preparation of Village Panchayat Development Plan

As per section 240 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 every Village Panchayat will prepare a development plan for the Village Panchayat every year. Participatory planning process is important for ensuring fair, transparent and effective utilization of funds and other resources. With this focus the Government of Tamil Nadu have issued a detailed guidelines vide G.O (Ms) No.34, Rural Development and

Panchayat Raj (PR1) Department, Dated 02.03.2016 for utilization of the Fourteenth Finance Commission Grant through grass root level planning.

The Government of India in partnership with the State Governments organised People's Plan Campaign from 2nd October to 31st December 2019 for preparing Village Panchayat Development Plan (VPDP) for the next financial year.

According to the guidelines issued by Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu the Village Panchayat Development Plan, planning process has to be comprehensive and based on participatory process which involves full convergence with Schemes of all departments related to 29 subjects listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution. The People's Plan Campaign was an intensive and structured exercise for planning at Grama Sabha level through convergence between Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) and concerned Line Departments.

As part of this Campaign, Social and Economic assessment of all Village Panchayats in the State was undertaken. This exercise was

undertaken by Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission in the Mission Antyodaya app, by appointing Community Resource Persons (CRP). The CRP team collected information from the officials of the line departments, PRIs, CBOs etc and will also go around the village and collected information and assess the gap.

A special Grama Sabhas were held in all Village Panchayats for the finalization of the Village Panchayat Development Plan for the next financial year. In this special Gram Sabha, all developmental needs of the Village Panchayat and the gaps were discussed. As per the guidelines issued by Government of India the field level workers of the line department gave a brief structured presentation regarding the activities of their respective department.

The field level workers made public disclosure before the Gram Sabha regarding progress of activities being implemented in the current year along with fund utilization for the same, as well as activities proposed to be taken up during the next year and funds to be allocated for the same. The public disclosure in the form of

statement is to be submitted to the Gram Panchayat for incorporating in the GPDP plans, once the same is approved by the Gram Sabha.

2.5. Panchayat Union

At the intermediate level, there are 388 Panchayat Unions (Block Panchayats) in the State. The Panchayat Union, otherwise called as Block Panchayat is divided into territorial wards for a minimum of every 5,000 population. The Panchayat Union ward members are directly elected from territorial wards and the Panchayat Union Chairperson is elected indirectly from among ward members.

Table 2.13
Details of Panchayat Unions based on
Number of Village Panchayats

Range of Village Panchayats in Panchayat Unions	Number of Panchayat Unions
10 & Less than 10	23
11-20	80
21-30	82
31-40	83
41-50	66
51 and above	54
Total	388

The District wise details of Panchayat Unions, Village Panchayats and area are given below:

Table 2.14
District-wise details of Panchayat Unions

Sl. No.	District	No. of Panchayat Unions	No. of Village Panchayats	Average No. of Panchayats per union	Rural Area (in Sq. km)	Average Area per Panchayat Union (in Sq. km)
1	Kancheepuram	5	274	55	1539.19	121.47
2	Chengalpet	8	359	45	2312.56	174.80
3	Thiruvallur	14	526	38	2859.84	204.27
4	Cuddalore	14	683	49	2942.24	226.33
5	Viluppuram	13	688	53	3606.96	201.20
6	Kallakurichi	9	412	46	2902.47	94.68
7	Vellore	7	247	35	1207.13	62.35
8	Ranipet	7	288	41	1620.58	74.41
9	Thiruppathur	6	208	35	1194.59	64.36
10	Tiruvannamalai	18	860	48	4826.27	268.13
11	Salem	20	385	19	4561.41	228.07
12	Namakkal	15	322	21	3119.43	207.96
13	Dharmapuri	10	251	25	4407.43	550.93
14	Krishnagiri	10	333	33	4965.73	496.57
15	Erode	14	225	16	2626.99	187.64
16	Tiruppur	13	265	20	4545.50	349.65
17	Coimbatore	12	228	19	2534.24	211.19
18	The Nilgiris	4	35	9	1170.39	292.60
19	Thanjavur	14	589	42	3657.67	261.26
20	Nagapattinam	11	434	39	2400.31	218.21
21	Thiruvaur	10	430	43	2322.69	232.27
22	Tiruchirappalli	14	404	29	4028.00	287.71
23	Karur	8	157	20	2656.25	332.03

Sl. No.	District	No. of Panchayat Unions	No. of Village Panchayats	Average No. of Panchayats per union	Rural Area (in Sq. km)	Average Area per Panchayat Union (in Sq. km)
24	Perambalur	4	121	30	1609.54	402.39
25	Ariyalur	6	201	34	1710.17	285.03
26	Pudukkottai	13	497	38	4433.78	341.06
27	Madurai	13	420	32	3183.18	244.86
28	Theni	8	130	16	1159.89	144.99
29	Dindigul	14	306	22	4401.34	314.38
30	Ramanathapura	11	429	39	4116.19	374.20
31	Virudhunagar	11	450	41	3282.08	298.37
32	Sivaganga	12	445	37	3075.90	256.33
33	Tirunelveli	9	204	23	2277.48	103.69
34	Tenkasi	10	221	22	2005.58	99.18
35	Thoothukkudi	12	403	34	4260.78	355.07
36	Kanniyakumari	9	95	11	626.14	69.57
Total		388	12,525	33	1,04,149.92	270.52

The Block Development Officer (Block Panchayat) is the Executive Authority of the Panchayat Union. He is assisted by administrative and technical wings. According to section 112 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 Panchayat Union Council performs the following important functions:-

1. Construction, repair and maintenance of classified Panchayat Union roads and bridges, culverts and causeways on such roads.

2. Construction and maintenance of Panchayat Union Elementary and Middle Schools.
3. Construction and maintenance of water bodies i.e., Minor irrigation tanks, ponds and ooranies under the control of Panchayat Unions.
4. Taking preventive and remedial measures to control any epidemic outbreak.
5. Conducting fairs and festivals classified by the Panchayat Union Council.
6. Opening and Maintenance of Panchayat Union Markets.

As per section 114 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 the Government may entrust schemes, programmes and activities to Panchayat Unions for economic development, for execution and implementation.

2.5.1. Finance

1. The Panchayat Union Council cannot levy taxes.
2. It can avail non-tax revenues, assigned/shared revenues such as a portion of the pooled assigned revenue, fees and charges, rentals, fines and penalties.
3. The Grants of State Finance Commission which consists of Population Grant and Minimum Lumpsum Grant released to Panchayat Unions.

As per Fifth State Finance Commission's recommendation, Minimum Lumpsum Grant is increased to Rs.40 Lakhs per annum per Panchayat Union.

2.5.2 Infrastructure of Panchayat Unions

All the 385 Panchayat Unions have permanent office buildings. The aged and dilapidated buildings are reconstructed under Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue (SCPAR) and 99 Panchayat Union Office Buildings have been built with an estimated cost of Rs.206.23 crore between the year 2011-12 and 2018-19.

2.5.3. Water Source Structures

Ponds and Ooranies and Minor Irrigation Tanks in rural areas are some of the important assets of Rural Local Bodies. The District wise number of Ponds/Ooranies and MI tanks are given below:

Table 2.15
District wise details of Ponds / Ooranies and MI Tanks

S.No.	District	MI Tanks	Ooranies / Ponds
1	Kancheepuram	379	2079
2	Chengalpet	642	2488

S.No.	District	MI Tanks	Ooranies / Ponds
3	Thiruvallur	657	3189
4	Cuddalore	219	2559
5	Viluppuram	361	1814
6	Kallakurichi	794	3299
7	Vellore	130	624
8	Ranipet	202	1431
9	Thiruppathur	240	267
10	Tiruvannamalai	1277	4328
11	Salem	193	566
12	Namakkal	128	596
13	Dharmapuri	546	504
14	Krishnagiri	1071	1301
15	Erode	22	623
16	Tiruppur	0	1101
17	Coimbatore	9	620
18	The Nilgiris	0	0
19	Thanjavur	52	3470
20	Nagapattinam	0	4620
21	Thiruvarur	0	4164
22	Tiruchirappalli	1118	1798
23	Karur	107	832
24	Perambalur	132	1219
25	Ariyalur	471	1780
26	Pudukkottai	3976	5356
27	Madurai	903	2287
28	Theni	26	465
29	Dindigul	1060	1529
30	Ramanathapuram	932	3519
31	Virudhunagar	719	2962
32	Sivaganga	4224	4430
33	Tirunelveli	333	177
34	Tenkasi	409	479
35	Thoothukkudi	402	1498
36	Kanniyakumari	211	197
Total		21,945	68,171

2.6. District Panchayat

There are 36 District Panchayats. District Panchayat has been constituted in each District as per section 24 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. The ward members are elected directly whereas the Chairperson is indirectly elected from among the ward members.

In continuation of creation of 5 new revenue districts, five new District Panchayats namely Chengalpattu, Kallakurichi, Tirupathur, Ranipet and Tenkasi District Panchayats have been constituted by reorganizing the Blocks from the erstwhile districts. These District Panchayats will become functional immediately after the forthcoming elections to these Rural Local Bodies.

A Secretary in the cadre of Assistant Director from the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is appointed in each District Panchayat and assisted by the supporting staff. The District Panchayat constitutes the following Standing Committees to coordinate with the line departments such as:

1. Food and Agriculture
2. Industries and Labour

3. Public Works
4. Education
5. Health and Welfare including Prohibition

The District Panchayat may constitute additional standing committees for such purposes as it deems fit. Each Standing Committee shall elect its own Chairperson from among its members who are elected members of the District Panchayat. The Chairperson of the District Panchayat shall be the ex-officio member in all the Standing Committees.

2.6.1. Functions

1. Preparation of development plan for the District.
2. Compilation of administration reports of Village Panchayats and Panchayat Union Councils in the District and preparation of Annual Report for the District.
3. Planning and review of the schemes of Agriculture and Land Development, Animal Husbandry, Dairy, Poultry, Fisheries and Rural Industries.

4. Planning and review of rural housing programme, in particular, the housing for SCs/STs.
5. Identification of major water supply schemes.

2.6.2. Finance

The District Panchayat has no taxation powers. The State Finance Commission Grant is the main source of revenue. In certain District Panchayats, income from their own properties like lands and buildings, constitute the major source of income. 8% of the rural share of Devolution Grant is given to the District Panchayats, which is released on a monthly basis.

2.6.3. District Planning Committee

The institution of District Planning Committee is envisaged in the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act 1992 and the District Planning Committee has been constituted in all the 31 Districts. District Panchayat Chairperson is the Chairperson and District Collector is the Vice Chairperson of the Committee. MPs, MLAs and the representatives of Local Bodies are appointed as members subject to the norms and ceiling prescribed. The functions of the District Planning Committee are:

1. Collection, Compilation and Updation of information on the natural resources of the district to create a comprehensive database for decentralized planning.
2. Identification of priority needs.
3. Determination of policies, programmes and priorities for development of the district.
4. Consolidating the plans of rural local bodies and urban local bodies for the preparation of district plan. This consolidated plan facilitates the State Planning Commission in preparing State Plan.
5. Monitoring and Evaluation of various developmental programmes in the district.
6. Encouraging the participation of Voluntary Organizations in the development process.
7. Advising the State Government in the implementation of State Schemes.
8. Any other function that may be entrusted by the State Government.

In addition to the functions mentioned above, as per the recommendation of the Fifth State Finance Commission, Government by its order created the Capital Grant Fund with

aggregate of 20 percent of the overall devolution to Rural Local Bodies. Of this fund, 80% will be distributed district wise, based on the formula adopted for horizontal distribution among District Panchayats. The allocation of these funds project wise shall be decided by the District Planning Committee based on the detailed guidelines issued by the RD & PR Department in consultation with Finance and Planning and Development Department.

2.7. Public Financial Management System (PFMS)

The Rural Local Bodies undertake various functions to provide and maintain basic amenities and infrastructural development works for the benefit of the rural community from own source of revenue and also from the grants received from both Central and State government.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has evolved efficient financial management systems and procedures for PRIs and has issued detailed guidelines for budgeting, accounting, book keeping, transactions, audit, etc.

There is a need to effectively monitor the transactions and the expenditure of PRI accounts on a real time basis so as to improve efficient fund utilization.

Therefore all accounts maintained by Village Panchayats and all Grant and Own Source Revenue accounts of the Block Panchayats and District Panchayats have been brought under Public Financial Management System (PFMS). PFMS is a common electronic platform for complete tracking of fund flows from the Government to large number of programme implementing agencies until it reaches the final intended beneficiaries or vendors.

In this regard, Government has issued orders vide G.O.(Ms) No. 104 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) department, dated: 26.07.2018 and G.O.(Ms) No. 133 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) department, dated: 18.09.2018 for effective implementation of PFMS in RLBs.

36 District Panchayats, 388 Block Panchayats, 12,525 Village Panchayats are treated as individual agency and registered in the PFMS

Platform at State, District, Block and Village Panchayat level.

2.7.1. Advantages of PFMS

- It enables real time monitoring of disbursements and utilization of funds and also provides decision support system across departments, institutions and offices.
- It tracks any unnecessary parking of funds by the implementing agencies.
- Minimizes the delay and pending payments.
- It promotes transparency and tangible improvements in the overall financial management and implementation of various schemes.
- It ensures plugging of leakages and eliminating ghost beneficiaries.

2.8. Ban on one time use and throwaway Plastics

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has made an announcement under rule 110 on the floor of the Assembly on 05.06.2018 that there will be ban on production, storage, usage, etc., of one-time use and throwaway plastics in the State with effect from 01.01.2019.

In continuation to the above, the Government under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has issued orders banning the one-time use and throwaway plastics irrespective of thickness with effect from 01.01.2019 and the same has been published in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette vide Tamil Nadu Government Gazette No.226, Dated: 27.06.2018.

Tamilnadu Act No. 13 of 2019 has been enacted to amend section 243 and 244 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 and inserted new schedule to impose penalties for breach of byelaws.

According to section 244 (1) of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, the Panchayat may make bye-laws for carrying out any of the purposes for which it is constituted and for the prevention of storage, supply, transport, sale and distribution of use and throwaway plastics.

Under section 244 (2-A) of the Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act, 1994, the Panchayat has been enabled to make a bye-law to provide that any person who commits the breach in the matter relating to the use of one time use and throwaway

plastics shall be liable to pay by way of penalty such sum as fixed by the Panchayat not exceeding the amount specified in the Schedule III-A.

Table 2.16
Schedule III-A Penalties for breach of by – laws made under section 244 (2-A)

Sl. No.	Offences	Fine for first time offence.	Fine for second time offence	Fine for third time offence
1.	Storage, supply. Transport, sale and distribution of use and throwaway plastics.	Twenty five thousand rupees.	Fifty thousand rupees.	One lakh rupees
2.	Use and distribution of use and throwaway plastics in large commercial establishments like malls, textile shops and super markets.	Ten thousand rupees.	Fifteen thousand rupees.	Twenty five thousand rupees.
3.	Use and distribution of use and throwaway plastics in medium commercial establishments like grocery shops and pharmaceuticals shops.	One thousand rupees.	Two thousand rupees.	Five thousand rupees.
4.	Use and distribution of use and throwaway plastics in Small commercial vendors.	One hundred rupees	Two hundred rupees	Five hundred rupees

There are 42 Plastic Shredding units functioning in Rural areas. The shredded pellets are mixed with tar for laying eco-friendly roads. Since 2011-12, 8,312 MT of quantity of plastic pellets have been used to lay 7,764 Roads covering 13,985 kms.

Total number of 12120 Awareness campaigns & IEC activities conducted regarding Ban on one time use and throwaway plastics in rural areas. Shops/Commercial Establishments are inspected by field officials and 88.21 MT Quantum of banned plastics have been seized and fine imposed to the defaulters to the tune of Rs. 16.81 Lakhs as on 31.12.2019.

2.9. Industrial Building permit through Single Window portal of MSME Department

Tamil Nadu Business Facilitation Act and Rules 2018, stipulates the time line for uploading of inspection remarks / raising queries and issuing of industrial building permit and licence.

For this purpose, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Department has introduced single window portal for issuing industrial licencing. After launching of Single Window portal, the applications

are received only through online from the financial year 2018-19. The portal developed by MSME Department is being used by the Block officials of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj to enter the remarks based on field inspection and records.

As per the Business Facilitation Rules, 2018, inspection report / queires has to be uploaded in the single window portal within 7 days. If the applicant fulfills all the requirements, the demand will be uploaded in the portal by the Block Development Officer. Once the fee is remitted by the applicant through online, the approval should be accorded within 14 days.

2.10. Jal Jeevan Mission

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) has been launched in partnership with States, to enable every household in villages to have Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) in the next 5 years (2020 - 2025). It is envisaged that with FHTC, each household will have potable water supply in adequate quantity of prescribed quality on regular and long-term basis. To implement the mission, institutional arrangements at various levels have

been made and State level Departments are to play a critical role. To implement the scheme, certain committees have to be constituted at the State level, District level and Village Panchayat level. The scheme will be implemented by convergence of both Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and Tamil Nadu Water supply and Drainage (TWAD) Board.

At the Village level, provision of Functional Household Tap Connection will be monitored by Village level water and sanitation Committee. To implement the scheme, the detailed guidelines will be issued.

2.11. Bio-Diversity Management Committee (BMC)

Section 41 (1) of the Biological Diversity act, 2002, stated that every local body shall constitute a Biodiversity Management committee within its area for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biodiversity. As per Rule 22 of the Biological Diversity Rules 2004 and Rule 20 of the Tamil Nadu Biological Diversity Rules, 2017, the Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) should be

constituted. This committee should be constituted in all three tiers of RLBs.

The Biodiversity Management Committee as constituted under sub-rule (1) shall consist of a Chairperson and not more than six persons nominated by the local body, of whom not less than one-third should be women and not less than 18% should belong to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes. Village Panchayat President will be ex-officio member of this Committee.

2.12. Awards

Various awards have been instituted by the Government of India to motivate and felicitate the initiatives and efforts taken by the three tiers of Panchayat Raj Institutions.

2.12.1. e-Panchayat Puraskar Award, 2018

e-Panchayat puraskar Award is given by the Government of India to the States. e-Panchayat is one of the Mission Mode Projects under National e-Governance plan to transform the functioning of Panchayat Raj Institutions to be more transparent, accountable and making them effective organs of decentralized self-governance. Tamil Nadu has

been awarded First prize under the category II-A of e-Panchayat Puraskar Award for effective implementation of ICT Tools.

2.12.2. Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar (PSP) awards

Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar (PSP) awards have been instituted by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India with a view to support, encourage and facilitate the State to devolve more functions, functionaries and finances to the Panchayats and build their capacities. Every year 1 District Panchayat, 2 Panchayat Unions and 6 Village Panchayats have been awarded for their outstanding performance. From 2011 onwards Tamil Nadu has received 69 Awards.

2.12.3. Rashtriya Gaurav Grama Sabha Puraskar (RGGSP)

RGGSP has been instituted by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India from the year 2012 to encourage and honour the Gram Panchayats for their outstanding performance through effective Grama Sabha. From 2012 onwards Tamil Nadu has received 7 Awards.

In the year 2019 Ravanapuram Village Panchayat of Tiruppur District has been selected for this award.

2.12.4. Child Friendly Village Panchayat Award

This Award has been instituted by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India from the year 2019 to encourage and honour the Gram Panchayats for their contribution towards the welfare of child friendly activities. In the year 2019, Patteeswaram Village Panchayat of Tanjore District has been selected for Child Friendly Village Panchayat Award.

3. State Schemes

3.1. Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS)

Objective of the scheme

The flagship scheme of Government of Tamil Nadu, Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS) was launched by Government of Tamil Nadu in the year 2011 to provide pucca houses with basic amenities to all the poor living in rural areas along with Solar Powered Home Lighting System. Under this free housing scheme, three lakh Green houses were constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.5,940 crore between 2011-12 and 2015-16.

The scheme is predominantly beneficiary oriented and the unit cost provided under the scheme is higher than other rural housing schemes and it is a very popular scheme among the people of Tamil Nadu. Hence, this scheme was extended for another five years for the benefit of the poor in rural areas and with unit cost of Rs.2.10 lakh (Rs.1.80 lakh for house construction and Rs.0.30 Lakh for Solar Powered Home Lighting System) fully funded by State Government. It was proposed to construct one lakh Green houses over a period of five years at the rate of 20,000 houses

every year commencing from the year 2016-17. Besides construction works, the installation of solar home lighting system is also executed through Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

Salient features of the Scheme

- Each house is built with an area of 300 square feet at an unit cost of Rs.2.10 lakh fully funded by the State Government. Out of this, Rs.1.80 Lakh is allotted for construction and is Rs.0.30 Lakh for Solar Powered Light.
- The construction of house is being carried out by the beneficiaries themselves.
- The installation of Solar Powered lights will be taken up by the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.
- Each house has a living room, bed room, kitchen, toilet and verandah along with rain water harvesting structure.
- Each house is provided with 5 Solar Powered Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights, one each in bed room, living room, kitchen, toilet and verandah. Each beneficiary is given the option to have an electric connection

powered by TANGEDCO, which will be metered.

- The payment of bills for the construction work done by the beneficiaries are credited directly to the beneficiaries' bank account in the following four stages:
 1. Basement level
 2. Lintel level
 3. Roof laid stage
 4. Completion stage
- Green Houses are constructed either in situ (replacing his/her existing dwelling structure) or on the land owned by the beneficiary elsewhere in the Village Panchayat.

Convergence with MGNREGS

- In addition to the unit cost, as a convergence measure, each beneficiary is paid the notified wage rate in force under MGNREGS towards the utilization of 90 persondays for the construction of the house. (90 x Rs.229 = Rs.20,610)
- Further, a sum of Rs.12,000 is provided to the beneficiary for construction of Individual

House Hold Latrine (IHHL) in convergence with MGNREGS.

- Apart from these, cement is provided to the beneficiaries at subsidized rate. Further steel, doors & windows are also provided based on the need of the beneficiaries and the proportionate cost for supply of materials is deducted from the payments due to the beneficiaries.

Eligibility of the Beneficiaries

The beneficiary should;

- Be a poor and resident of the Village Panchayat concerned.
- Should not own any other pucca concrete house in the village or elsewhere.
- Should not have been benefitted under any other housing scheme of the Government.
- Own a site of not less than 300 sq.ft. area.
- Have clear title for the site/house in the name of the head of the family or any other member of the household.

Mode of Selection of Beneficiaries

- The beneficiaries are selected from the poor and priority is given for the PIP list prepared by erstwhile PVP, TNSRLM.

- The list is prioritized depending on their vulnerability and is subjected to the approval of Grama Sabha.
- While preparing the list of beneficiaries, priority should be given to differently abled, widows, destitute and deserted women, women headed families, Ex-servicemen and retired members of the Paramilitary forces, families having severely malnourished children (as identified by the ICDS Department), transgenders, HIV/AIDS/TB affected persons who are certified by the Deputy Director (Health Services) concerned and victims of natural calamities such as fire, flood, etc., Priority shall also be given to households having a mentally challenged person in the family.
- Out of the total allocation of 20,000 houses in a year, 29% is allotted to Scheduled Castes i.e., 5,800 houses, 1% is allotted to Scheduled Tribes i.e., 200 houses and the remaining 70% is allotted to others (other than SC/ST) i.e., 14,000 houses.
- 4% of the District-wise allocation is reserved exclusively for differently abled persons across all categories.

Achievements under CMSPGHS

- 3,40,000 Green Houses have been constructed at a total estimate cost of Rs.6,780 crore from the year 2011-12 to 2017-18.
- 40,000 Green Houses have been taken up at a total estimate cost of Rs.840 crore for the year 2018-19 and 2019-20. Out of this, 16,047 houses have been completed and the remaining houses are under progress at various stages.
- Further, under this scheme 20,000 houses will be taken up for construction including 8,803 houses for the tribal families to ensure 100% coverage at a total estimate cost of Rs.420 crore for the year 2020-21. The amount of Rs.30,000 per house intended for installation of Solar lights will be merged with the civil construction cost of the house and the overall cost of construction per house will now be Rs.2.10 lakh.

Affordable and clean energy is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations. Solar energy is sustainable, renewable and affordable which reduces the dependence on conventional electricity sources.

The Solar lights installed in Green houses is a clean energy source which is eco-friendly and promote the green energy in rural areas. The houses constructed under CMSPGHS act as a source of Green energy and considerably contribute for the achievement of one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of United Nations.

3.2. Rural Infrastructure – Roads

The Rural Roads consisting of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads are under the purview of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. The section 110 and 112 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 ordains that the Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads are to be maintained by the respective Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions.

The rural road network has grown exponentially in the last decade and has increased by about 45%. The Government has long recognized the importance of rural roads, since these roads serve as lifelines for the rural people by providing them access to various socio-economic services like health, education and

markets. Thus, the Government has been according special focus for the improvement and maintenance of the rural roads through various measures, as detailed below:

- i. Increased allocation of funds for the improvement of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads from various State and Centrally sponsored schemes.
- ii. Segmental approach towards improvement of rural roads based on the surface condition of the road.
- iii. Prioritization based on roads connecting unconnected habitations, Link roads connecting amenities like Markets, Shandies, Schools, Colleges, Hospitals, Bus plying roads and interconnecting link roads etc.,
- iv. Consolidation of road network data by updating all the missed out roads in rural areas and periodically updating newly formed roads and also assigning each Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union road with a unique 'Road Code'.
- v. Upgradation of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads as Other District Roads (ODRs).
- vi. Construction of roads using various Research & Development technologies.

Considering the continuous evolution of the rural road network, the updation of the list of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads is a continuous process. The current status of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads are given below:

**Table 3.1
Panchayat Union and Village Panchayat
Roads**

Sl.No	Type of Surface	Panchayat Union Roads	Village Panchayat Roads	Total
		Length in 'Km'		
1	Black topped	26,471	72,065	98,536
2	Cement concrete	308	3,313	3,621
3	Double layer WBM	144	1,936	2,080
4	Single Layer WBM	365	8,417	8,782
5	Gravel	162	4,756	4,918
6	Earthen	994	29,619	30,613
	Total	28,444	1,20,106	1,48,550

The Government had announced that "Important bus plying local body roads will be upgraded and reclassified as Other District Roads (ODR)". Accordingly, 4,822 Km length of roads have been handed over to Highways department for upgradation as ODRs. As on date, there are 1.48 Lakh Km length of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads. The complete details of the Village Panchayat and Panchayat union roads are available in the tnrd.gov.in website.

Since 2011, considerable improvements have been made in the rural road network which is evident from the following,

- a) About 46,000 Km length of roads has been included as Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads including 6,000 Km length of single layer WBM roads formed under MGNREGS.
- b) 29,910 Km length of Non-BT roads have been upgraded to BT standards.
- c) 42,254 Km length of damaged BT roads have been strengthened.
- d) 18,109 Km existing BT roads have been resurfaced.
- e) 1,885 Km length of roads have been sanctioned using various R&D technologies and in addition to this 14,216 Km length of roads has been taken up using waste plastic.
- f) Sanctions accorded for construction of 1,358 high level bridges and causeways in Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads.
- g) An amount of Rs.20,153 crore sanctioned for improving 90,273 Km length of village panchayat and panchayat union roads.

Components of Rural Roads Improvement

The following components are taken up in the improvement of rural roads:

1. Upgradation of Non-Black Topped (Non-BT) roads to Black Topped (BT) Roads.
2. Strengthening of existing damaged BT roads.
3. Maintenance and renewal of the existing BT roads.

1. Upgradation of Non-BT roads to BT Roads

The upgradation of important Non-BT roads as BT roads is taken based on priority considering various factors like connectivity, utility services connected etc. In the last 9 years, 29,910 Km length of Non-BT roads have been taken for upgradation at a cost of Rs.7,025.38 crore.

2. Strengthening of damaged BT roads

The existing BT roads which have completed their design life and require strengthening to cater to the existing traffic conditions are taken under this category. In the last 9 years, about 42,254 Km length of roads have been taken under this category at a cost of Rs.11,164.84 crore.

3. Maintenance and renewal of the Black Topped roads

The roads which have completed 5 years after last improvement are taken for periodic surface renewal. In the last 9 years, the department has taken 18,109 Km length of BT roads for renewal under this category at a cost of Rs.1,962.52 crore.

The funds required for Rural Roads improvement are being met from various schemes like Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Improvement Scheme (TNRRIIS), Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue (SCPAR), NABARD-Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), State Finance Commission Grants, Central Finance Commission Grants and other state schemes.

Bridges and Causeways

The bridges on Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads were being constructed through Highways Department. However, in the last 9 years, this department has been taking up construction of major bridge works under various

schemes. In the last 9 years, the department has sanctioned 658 high level bridges at a total cost of Rs.955.60 Crore under various State and Central schemes and 700 minor bridges and causeways were taken at an estimate cost of Rs.210.59 Crore under MGNREGS. Totally, 1,358 bridges and causeways were taken at a cost of Rs.1,166.19 crore as given below:

Table 3.2
Details of Bridges and Causeways taken up since 2011-12

Sl. No	Year	No. of works taken up	Amount (Rs. In crore)
1	2011-12	30	45.74
2	2012-13	27	31.22
3	2013-14	93	116.40
4	2014-15	113	155.85
5	2015-16	64	112.62
6	2016-17	79	137.48
7	2017-18	65	88.22
8	2018-19	422	221.65
9	2019-20	465	257.01
Total		1,358	1,166.19

3.3. Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Improvement Scheme (TNRRIS)

The vast network of rural roads in Tamil Nadu requires optimized funding so that there is a balance between maintenance of existing roads and construction of new roads.

In order to ensure this, the Government introduced a comprehensive scheme during the year 2015-2016 called the Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Improvement Scheme (TNRRIS) by merging various roads schemes.

The scheme was implemented with an allocation of Rs.800 crore from 2015-16 to 2017-18 and the Government sanctioned an annual allocation of Rs.1200 crore for the year 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Features of TNRRIS

- i. TNRRIS provides adequate flexibility to the Districts in the selection of various types of roads based on local needs.
- ii. The scheme is implemented under three streams. The Upgradation of Non-BT roads as BT roads, Strengthening of the existing damaged BT roads and Periodic Maintenance of existing damaged BT roads.

Table 3.3
Details of road works taken under TNRRIS

Sl. No	Year	Nos.	Length (in Km)	Value (Rs. in crore)
1	2015-16	2,385	4,225.10	800
2	2016-17	2,567	4,650.62	800

Sl. No	Year	Nos.	Length (in Km)	Value (Rs. in crore)
3	2017-18	2,201	3,913.83	800
4	2018-19	3,278	5,532.04	1,200
5	2019-20	3,018	5,030.31	1,200
TOTAL		13,449	23,351.90	4,800

During 2020-21 the scheme will be implemented with an allocation of Rs.1,400 Crore.

3.4. NABARD-Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)

NABARD had set up Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) in 1995-96, to extend financial assistance to the State Governments, Government owned Corporations, Village Panchayats, Self Help Groups and Non-Government Organisations for taking up of infrastructure projects in rural areas. The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department utilises this fund to strengthen damaged Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads and also for upgrading the Non-BT roads to BT standard. The provision of bridges is another important component under NABARD-RIDF. The scheme is fully sponsored by State Government through 80% loan from NABARD.

In the last 9 years, 7,985.26 Km length of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads and 317 bridges were taken for construction at a cost of Rs.2,251.32 crore under this scheme.

The year-wise details of road and bridge works taken under NABARD-RIDF in the last 9 years are given below:

Table 3.4
Details of Road and Bridge Works taken
under NABARD-RIDF in the last 9 years
(From 2011-12 to 2019-20)

Sl. No	Year	Nos.	Length (in Km)	Value (Rs in crore)
1	2011-12	958	2,598.65	451.77
2	2012-13	381	1,000.46	198.07
3	2013-14	185	367.63	100.00
4	2014-15	615	1,183.03	339.61
5	2015-16	232	369.92	160.20
6	2016-17	297	510.31	229.00
7	2017-18	549	993.17	316.32
8	2018-19	421	738.25	255.82
9	2019-20	262	223.84	200.53
TOTAL		3,900	7,985.26	2,251.32

3.5. Minor Link Roads

Improvements to roads of length less than 1Km

The improvement of the Village Panchayat and Panchayat union roads are being made with huge investment of funds from various schemes

like TNRRIS, PMGSY, NABARD, etc. However, these schemes do not provide scope for taking up roads of less than 1 Km length. The Government considering that these roads also serve as important link roads sanctioned an amount of Rs.225 crore during 2018-19 under 20% share of Capital Grant Fund.

Accordingly, 2,397 Km length of minor link roads having a length of less than 1 Km were taken during the year 2018-19. Similarly, during 2019-20 a total amount of Rs.300 crore was allocated, Rs.262.94 crore from 20% share of Capital Grant Fund and Rs.37.06 crore from District Panchayat share of State Finance Commission, for the improvements of minor link roads.

The Scheme wise details of road works taken in the last 9 years are given below:

Table 3.5
Scheme wise Details of Road Works taken in the last 9 years (2011-12 to 2019-20)

Sl.No	Name of the Scheme		Length (in Km)	Amount (Rs. in crore)
		State Schemes		
1.	Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Improvement Scheme (TNRRIS)		23,351.89	4,800.00

Sl.No	Name of the Scheme		Length (in Km)	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2.	Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue (SCPAR)		3,581.27	1,028.24
3.	Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvements Scheme (THAI)		9,723.97	1,487.54
4.	20% Capital Grant Fund (less than 1 Km roads)		1,911.35	487.66
5.	Rural Infrastructure Scheme (RIS)		4,318.92	616.67
6.	Bus Plying Road Improvement Scheme (BPRIS)		1,399.28	300.00
7.	State Finance Commission Grants (SFC)		4,846.69	1,095.65
8.	Rural Road Maintenance Scheme (RRMS)		3,649.19	381.07
9	Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS)		1,551.95	247.18
10.	NABARD-RIDF		7,985.26	2,103.35
11.	Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy Development Fund (EPREDF)		429.87	37.50
12.	Other Schemes		9,492.79	2,330.89
Sub Total			72,242.43	14,915.75
Central Schemes				
13.	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)		7,849.79	3,883.81
14.	Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)		1,032.00	168.21
15	13th Finance Commission Grants		6,573.13	622.00
16.	14th Central Finance Commission Grants		2,575.61	562.97
Sub Total			18,030.53	5,236.99
Grand Total			90,272.96	20,152.74

Quality Control

Quality Control is an integral part of any project to ensure the objective and functionality for which the works are implemented. The Rural Development Department is executing various rural infrastructure development projects through various State and Central schemes and in order to ensure proper quality, the department has institutionalized a systematic Quality Control (QC) mechanism,

1. The department adopts a two tier system of QC in the state.
2. The quality control mechanism includes the departmental officers at State, District, Sub division and Block level. They ensure quality in all scheme works implemented by the department.
3. Project Implementation Unit (PIU)(first tier) comprising of district and block level officers are responsible for implementation of the projects. They ensure the quality of materials and workmanship by conducting various quality tests at the time of execution.
4. The department has appointed retired government officials with adequate experience

as State Quality Monitors (SQMs) (second tier). The SQMs are being deputed to the districts to inspect the works, as a third party check. They inspect both Central and State Government schemes. In addition to the existing SQMs, 28 State Quality Monitors have been newly appointed to strengthen the 2nd tier QC mechanism.

5. In addition to this, under PMGSY scheme, National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are deployed by the Government of India to inspect the works taken up under the scheme which acts as a 3rd tier mechanism for the scheme.
6. Both NQMs and SQMs carry out monthly inspections at different stages of work and evaluate the quality of material and workmanship and also provide quality related guidance for field officials. The NQMs and SQMs submit their observations based on which the PIUs submit the Action Taken Reports (ATRs) regularly.
7. The department had established a state level QC lab with all major lab equipments. In addition, QC labs have also been established at regional and district level with all necessary quality control test equipments.

8. As an innovative measure, 5 Mobile Quality Control Labs were established by the department. This enables a real time on site conduct of tests even in remote and far flung areas.

Training

The department deutes the field engineers to various training programmes so as to improve their skill level and also to keep them abreast with the latest technologies. This will also help in ensuring better quality of work at field level.

During 2019-20, 1067 engineers were deputed to various training programmes organized by state and national level agencies like State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE), Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), Engineering Staff College of India (ESCI), etc

Research and Development (R&D) Technology Initiatives

The Government with an objective of reducing dependence on the depleting conventional construction materials has been promoting green and environmental friendly technologies.

These technologies include Cold mix, Stabilisation using chemicals, cement, Fly ash, Industrial waste etc. These technologies are mainly adopted in TNRRIS and PMGSY schemes.

The details of R&D technology-New Initiative works taken up so far are given below:

Table 3.6
Details of R&D technology works- New Initiative

Sl. No	Scheme	New Technology	Length (in Km)	Value (Rs in crore)
1	PMGSY	Plastic waste (Wet process)	130.32	68.56
2		Cold Mix/Surface Dressing	216.59	162.98
3		RCCP/CC Block	5.45	2.73
4		Coir/Jute Geo textile	52.82	25.10
5		Pavement Stabilization (i) Chemical	574.89	376.77
6		(ii) Industrial waste	34.71	15.76
7		(iii) Cement	99.71	47.73
8		(iv) Soil	152.08	116.54
		Sub Total	1,266.57	816.17
1	TNRRIS	Cold Mix	28.91	4.70
2		Plastic waste (Wet process)	307.19	57.40
3		Pavement Stabilization (i) Chemical	198.50	59.26
4		(ii) Industrial waste	2.30	0.80
5		(iii) Soil	37.75	10.65
6		(iv) Cement	44.11	12.64
		Sub Total	618.76	145.45
		Grand Total	1,885.33	961.62

Through the use of R&D Technologies, the over dependence on natural resources is reduced showing the commitment of the Government towards Climate Change mitigation.

Plastic Roads

The use of waste plastics in road construction was introduced by the Government during 2004-05. During 2011-12, the Government provided Rs.140 lakhs for setting up 35 plastic waste collection and processing centres. The use of waste plastic provides environmental benefit and also livelihood opportunities for SHG women.

The department took up laying of waste plastic roads through schemes like Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Improvement Scheme (TNRRIS), NABARD-Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and also in other state and central schemes.

As a result of this, since 2011-12, about 14,216 Km length of roads have been taken using waste plastic technology at a cost of Rs.2,384.40 crore under various schemes.

Asset Maintenance and Management

The department is creating various infrastructure amenities in the rural areas. This includes roads, bridges, buildings and other utilities. The serviceability of these assets depends on the maintenance of these facilities in their original condition.

As indicated above, the department is spending huge amount of funds for the improvement of the rural roads. Hence, in order to ensure continuous maintenance of roads, the department has adopted the "Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Maintenance Policy" for the maintenance of all Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads in the state. The policy provides for Routine maintenance of the roads, Periodic renewal and Emergency repairs.

The department has developed uniform type designs for School buildings, office buildings, Anganwadi buildings, Toilets, etc., taken up under various State and Central schemes. So far, 32 type designs have been developed. The maintenance of these buildings are taken up through state schemes and general funds of the local bodies.

The use of GIS for asset maintenance and management is well known. The department has set up a GIS wing in the Directorate for digitization of various information in spatial form and also to develop GIS platform for planning, selection of works and asset management.

The spatial information including the Village Panchayat Boundary, Block Boundary, Roads, Water Bodies, Habitations have been digitized and the department has completed the geo-tagging of roads. In addition to this the water bodies like MI Tanks and Ponds & Ooranies will be geo-tagged.

For PMGSY III, the department developed a mobile app for geo-tagging important facilities like education, health, market and transport infrastructure facilities. This data was used for preparation of DRRP under PMGSY III.

Under MGNREGS, GIS techniques are used for identifying optimal location of Artificial Recharge Structures. GIS based planning is being adopted for 2 Village Panchayats per block during 2019-20.

The geo-tagging of assets created under centrally sponsored schemes like Mahatma Gandhi

National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Individual Household Latrine under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) and Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin) Houses.

Similarly, the department has developed 'Thittam' mobile app for geo-tagging and real time monitoring of works under state schemes. The app is being used on pilot basis for monitoring Tamil Nadu Rural Roads Improvement Scheme and Amma - Adi Dravidar Habitations Improvement Scheme.

3.6. Amma - Adi Dravidar Habitations Improvement Scheme

The Government have introduced Amma - Adi Dravidar Habitations Improvement Scheme with an objective of providing Basic amenities to Adi Dravidar habitations to ensure better living standards by saturating the needs of the Adi Dravidar Habitations in a holistic manner. For the year 2018-19, an amount of Rs.100 crore was sanctioned from the pooled fund for Deficit RLBs vested with Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and the District Collectors on 50:50 basis. During 2019-20, an amount of Rs.100 crore was provided from the State Budget of Adi-Dravidar Welfare Department. The Rural

Development and Panchayat Raj Department is the implementing Agency for the Amma - Adi Dravidar Habitations Improvement scheme.

The permitted works includes Water supply, street lights, laying of roads connecting Adi Dravidar habitations, improvement to streets, Community toilets, improvement of Cremation shed, waiting shed, approach road, Compound wall, hand pump, LED lights, path way, improvement of play grounds and play fields used by majority SC youths by providing sports infrastructure and play material. Repair and Renovation of existing infrastructure located in Adi Dravidar habitations.

The details of works taken under Amma - Adi Dravidar Habitations Improvement Scheme during 2018-19 and 2019-20 are as given below:

Table 3.7

**Details of Works taken under Amma-
Adi Dravidar Habitations Improvement
Scheme during 2018-19 and 2019-20**

Sl. No	Year	Nos.	Value (Rs in crore)
1	2018-19	1,952	100.00
2	2019-20	1,949	100.00
TOTAL		3,901	200.00

3.7. Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS)

The objective of this scheme is to enable the Member of Legislative Assembly to identify the infrastructure gaps in their constituencies and propose the works to be executed under the MLACDS. The scheme is being implemented in the state both in Rural and Urban areas. The fund allocation under the scheme has been enhanced from Rs.2.50 Crore to Rs.3.00 Crore per constituency per annum from the year 2019-20.

The works chosen by the MLAs, are accorded administrative sanction by the District Collectors and also identify the implementing agency. A sum of Rs.1.50 Crore is earmarked as Tied Fund for Priority Works and for the remaining Rs. 1.50 Crore, the MLAs can choose any work of their choice not falling within the 'Negative list' as per the guidelines of the scheme.

Works to be taken up under "Tied Component" of Rs.1.50 Crore

- i. **Rs.25 lakh for infrastructure to schools**
In 2019-20, in order to provide infrastructure facilities to Schools (Corporation /

Municipality / Panchayat Union/ Government Schools only) a sum of at least Rs.25 Lakh per MLA shall be earmarked under the tied component. The infrastructure facilities will include toilet facilities (especially separate toilets for girls, boys and staff) drinking water supply, Compound wall to Schools, construction of buildings for classrooms, libraries and laboratories in schools.

ii. **Rs.20 lakh for Reverse Osmosis (R.O) System to schools**

In 2019-20, in order to ensure pure and hygiene drinking water to the school students, a sum of at least Rs.20 Lakh shall be earmarked under the tied component for installation of Reverse Osmosis (R.O) System to the Schools (Corporation / Municipality / Panchayat Union / Government Schools only).

iii. **Rs.20 lakh for Anganwadi / Kitchen shed/ Baby Friendly Toilets / Water Supply to Anganwadi**

In order to provide infrastructure facilities to the Anganwadi centres and Noon Meal Centres in rural and urban areas, an amount of atleast Rs.20 lakh shall be allocated for the

Construction of Anganwadi Buildings/Noon Meal Centres /Noon Meal Kitchen Sheds, Anganwadi Baby friendly toilets, Supply of Drinking water to Anganwadies and also modernizing the Anganwadi Kitchen Sheds with Gas connection, etc.

iv. **Rs.30 lakh for Drinking Water supply**

In order to mitigate the water supply scarcity, especially in summer, water supply works particularly augmentation of existing source like provision of individual power pump works, mini power pump works, Construction of Over Head Tanks, New Bore Well, Deepening of Bore well, New Hand pumps, Enhancing of motor capacity, Construction of Open Well, Deepening of existing Open Well etc., shall be taken up. Each MLA shall allot atleast Rs.30 lakh for water supply works.

v. **Rs.55 lakh for the Other Tied works**

Under the tied component, the MLA can choose one or more of the following works according to his/her choice, subject to the overall ceiling of Rs.55 lakh.

a) In Rural Areas

1. Installation of Solar Street lights in rural areas/
Roof top solar power in Government buildings.
(Subsidy provision available from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, GOI should be claimed and remitted to concerned scheme account without fail).
2. Up-gradation of gravel/WBM Roads to BT standard.
3. Renewal of badly worn-out BT roads (laying of BT layer only by filling up of potholes, if necessary).
4. Laying of Cement Concrete Roads / Paver Blocks in Streets and Lanes.
5. Provision of rooms, buildings and / or compound wall for Government and Local body Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Government Veterinary Hospitals, Government Schools, Panchayat Union Schools, Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools, Kallar Reclamation Schools, Government Colleges and Government Hostels, Government ITI and Government Polytechnics.
6. Provision of Infrastructural facilities to Government Special Schools for the differently abled and Government Orphanages.
7. Construction of bridges.

8. Provision of additional Burial Grounds / Cremation Grounds to the Village Panchayats, if necessary.
9. Provision of compound wall / fencing in the burial grounds belonging to Public Wakf registered with Wakf Board. Since the Wakf Board does not have any Engineering wing, this work may be entrusted to the Local Bodies concerned.
10. Construction of integrated sanitary complex for women and men.
11. Construction of Public Distribution shop buildings.
12. Construction of building for physical fitness centre/Gymnasium along with purchase of required equipments which will be the asset of concerned Local Body.

b) In Urban Areas

1. Installation of Solar Street lights / Roof top solar power in Government Buildings / LED Street lights in Urban Areas. (Subsidy provision available from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, GOI should be claimed and remitted to concerned scheme account without fail).

2. Up-gradation of gravel / WBM Roads to BT standard.
3. Renewal of badly worn-out BT roads (laying of BT layer only by filling up of potholes, if necessary).
4. Laying of Cement Concrete Roads.
5. Provision of rooms, buildings and / or compound wall for Government and Local body Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Government Veterinary Hospitals, Government Schools, Panchayat Union Schools, Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools, Kallar Reclamation Schools, Government Colleges and Government Hostels, Government ITI and Government Polytechnics.
6. Provision of Infrastructural facilities to Government Special Schools for the differently abled and Government Orphanages.
7. Construction of bridges.
8. Provision of infrastructure and compound wall facilities to burial grounds /cremation grounds.
9. Provision of Concrete Pavements with storm water drains, if so required.
10. Formation of new Public Parks
11. Construction of Public Toilets.

12. Construction of Public Distribution shop buildings.
13. Purchase of Jetrodding Machines, hydraulically operated sewerage machines.
14. Provision of compound wall / fencing in the burial grounds belonging Public Wakf registered with Wakf Board. Since the Wakf Board does not have any Engineering wing, this work may be entrusted with the Local Bodies concerned.
15. Construction of building for physical fitness centre/Gymnasium along with purchase of required equipments which will be the asset of concerned Local Body.

Works to be taken up under “Un-Tied Component” of Rs. 1.50 Crore

Any work not falling within the following ‘Negative list / Prohibited works’ can be taken up under the un-tied component of MLACDS. Works falling under the tied component can also be taken up under un-tied component of Rs.1.50 Crore. Construction of Bus passengers shelters is permitted under this component.

NEGATIVE LIST/PROHIBITED WORKS

1. Construction of Office and residential buildings belonging to Central and State

Governments including Public Sector undertaking, Co-operatives and societies.

Exception:

- i. Construction of Direct Procurement Centres, Milk Producers' Co-operative Societies, Bulk Chilling Centres.
 - ii. Construction of Maintenance sheds, Compound walls and concrete flooring, Crew rest room and toilet facilities for Bus depots of State Transport undertakings.
2. Assets for individual / family benefits.

Exception:

Construction of new houses in Town Panchayats as per the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin) norms.

3. All renovation, maintenance and repair works.

Exception:

Repair of houses constructed under Government Schemes up to 31.12.2009 including houses constructed under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) / TAHDCO and Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board can be taken up not exceeding Rs.50,000/- per house. However, permission letter should be obtained from the TNSCB/TAHDCO before taking up the repair works.

4. Purchase of all movable items, equipments and furniture.

Exception:

- (i) Provisions were made during 2016-17 for newly elected members of 15th Assembly and for the members re-elected who were members of 14th Assembly, to purchase Laptop or Desktop, Laser/ Inkjet Printer and Broadband / Internet Data card connection as one time purchase according to needs. In this connection, wherever such Laptop or Desktop, Laser/Inkjet printer and Broadband/Internet Connection were not purchased till last year, in such cases purchase of the above items, may be considered during 2019-20, as per the provisions contained in the G.O.(Ms.) No.95, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS-1) Department, Dated 18-8-2016 and following the guidelines therein.
- (ii) Purchase of furniture and equipments for Government Schools, Panchayat Union Schools, Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools, Kallar Reclamation Schools, Government Colleges, Government Hostels, Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Government Veterinary

Hospitals, Government ITIs and Government Polytechnic.

- (iii)Purchase of aids and appliances for differently abled persons as per the guidelines issued in G.O.(1D)No.405, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS-1) Department, Dated 17.08.2010 and Government Letter No.(1D)No.653, dated.31.12.2012 of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department for the value of Rs.5 lakh or above.
- (iv)Purchase of CP chair for Polio and stroke attacked persons and purchase of Learning Kits for mentally challenged children in Government special schools.
- (v) Purchase of physical exercise equipments for the physical fitness centre / Gymnasium belonging to local body which will be the asset of the concerned local body.
- (vi)Purchase of equipments for installation of solar photovoltaic items in the existing Government buildings.
- (vii)Purchase of Surveillance Cameras (CCTV-Closed Circuit Television) with allied equipments for the safety of public through District Collector

/ Superintendent of Police / Commissioner of Greater Chennai Corporation / Commissioner of Greater Chennai Police following procurement codal procedures.

5. Any work in Government aided and self-financing Schools and Colleges.
6. All Works involving commercial establishment / units.
7. Grants and loans, contribution to any Central and State / UT Relief Funds.
8. Acquisition of land or any compensation for land acquired.
9. Reimbursement of any type of completed or partly completed works or items.
10. All revenue and recurring expenditure.
11. Works within the places of religious worship and on land belonging to or owned by religious faiths / groups.
12. Desilting of Ponds, Ooranies, rivers, tanks, canals, channels and the like.
13. Gravel/WBM roads (roads upto BT standard alone should be taken up).
14. Installation of High Mast Lights.

Implementation of MLACDS during 2019-20

Works have been taken at a cost of Rs. 705 Crore in various categories under MLACDS during 2019-20 as detailed below:

Table 3.8
Details of works taken under
MLACDS during 2019-20

S. No	Category of works	No.of works
1	Buildings	1338
2	Road	1233
3	Water Supply	2353
4	Canal Drainage & Irrigation works	636
5	Others	1523
	Total	7,083

The guidelines will be issued for the year 2020-21 to implement the scheme with an allocation of Rs.705 crore.

3.8. Self Sufficiency Scheme

In order to promote self-reliant rural community through public participation, the Government re-introduced Self Sufficiency Scheme in 2011-12. It is a participatory demand driven scheme to promote and strengthen self-help and self-reliant attitude of the village community. The feltneeds of the public could be easily articulated

and covered under the scheme. This scheme is being implemented both in rural and urban areas.

Public Participation

The minimum public contribution for any of the identified work should be atleast one-third of the estimate amount.

Selection of Works

1. The felt need for taking up a work may originate from individuals, groups, institutions, public or private companies or from the community.
2. Request in the form of an application indicating the works proposed to be taken up with consent for contributing a minimum one-third of the total amount by the public has to be given to the District Collector.
3. The District Collector shall ascertain the actual need and feasibility of the work to be taken up, with reference to the norms of the scheme. After satisfying the need for the proposed works, the Collector will call for the detailed estimates from the implementing agency. Then, the applicant has to deposit the prescribed amount by means of Demand Draft to the

District Collector or Project Director, District Rural Development Agency for sanction.

4. The contributions given by the Local Bodies and Universities shall not be accepted under this scheme.
5. If permission of the Local Body or the Department concerned is necessary to execute the work, the District Collector shall obtain the above permission before according administrative sanction.
6. If the assets to be created have to be maintained by the Local Body/Department, the District Collector should obtain the concurrence from the Local Body/Department concerned.
7. If requests are received for various works, but amount available is limited under the scheme, the District Collector shall give priority for the works which are of maximum benefit to the community.
8. Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj can receive major contributions from the public or private sector companies for specific projects.

Execution of works

Execution of works will be done by the Local Bodies or the Department concerned through tender as per the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act 1998 and Rules issued thereunder.

To facilitate larger participation of the people in this Scheme, if the public or contributors opt to execute the work themselves or through their agency, willingness should be given by them in writing while applying for the work under Self Sufficiency Scheme. The District Collector will examine the request and permit the contributors or the agency to execute the works if the public contribution is 50% or more than the estimate of the work. But in case of desiltation of PWD tanks or desiltation of water sources of Rural and Urban Local Bodies, even if the public contribution is 50% or more, the work should be executed only through tender.

Achievement during 2011-12 to 2019-20

From 2011-12 to 2019-20, a total of 13,181 useful community assets have been created at an estimated cost of Rs.887.10 crore.

Scheme Implementation during 2020-21

Self Sufficiency Scheme will be implemented during the year 2020-21 also with an allocation of Rs.50 crore.

3.9. Revamped Comprehensive School Infrastructure Development Scheme (RCSIDS)

Comprehensive School Infrastructure Development Scheme was implemented by this Government with the objective of providing basic infrastructure facilities to Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools in rural areas, from 2011-12 to 2016-17 with an annual allocation of Rs.100 Crore. This scheme was again re-introduced as Revamped Comprehensive School Infrastructure Development Scheme (RCSIDS) from 2019-20 onwards with an annual allocation of Rs.100 Crore.

Under this scheme basic infrastructure facilities like new Class Rooms, Kitchen Sheds, Water Supply, Toilets, etc., are taken up in the Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools in rural areas. Repairs and renovation of the existing facilities are also being taken up under this scheme, wherever necessary.

Strength of the students in the school is the basis for taking up new class room buildings. These new buildings are constructed with RCC Roof with weathering course. The space available in school premises is used for new construction and if adequate space is not available, a floor is added to the existing RCC Building after assessing its structural stability.

New kitchen sheds are taken up in those schools where kitchen sheds are not available and the existing damaged kitchen sheds are taken up for repair and renovation. Additional rooms/ store rooms may also be constructed under the scheme for storing the commodities.

Existing water supply system in the schools which are in damaged condition are taken up for repairs. Extension of Pipelines are provided wherever necessary. New water supply connection from the existing Panchayat water source or a new borewell is also provided, wherever necessary.

Construction of new Dining Room in Panchayat Union Schools have also been taken up on a Pilot basis.

This Government ensures that all the Panchayat Union Schools have adequate toilet facilities for girls and boys. Incinerators are provided in the toilets for the benefit of girl students.

Selection and finalization of works are undertaken by a Committee constituted at the Block level with BDO, AEE & Head master of the concerned School as Committee Members. This Committee inspects each and every school for ascertaining the actual infrastructural needs of the schools.

3.10. Sanitation – Muzhu Sugaathaara Tamizhagam

Open Defecation has a pernicious effect on the health of not only the individuals practicing open defecation but also their entire village community, which in turn affects the well-being of the people. Considering the ravages of Open Defecation on the Socio-Economic factors, the State Government has consistently been according high priority for Sanitation and has taken several measures to achieve “Muzhu Sugaathaara Thamizhagam” under the Swachh Bharat Mission

(Gramin). The ultimate aim is to create a healthy and prosperous rural community.

The achievement of Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and its sustenance is mainly due to the active participation of Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC) / Panchayat Level Federation (PLF) / Self Help Group (SHG) members and coordinated and sustained efforts of all the Stakeholder Departments in making Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) emerge as a 'Mass Movement'.

"Muzhu Sugaathaara Thamizhagam" is also aimed at fulfilling one of the important goals of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations – SDG No:6 "Sanitation for all".

Initiatives of the State Government

The Government has pioneered the Sanitation revolution in the State through various initiatives since 2001. To provide access to basic sanitation facilities for rural women and children, Integrated Women Sanitary Complexes were constructed in all the Village Panchayats during 2001-04. 12,796 Sanitary Complexes which were in a state of disuse were renovated at a cost of

Rs.170 Crore during the year 2011-12, to benefit the rural women. To build a sense of ownership and for the proper upkeep of these complexes, 'User Groups' have been created who will be responsible for daily maintenance and periodical maintenance is being undertaken by the Village Panchayats. Clean Village Campaign (CVC) introduced in 2003 provided a momentum to the Sanitation coverage. The "Clean Village Campaign" shelved in 2006, was revived and re-introduced in 2011-12. One Village Panchayat per district which are free from open defecation and with clean environment are eligible to be selected for a cash award of Rs.5 Lakh each, every year under this programme. To provide similar Sanitation facilities to the rural men as that of women, 1199 Integrated Men Sanitary Complexes were constructed between 2012-13 and 2014-15. The involvement of Community Based Organisations like Village Poverty Reduction Committees (VPRC) / Panchayat Level Federations (PLF) of Self Help Groups at various levels, in the construction and usage monitoring of Individual Household Latrines (IHHL) has expedited the Sanitation coverage. Introduction of 'Thooimai Kaavalars' in Solid Waste Management activities in all the 12,525 Village

Panchayats have brought about a visible and perceptible impact in the maintenance of Cleanliness in these Villages. In order to sustain the Sanitation facilities in the Government Schools in rural areas, necessary funds have been provided by the State Government to ensure maintenance of clean and functional toilets. All these have become pioneering initiatives at National Level.

Sanitation Coverage in Rural Areas of Tamil Nadu

In Tamil Nadu, as per Sanitation Baseline Survey conducted in 2013, there were 51.06 lakh households without toilets. After Baseline Survey, a record number of 50.17 lakh Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) have been constructed from the years 2013-14 to 2019-20 and 0.89 lakh households are accessing Community and shared toilets, thereby increasing the overall sanitation coverage in the State from 45% to 100%. All the Rural Districts have reached 100% sanitation coverage as per the Baseline Survey.

The Sanitation coverage in Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India takes

into account only the households without toilets as per baseline survey. The above sanitation coverage in the IMIS does not include new households that have come up after the Sanitation baseline survey conducted in 2013. Further, it also does not take into account the households which were having defunct toilets as per 2013 baseline survey. At the time of above sanitation survey, there were 12.25 lakh defunct toilets in the Village Panchayats. These Defunct toilets were constructed in earlier schemes and these households could not be assisted under any of the existing schemes. So, the District Administrations have taken action for renovation / reconstruction of 11.80 lakh defunct toilets in the Village Panchayats through the beneficiaries own funds, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds, Bank credit, internal lending by Self Help Groups, etc. Apart from this, nearly 45,000 defunct toilets were also reconstructed under Swachh Bharat Kosh funds and World Bank Assisted Performance Based Incentive Grant funds.

In addition to this, the Government of India approved 6.08 lakh households that were left out in the Baseline Survey (BLS) 2013 to be covered

with toilets under SBM (G) during the year 2018-19 and 2019-20. The Government is also focused in the construction of Community Sanitary Complexes (CSC) in the SC/ST habitations and in other habitations where households do not have adequate space for construction of IHHL, to ensure that no one is left behind.

Open Defecation Free (ODF) Status and ODF verification

As per the guidelines, on attainment of full sanitation coverage, the Village Panchayats could declare themselves as ODF in the Grama Sabha. All the Village Panchayats in the State have declared themselves as ODF and this has been verified and confirmed in IMIS by all the Rural Districts. Further, to keep up the momentum and to ensure the sustained usage of the toilets constructed in all the Village Panchayats, second level ODF Sustainability verification is being taken up.

Rural Sanitation Survey by Third party agencies

The Government of India is conducting National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey (NARSS) every year through third party agencies to

measure the Performance Indicators viz., (1) Reduction in the prevalence of Open Defecation, (2) Sustaining ODF status in the villages and (3) Percentage of Rural Population served by Solid and Liquid Waste Management. Each round of survey will have components that will generate information on Open Defecation, sustaining ODF status and on Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM). This is a third-party sample survey carried out through an Independent Verification Agency. Based on the findings, Performance Based Incentives are given to States as 100% Grant.

The State Government also periodically takes up third party survey through State Quality Monitors periodically to assess the quality of Sanitation infrastructure.

Various Initiatives undertaken

(a) Involvement of Community Based Organisations in ODF Sustainability

The State has a firmly established Women Self Help Groups which act as a huge Social capital. The Village Panchayat level Community Based Organisations (CBO) like Village Poverty Reduction Committees (VPRCs) / Panchayat Level

Federations (PLFs) in Mahalir Thittam have been effectively involved in carrying out Inter-Personal Communication (IPC) activities to promote Sanitation and Hygiene. These CBOs are in a better position to use their peer group influence in a big way in attaining and sustaining ODF Status.

(b) Convergence with Stakeholder Departments

The practice of Open Defecation has a detrimental impact on the physical and mental development of the children and it is a primary cause for worm infestation and resultant Anaemia. Moreover, the behavioural change among the people practicing Open Defecation is very important in sustaining toilet usage and ODF status and hence there should be a constant reinforcement of sanitation messages through several stakeholder departments. In this direction, coordinated efforts have been taken with Health and Family Welfare, School Education and Social Welfare Departments at State Level and District Level.

Doctors, in Primary Health Centres, recommending toilet usage in their Out-Patient Slips, Sanitation messages in school textbook

wrappers, Inter-Personal Communication in Anganwadi Centres targeting Adolescent girls, Pregnant and Lactating mothers are some of the pioneering efforts of the State which had National attention.

(c) Role of Motivators

There are around 13,800 Motivators identified from among the SHGs/PLFs who have been trained in Community Approaches to Sanitation (CAS) and Community Based Monitoring (CBM) to sustain the ODF status. In addition to trainings on ODF, Master Trainers identified from Motivators are also trained on ODF Plus activities at State Level. These Master Trainers in turn are involved in training the Motivators, VPRC / PLF members and field functionaries of other departments like Teachers, Angawadi workers, Village Health Nurses at District level for sustaining the ODF status and to carryout ODF Plus activities like Solid and Liquid Waste Management. Motivators along with Other Department field functionaries create awareness on the importance of toilet usage, Menstrual Hygiene Management, Personal Hygiene and Solid and Liquid Waste Management. Apart from incentivising the

Motivators monetarily, the best performing Motivators are being duly recognized at District, State and National level events from time to time. A Mobile Application has been created with the support of NIC, Chennai to take stock of the field activities by the Motivators on a real time basis.

(d) Capacity strengthening of Field Functionaries

Continuous Capacity Building is vital for equipping and updating the field functionaries on the contents and skills for Behaviour Change Communication. Further under ODF Plus, extensive capacity strengthening is necessary to sustain the momentum. 'State Training Management Unit' (STMU) for Sanitation has been formed as part of the Sanitation Cell at the State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (SIRD&PR) which serves as a dedicated unit to impart training and capacity building on Sanitation in all the training programmes conducted in SIRD & PR. Similar set up is being created in RIRD&PR also to take care of sanitation training requirements at Regional level. Motivators and other field functionaries are trained on ODF Plus at State / District / Block Level from time to time.

(e) Monitoring

The District Collector is the overall monitoring authority of the Sanitation programme. In order to ensure quality of construction and sustainability of functional toilets, frequent inspections are undertaken by Senior Officials at the District level and Block level.

(f) Handbook on Sanitation

The Handbook on Sanitation with comprehensive information relating to ODF Plus activities has been prepared with various sanitation messages. This handbook is being used as a resource material for training of Master Trainers and Motivators. This handbook is also useful for all those officials who are working in various 'Stakeholder Departments' related to Health and Sanitation. To sustain the ODF status and also to give a major thrust on Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM), the "Handbook on WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) -2020" has been updated with information relating to Water, Sanitation, Nutrition, Public Health, SLWM and Environmental Protection.

(g) Towards ODF Plus

ODF Plus includes ODF Sustainability, Solid and Liquid Waste Management and Faecal Sludge

Management. ODF Sustainability is ensured through continuous monitoring of toilet usage and reiterating sanitation messages through Inter-Personal Communication. For effective management of Solid Waste, awareness generation is vital among General Public and Children in Schools on the importance of waste Segregation, 4R concept of Waste Management (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle), usage of alternatives to plastic and safe handling of Hazardous waste. Individual Household and Community Soak Pits are also constructed for the management of grey water. For Faecal Sludge Management, a Technical Expert Committee has been formed to bring out an efficient technological plan for the establishment of Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant.

(h) Students in Promoting Sanitation

In Schools, 'Health and Sanitation Clubs' are formed to inculcate the habit of Safe Sanitation and Personal Hygiene among the students. Also, in all the Government Primary / Secondary / High / Higher Secondary Schools, various competitions like Elocution, Drawing, Essay Writing, etc., are being conducted on the topics related to Sanitation

and students are awarded by the District Collectors or District / Block Level Officials.

For College students, Community Engagement / Rural Internship Programme is being conducted, facilitating the students to participate in creating awareness among the community and helping them to create a better and cleaner environment through improved Sanitation facilities. These students / NSS volunteers work at the Village Level along with the Sanitation Motivators and other village level functionaries to promote Sanitation and SLWM activities including awareness on Segregation of Waste at Source, Establishing Household Compost Pits, Construction of Soak Pits for Grey Water Management, etc.

(i) Rural Sanitation Policy as a 'way forward'

The State Government has brought out the 'Rural Sanitation Policy' providing the methodologies to be adopted to sustain the ODF status along with the functional plan to effectively implement and manage the Solid and Liquid waste, paving way to maintain the hygiene and aesthetic view of the rural villages. It also provides clear directives for providing Safe Sanitation

facilities which will help in achieving the mission of “Muzhu Sugaathaara Thamizhagam” for a healthier, cleaner and greener community.

3.11. Solid & Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) activities in rural areas

Solid Waste Management (SWM) activities

Tamil Nadu is the first State in the Country to achieve universal coverage of the entire 12,525 Village Panchayats in establishment of Solid Waste Management Systems with collection, segregation and waste disposal facilities. “Thooimai Kaavalars” are engaged for SWM activities for door to door collection of waste, segregation, transportation and safe disposal.

This Scheme is being implemented with required infrastructure facilities provided to all the village panchayats like Segregation cum storage sheds, Street Garbage Bins, Tricycles/Pushcarts, etc., for collection, segregation and safe processing of waste. Solid Waste is segregated into Biodegradable and Non-biodegradable before disposal. In SWM activities, 66,130 Thooimai Kaavalars are being engaged through VPRC/PLF on outsourcing basis for which the State Government has allocated Rs.206.04 Crore every year.

To cater to the special needs of Peri-Urban Village Panchayats and Village Panchayats in Hilly areas, additional infrastructure facilities like battery operated pushcarts and motorized pick up vehicles respectively, have also been provided.

The implementation of Solid Waste Management Project is periodically monitored during inspections undertaken by District Level Senior Officials and by Block Level officials. The daily attendance of Thooimai Kaavalars and SWM activities in each Village Panchayat are being monitored through online monitoring system in the Department's Website, with the support of National Informatics Centre.

Micro Composting Centre (MCC)

The State Government have issued orders for the establishment of MCC in the State to facilitate the effective processing of the waste generated in Peri-Urban/Bigger Village Panchayats.

Around 300 village panchayats that are Peri-Urban / Bigger Village Panchayats adjacent to Corporations and Municipalities and satisfying the prescribed criteria have been taken up for the establishment of MCC.

Liquid Waste Management in rural areas

For the effective management of Liquid waste / Grey water in rural areas and to tackle the flow of liquid waste generated from households like Kitchen, Bathroom and also from public places like Over Head tanks, Hand pumps in rural areas, Liquid waste Management activities such as Individual soak pits and Community soak pits are being taken up under MGNREGS from 2017-18 onwards.

In the last 3 years, so far 5.25 lakh Individual Soak Pits and 75,000 Community Soak Pits have been taken up at a cost of Rs.496.32 crore under MGNREGS.

This has helped in prevention of grey water stagnation at Roads, Streets and public places and also reduced the spread of water borne diseases.

3.12. Maintenance of School toilets, cleaning of Class rooms and School premises

Sanitation facilities are foremost important in maintaining health & hygiene and for overall development of the students. The Government have taken adequate measures to ensure provision

of separate toilets for boys and girls in all the 28,031 Panchayat Union Primary / Middle School and 6,916 Government Schools in rural areas. In order to maintain the toilets clean in the Panchayat Union / Government Schools, the State Government have provided Rs.202.88 crore under State funds during the years from 2015-16 to 2018-19 for payment to Sanitary Workers who are engaged on outsourcing basis through the VPRC, PLF or any other Outsourcing Agency for cleaning and also for procurement of cleaning materials.

During the year 2019-20, Government ordered cleaning of Class rooms and School premises in the Panchayat Union Primary/Middle Schools and Government Schools located in rural areas in addition to cleaning of School toilets and sanctioned Rs.64.26 Crore.

Apart from regular cleaning by outsourced Sanitary workers, mass cleaning of school premises and vicinity is also done once in 2 months (or) immediately before the re-opening of Schools after quarterly / half yearly and annual exam holidays through "Thoomai Kaavalars" being engaged by the Village Panchayats concerned and Mazdoors being engaged by the Panchayat Unions

concerned. Mass cleaning is being taken up as and when necessary apart from the pre-determined dates as mentioned above.

This scheme will be continuously implemented during the year 2020-21 with an allocation of Rs. 64.26 crore.

3.13. Tamil Nadu Water Resources Conservation and Augmentation Mission – Kudimaramathu

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced Tamil Nadu Water Resources Conservation and Augmentation Mission – Kudimaramathu – Participatory Programme on the floor of Legislative Assembly held on 20.07.2019 under rule 110 for Rejuvenation of Minor Irrigation Tanks, Ponds and Ooranies in Rural areas during 2019-20 to increase and restore the rural water bodies like Minor Irrigation Tank, Ponds / Kuttai & Ooranies to their full capacity and to recharge the ground water.

1. Scheme Implementation

The Government have issued Orders in G.O (Ms) No.96, RD & PR Dept., Dated. 26.7.2019 for the implementation of Kudimaramathu – A participatory Programme for the Rejuvenation of 5,000 Minor Irrigation (MI) Tanks under the

control of Panchayat Unions and 25,000 Ponds / Kuttai and Ooranies of Village Panchayats at a cost of Rs.1250 Crore.

The Government have allocated Rs.500 Crore from State Funds for Desilting/Deepening of water bodies and bund strengthening using machineries and Rs.750 Crore in convergence with MGNREGS for taking up reconstruction of Civil works, like sluice, surplus weir, inlet, outlet, bathing ghat, lining wall, baby pond etc.,

2. Scheme Components

- a.Desilting / Deepening and bund strengthening of rural water bodies, viz., Minor Irrigation (MI) Tanks and Ponds / Kuttai & Ooranies by using machinery.
- b.Reconstruction of Civil works, like sluice, surplus weir, inlet, outlet, bathing ghat, lining wall, baby pond etc.

2.1. Minor Irrigation Tanks & Ponds and Ooranies

The main objective of the programme is to ensure rejuvenation of Minor Irrigation Tanks in Panchayat Union and Ponds & Ooranies which are under the control of Village Panchayat, so as to

restore the tanks to their full capacity, increase ground water recharge, prevent surplus runoff and breaches in the water bodies and also to regulate the storage of water for drinking and agricultural purposes, to achieve the goal of uninterrupted drinking water supply and increased crop productivity with area irrigated. The long pending demand of the rural agricultural people is fulfilled by the implementation of this scheme.

3. Scheme Implementation during 2019-20

The Desilting/Deepening of MI Tanks, Ponds and Ooraries shall be done by using machineries by adopting PWD Schedule of Rates (SoR) for the year 2019-20. A detailed survey of Rural Water Bodies was conducted to access the number of water bodies, location, extent and other technical details.

Hence, a Mobile Application (RRWB version 1.6) has been developed for :-

- The effective monitoring of the implementation of the Proposed Kudimaramathu - Rejuvenation of MI Tanks, Ponds and Ooraries beginning from the selection of works till completion.

- The identification of MI Tanks, Ponds & Ooranies.
- Monitoring the status of DPR preparation and Pre-Measurement details.
- Monitoring the status of Administrative sanction, Technical sanction, Commencement of work & Measurements details of the executed work.
- Monitoring the details of inspection made by Block level, Division level and District level officials.
- Monitoring the physical and financial progress of the works.

Further during 2019-20, 208 MI Tanks and 3,636 Ponds/Ooranies works were taken up for improvement / modernisation with an allocation of Rs.300 crore from the State Finance Commission Grant (SFC) due to the Panchayat Unions and District Panchayat. This has resulted in the increase of storage capacity of the Rural Water Bodies during the rainy season that has facilitated ground water recharge, increased the area irrigated and thereby increasing the rural economy.

3.14. Socio Economic Development Programme (SEDP)

In order to address the problems due to activities of Naxalites, during the year of 2003-04 the Socio Economic Development Programme (SEDP) is being implemented in Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts. Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri which are the backward districts in the states, an allocation of Rs.700 lakh and Rs.50 lakh respectively every year. But, it has been permitted to re-allocate the funds under SEDP, to Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts based on the requirement and feasibility of works to be proposed from the year 2017-18.

Works such as construction of Green houses with solar power, Aavin Parlours, purchase of power sprayers to poor farmers, purchase of medical equipments for primary health centres, modernization of Anganwadi buildings, etc., and various training programmes have been taken under this scheme.

This scheme will be implemented with an allocation of Rs.7.50 crore for the year 2020-21.

4. Central Schemes

4.1. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS)

The Centrally Sponsored scheme Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is the largest social security programme which provides legal entitlements and rights to the rural workers by way of strong legal framework. The Scheme guarantees maximum of 100 days of employment in a financial year to any rural household whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work is being effectively implemented in all 36 rural districts in the State. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was enacted to provide a platform to the poor rural people which is one of the many shades to realise the fundamental "right to equality". The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) framed under the Act ensures the "right to work" and it is the only anti-poverty programme that has legal backing.

The core objective of this scheme have been reoriented as follows:

- a) Providing not less than one hundred days of unskilled manual work as a guaranteed employment in a financial year to every household in rural areas on demand, resulting in creation of productive assets of prescribed quality and durability;
- b) Strengthening the livelihood resource base of the poor;
- c) Proactively ensuring social inclusion;
- d) Strengthening of Panchayat Raj institutions.

Salient Features of the Scheme

1. Ten major entitlements of the Act are:
 - i. Right to a Job card
 - ii. Right to Demand and receive work within 15 days
 - iii. Right to Unemployment Allowance
 - iv. Right to Plan and prepare a Shelf of Projects.
 - v. Right to obtain work within a radius of 5 kms
 - vi. Right to worksite facilities
 - vii. Right to notified wage rate
 - viii. Right to receive wages within 15 days

- ix. Compensation for delay in payment of wages
 - x. Right to time bound redressal of grievances, right to conduct concurrent social audits of all Mahatma Gandhi NREGA expenditure
2. MGNREGS work week starts from every Thursday and ends on next Wednesday.
 3. In order to provide more employment opportunities to MGNREGS workers, the habitations in a Village Panchayat are grouped into clusters in such a way that more number of works are taken in all the clusters.
 4. The wages for unskilled labour has been fixed based on the Rural Schedule of Rates (RSoR). As per the revised Schedule-I of MGNREG Act, the Schedule of Rates for wages of unskilled labourers is so fixed that an adult unskilled labourer working for eight hours which includes an hour of rest (i.e., 7 hours of effective work) will earn wages equal to wage rate.
 5. Government Order for Special Rural Schedule of Rates (RSoR) for Differently-abled was issued and adopted. The Government order

provides either special activities for the differently-abled workers or special provisions for undertaking earthwork related activities.

6. No contractors or labour displacing machineries are allowed. However machineries can be used in executing the following works.
 - a. The excavation and deepening of dugwell,
 - b. Compaction of earthen embankment in 15 to 23 cm layers at optimum moisture content in Rural Road connectivity.
 - c. Compaction of morum / gravel in 15 to 20 cm layers at optimum moisture content in Rural Road connectivity.
 - d. Mixing of Cement Concrete, Compaction of Cement Concrete and cutting of joint in Cement Concrete in Road connectivity.
 - e. RCC Roofing, Column, Beam and Roof in construction of building.

- f. Compressed Stabilised Earthen Brick (CSEB) and Fly Ash Brick production in production of building materials.
 - g. Mechanical Auger in afforestation.
7. The Central Government bears 100% wage cost of unskilled manual labour. Material cost including wages of skilled and semi-skilled workers is borne by Central Government and State Government in the ratio of 75:25.
 8. The wage and material components have to be maintained at 60:40 ratio for all the works undertaken by the Village Panchayat and other implementing agencies at the District level.
 9. For all civil construction works RSoR should be adopted for Labour Component and PWD SOR in respect of other materials involved.
 10. Every individual beneficiary in a Household is entitled to a job card so that they can apply and receive work. Renewal of job cards are being done once in 5 years. New job cards were issued for all active workers

after 100% verification from 1.04.2017 and it will be valid for 5 years.

11. From 2017-18, electronic-Muster Roll (e-MR) has been adopted in all 12,524 village panchayats.
12. Seven mandatory Registers prescribed by GoI and Job Card Stock Register in addition are maintained in all Village Panchayats.
13. The notified wage rate for the year 2019-20 is Rs.229 per day w.e.f 01.04.2019 for both men and women without any difference.
14. The MGNREGS worker can earn full wage rate if the outturn is 37 Cuft. as per G.O.(Ms). No. 25 RD & PR (CGS-1) Dept., Dated 27.2.2014.
15. If the distance of worksite exceeds 5 kms, additional wage of 10% of existing wage rate is payable to meet the cost towards the additional transportation and living expenses. However, in Tamil Nadu, worksites are being selected in such a way that works are available within a radius of 2 kms.

16. Facilities such as drinking water, first aid kit, shade etc., are provided at the work sites.
17. Disbursement of wages is done through National electronic Fund Management System (Ne-FMS) from 7.11.2016.
18. Grama Sabha conducts the Social Audit in respect of MGNREGS works through Social Auditors. i.e. Village Resource Persons trained from SHG members.
19. All workers shall have the right to participate in the Grama Sabha and decide the Shelf of works with the order of priority to be taken up under MGNREGS in their Village Panchayat.
20. Worksite Citizen Information Boards depicting the details of work i.e. Name of the work, sanctioned amount, duration of work etc., are installed in all the worksites.
21. A Toll free Help line (1299) has also been provided in each district as part of Grievance redressal mechanism.

Permissible Works

The permissible works as per the Annual Master Circular 2019-20 are as follows:

Table 4.1
Permissible works as per the GoI
Annual Master Circular 2019-20

Category A	Category B	Category C	Category D
PUBLIC WORKS RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	INDIVIDUAL ASSETS/Common Assets INCLUDING FOR VULNERABLE SECTIONS	COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE - FOR COMPLIANT NRLM SELF HELP GROUPS	RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water conservation and Water Harvesting Structures to augment and improve groundwater like underground dykes, earthen dams, stop dams, check dams with special focus on recharging ground water including drinking water sources. Watershed management works such as contour trenches, terracing, contour bunds, boulder checks, gabion structures and springshed development resulting in a comprehensive treatment of a watershed. Micro and Minor irrigation works and creation, renovation and maintenance of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving productivity of lands of households specified in Paragraph 5 of the Schedule I through land development and by providing suitable infrastructure for irrigation including Dug wells, Farm Ponds, Other water harvesting structures Improving livelihoods through Horticulture, Sericulture, Plantation, other kinds of plantation & Farm forestry Development of fallow or waste lands of households in Para 5 of schedule I to bring it under cultivation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works for promoting agriculture productivity by creating durable infrastructure required for bio-fertilisers (NADEP and Vermi Composting pits) and post harvest facilities including pucca storage facilities for agricultural produce; Common work sheds for livelihood activities of Self Help Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of Food Grain Storage structures Rural road connectivity to unconnected villages Construction of play fields Disaster Preparedness and Restoration of roads Public infrastructure including flood control and protection works Construction of buildings for Gram Panchayats Construction of Buildings for Women self-help groups, federations Cyclone shelters Anganwadi centres Village shandies and crematorium at Village/Block level Production of building material required for

Category A	Category B	Category C	Category D
PUBLIC WORKS RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	INDIVIDUAL ASSETS/Common Assets INCLUDING FOR VULNERABLE SECTIONS	COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE - FOR COMPLIANT NLRM SELF HELP GROUPS	RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE
<p>irrigation canals and drains.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation of traditional water bodies including desilting of irrigation tanks and other water bodies; and conservation of old step wells / baolis. • Afforestation, tree plantation and horticulture in common and forest lands, road margins, canal bunds, tank foreshores and coastal belts duly providing right to usufruct to the households covered in paragraph 5 • Pasture Development – Perennial grasses like stylo, vetiver etc., • Bamboo, Rubber and Coconut Plantation • Land Development works in common lands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pasture Development – Perennial grasses like stylo, vetiver etc., • Bamboo, Rubber and Coconut Plantation • Creating infrastructure for promotion of livestock such as Poultry Shelter (brooder house), Goat Shelter, piggery Shelter, Cattle Shelter and Fodder troughs for cattle. • Creating infrastructure for promotion of fisheries such as fish drying yard, Storage facilities and Promotion of fisheries in seasonal water bodies on public land • Bio fertilisers (NADEP, Vermi composting, etc) • Meeting the expenditure on unskilled labour of the houses under State and Central Government housing schemes • IHHL (Construction of IHHL under State and Central Housing Schemes) 		<p>construction works under the Act as part of the estimate of such construction works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of rural public assets created under the Act

Sustainable Development through MGNREGS

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) by its noble guidelines and objectives enable the achievement of four goals of "United Nations Sustainable Development" viz., Zero Hunger, No Poverty, Climate Change and Gender Equality. Under MGNREGS, equal wages are paid for men, women depending upon the value of work done by them.

It is the only livelihood and poverty alleviation programme by providing employment to all willing adult rural households to do unskilled manual work for minimum 100 days in a year. As the first and foremost goal of sustainable development is "No Poverty" in rural areas, MGNREGA Scheme is feeding millions of Rural poor by providing employment and thereby addressing their livelihood and hunger.

Plantation of trees on community and individual land addresses the issues like climate change/action. In the year 2019-20, 71 lakh plants are planted under Massive Tree Plantation and Avenue Plantation of MGNREGS. Planting of trees will be done in the Government Schools, Colleges

and Government Poramboke lands, parks, public places and on either side of the roads which will increase the carbon credits. Further soil and moisture conservation works and rejuvenation of Tanks, Ooranies and MI Tanks, supply channels and other water bodies are being done under MGNREGS towards sustainable retention of ground water which plays a vital role in the climate change.

This scheme is being implemented in rural areas with the allocation of minimum of 65% of works on Natural Resource Management (NRM) works covering Category A assets like Check Dam, Trench Cutting, Land Development activities, Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies, etc.

Special Initiatives under the Scheme

Time and Motion Study

- Time and Motion Studies were undertaken for various categories of works to decide the quantum of work to be done as per revised Rural Schedule of Rates.

Rural Connectivity

- In order to provide a good road network system, within every village and also to

provide access to health care, education, transportation, livelihood and marketing of rural farm products etc., rural connectivity was taken up, by providing single layer metaling upto WBM GR-II layer. In the year 2019-20, 2000 km have been taken up. The above single layer WBM roads have been upgraded to BT Roads by other Central / State Fund Schemes.

Soak Pit

- For effective management of waste / Grey water in rural areas and to tackle the indiscriminate flow of liquid waste through streets, habitations and management of grey water at source by each household / clusters becomes necessary. Construction of soak pits in each house not only prevents water stagnation on the streets but also acts as a water harvesting structure. 25,000 No. of Community Soak Pits and 1,75,000 Individual Soak Pits have been taken up in the year 2019-20. Apart from this, 100 Horizontal and 400 Vertical filter systems were taken up at cluster level towards Liquid Waste Management.

Construction of Flood Protection / Compound Wall

- In order to protect the school children from strangers and animals, protect the school property from vandalism, floods, so as to provide a safe environment, nurture and educate the school children it was proposed to construct Compound Wall / Flood Control and Protection Wall to School Buildings for Elementary and Middle Schools in rural areas. In the year 2019-20, Compound Wall / Flood Control and Protection Wall to school Buildings to a length of 250 Kms have been taken up.

Check Dam

- The Government has taken various measures to increase the ground water level by construction of farm ponds, renovation of supply channels and desilting of existing ponds, ooranies and MI tanks. As a measure to conserve the rain water and to recharge the ground water, construction of 10000 Check Dams have been taken up in the year 2019-20.

- The check dams in the form of boulders check, Cement Concrete Structure, Gabion Structure are being constructed to conserve the runoff water. These small dams retain excess runoff water during monsoon rains from the upstream catchment area of the structure, to recharge the ground water.

Special Initiatives taken during 2019-20

School Toilet to Boys and Girls

- School is important for cognitive, creative and social development of children. Sanitation is one of the important parameter for the well being of school children. School toilets are one of the basic infrastructures required at every school to maintain sanitation. In some schools sufficient numbers of toilets are not available to meet the requirements of the students studying. Hence, necessity and demand for construction of additional school toilets is on the rise, particularly in Rural areas. The construction of 1000 units of school toilets in Panchayat Union / Government Elementary schools and Panchayat Union / Government Middle Schools in rural areas consisting of 400 units of Toilets for Boys and 600 units of Toilets

for Girls have been taken up under MGNREGS during the FY 2019-20.

Amma Rural Sports Centre

- The Government of Tamil Nadu has launched several schemes to encourage sports activities among youth in the state, to promote physical strength with mental well being and spirit of friendly competition, which in turn, has positive impact on the overall personality development of the youth. The development of play grounds for the 12524 Amma Rural Youth Sports Centre have been taken up in convergence under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) covering any three out of Volley ball Court, Kabadi Court and Cricket or Ball Badminton during the Financial Year 2019-20.

Threshing Floor

- Edible agricultural products like rice, corn, cereals and other grains contain chaff/husk when they are grown in fields. After harvesting, the edible grain and chaff will be separated out by means of threshing. Normally, the farmers carryout threshing in open flat ground nearby

agriculture field, thus, there is possibility of food grains getting mixed with small stones. Also, the farmers will dry their food grain products for getting more sale value. Else, the quality of product will get reduced due to availability of moisture and stones, thereby leading to reduced sale value. Hence, threshing floor will be very much useful for threshing and drying of food products. Threshing Floors are the elevated cement concrete platforms constructed in Panchayat Poramboke lands available nearby the agricultural field within the panchayat and will be of much help to all farmers in rural areas. In 2019-20, 100 Threshing Floors have been taken up.

Paver Block

- Interlocking Paver Blocks are considered as one of the all weather Rural Connectivity. The Interlocking Paver Blocks provide safe access to all households during rainy season. In 2019-20, 300 km of Interlocking Paver Blocks have been taken up.

Culverts, Minor Bridges and Causeways (Cross Drainage Structures)

- The Cross drainage structures like Culverts, Minor Bridges and Causeways play a major role in allowing flood water and stream water to pass from one side to other side of the road without affecting regular traffic. In 2019-20, 700 Culverts, 250 Minor Bridges and 100 Causeways have been taken up.

‘Water Security and Climate Adaptation’ (WASCA):

- Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, Mission Water Conservation is a convergence framework with scientific planning and execution of water management works with the use of latest technology. ‘Water Security and Climate Adaptation’ (WASCA) is a new MoRD-GIZ (an Indo-German Corporation) bi-lateral project that will be implemented during 2019-22, for a period of 3 years. The project WASCA is approved by both the governments, ie., MoRD, GoI & German Government and four pilot states of Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are identified for the project.

- The focus of the project is on improved planning, financing, demonstrating models in two districts per state and private sector participation. For Tamil Nadu, a detailed scoping study was conducted by the Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Management (CCCDM), Anna University, Chennai. 18 Indicators were used by the CCCDM for the study for identification of most vulnerable districts and finally Ramanathapuram and Tiruvannamalai have been shortlisted for piloting this project in Tamil Nadu. Ramanathapuram being a coastal district is vulnerable for intrusion of saline water and Tiruvannamalai is an over-exploited and water-stressed district.
- The implementation of WASCA Project will be done under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in co-ordination with the stakeholder departments namely Agriculture, Horticulture, Environment, Forests, Water Resources Department, State Ground & Surface Water Resources Data Centre, Institute of Water Studies (IWS, Taramani), Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage

Board(TWAD), Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA), Horticulture Mission, Fisheries, NABARD, TN Agriculture University, Central Soil And Water Conservation Research And Training Institute, The Nilgiris, Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Management, Anna University, State Remote Sensing Centre, Anna University, Central Ground Water Board.

Project “Unnati”

- Project “UNNATI” intends to upgrade the skill-base of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers, and thereby improve their livelihoods, so that they can move from the current partial employment to full employment and thereby reduce their dependence on Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.
- This project will improve the livelihoods of most needy Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers by providing a skill either for self-employment or wage employment. This project is meant for providing training for one adult member (of age 18-45 year) of a household who has completed 100 days of

work under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA in the previous financial year from the year of commencement of the project.

- Skilling and Wage Employment through – Deen Dayal Upadhyaya –Grameen Kaushalya Yojana Scheme and Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) and Skilling for Self Employment through Krishi Vigyan Kendras. The candidate can avail only one training. The stipend is Rs.199 per day and in addition to this, 100 days under MGNREGS can be availed by the household under MGNREGA. The scheme will be implemented in all 36 districts through TNSRLM and Directorate of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj with 100% of funding by GoI, MoRD.

Cluster Facilitation Project (CFP)

- Cluster Facilitation Project (CFP) is an initiative for addressing poverty in aspirational Districts and Backward areas with multi pronged strategy of leveraging the synergies of different flagship programmes of Central and State Government in convergence with Mahatma

Gandhi NREGA and State Rural Livelihood Mission through GIS Planning. Better coordination and implementation of CFP either through Civil Society Organisation (CSO) or through outsourced staff recruited through HR Agencies has been emphasised in the guidelines. In Tamil Nadu, the CFP will be implemented in 5 Blocks viz. two blocks each in 2 aspirational Districts (i.e) Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar Districts and one backward block from Sivagangai District. This Project will be implemented for a period of three years from 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2023. The Block is identified by Poor performance under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA (Low Persondays Generation, Delay in timely payment etc.), High SC / ST population, Tribal areas, Poor connectivity, Mission Water Conservation Blocks (Over exploited and Critical Blocks). The expenditure toward the implementation of CFP inclusive of Manpower and infrastructure support is entirely borne by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

Achievements

- During 2019-20, 22.80 Crore persondays were generated as on 06.03.2020 with a total expenditure of Rs.5242.55 Crore.

Timely Payment

- During FY 2019-20, 99.64% of wage payment to workers have been made within 15 days and the MoRD has changed the timely payment (Stage I) to T+8 and Stage II (T9+T15).

Good Governance Measures

As suggested by Government of India, Good Governance Initiatives viz., updation of Job Cards, Maintenance of 7 Mandatory Registers, Maintenance of Case Record / Work File and installation of Citizen Information Board are effectively implemented through Internal Monitoring Team at District Level headed by the Project Director, DRDA and Executive Engineer(RD) along with all Assistant Directors / Zonal Officers as per the indicative frame work of MoRD, GoI.

Likewise, State Level Monitoring Officers are appointed for the effective implementation of the

above Good Governance Initiatives to monitor and supervise the implementation in the districts.

Payment of Wages through Banks/ e-FMS

The State switched over to National electronic Fund Management System (Ne FMS) from 07.11.2016 wherein the wages are credited to the beneficiaries Bank accounts directly from Government of India.

Likewise, Administrative and material expenditure under MGNREGS are made through e-FMS from 01.04.2017 onwards.

Implementation of e-MR

- As per the directives of Government of India e-MR has been implemented in Tamil Nadu successfully from November 2017 onwards.

Aadhaar Seeding for all MGNREGS Workers' accounts

To enable the crediting of wages to MGNREGS workers account using Aadhaar Based Payment System (ABPS), the seeding of the Aadhaar numbers of all MGNREGS workers has been undertaken in NREGA website.

Out of total 88.64 lakh active beneficiaries in the State, Aadhaar numbers have been seeded for 87.10 lakh (98%) beneficiaries for the year 2019-20. So far, Aadhaar based payment has been made to 75.49 lakh (85.16%) beneficiaries.

Geo-tagging of Assets

The objective of GeoMGNREGA is to create a Geographical Information System (GIS) solution to visualize, analyze and explore the data of assets created under the MGNREGA. It essentially enables to view the assets created under MGNREGA across India on a map. GeoMGNREGA leverages 'Bhuvan', software platform developed by National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for this purpose. While the data of assets is taken from the NREGASoft application of Ministry of Rural Development, the unique capabilities of NREGASoft and Bhuvan are integrated into one Geospatial Asset Management & Planning tool and is named as 'GeoMGNREGA'.

So far 26,17,993 Assets have been geotagged since inception as on 06.03.2020.

National Awards for Best Performing State, District and Village Panchayat under MGNREGS

The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India organised National Award Distribution Function for the best implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme during 2018-19 at C.Subramanyan Hall, NASC, Pusa, New Delhi on 19.12.2019. Tamil Nadu was honoured with following 2 National level State Awards, 4 National Level District Awards, 1 National level Block Award and 1 National level Gram Panchayat Award.

State Award	District Award	Block Award	Village Panchayat Award
Best Performance in "Work Completion" - 1 st Rank "Implementation of Mission Water Conservation" - 1 st Rank	Effective implementation of MGNREGA by District Team - Vellore district Implementation of Timely Payment of Wages (T+8) - Tiruchirappalli district - 1st Rank Work Completion - Karur district - 2nd Rank	Implementation of Timely Payment of wages (T+8) - St Thomas Mount, Kancheepuram District - 1st Rank	Implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS - Selugai Village Panchayat, Devakottai Block, Sivagangai District.

State Award	District Award	Block Award	Village Panchayat Award
	Construction of structures augmenting Water Harvesting under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS – Vellore district – 2nd Rank		

Labour Budget Planning Exercise during 2020-21

The labour Budget is being prepared through a “bottom up” approach by each Village Panchayat (VP) duly approved by the respective Grama Sabha. Cluster-wise analysis is being undertaken for the preparation of Labour Budget and finalisation of the Labour Budget for 2020-21 in the Grama Sabha and special Grama Sabha conducted on 02.10.2019 and 25.10.2019 respectively.

The Empowered Committee meeting, GoI, MoRD to approve Labour Budget for the year 2020-21 was conducted on 13.03.2020.

SOCIAL AUDIT

Definition

As per section 3 (1) of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Audit of Schemes Rules 2011, the State Government shall facilitate the conduct of Social Audit of the works taken up under the Act in every Gram Panchayat at least once in six months by the Gram Sabha. Social Audit is a comprehensive audit done by the people with the guidance of the Social Audit staff. Apart from financial aspects, it looks at processes and Social, equity and performance aspects. It is an information, Education and Communication (IEC) tool, which enforces transparency and accountability and promotes participation of stakeholders in all stages (planning, design, implementation and evaluation) of development initiatives.

Scope

The Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu facilitates the conduct of Social Audit by Gram Sabhas to ensure the proper implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the State, as approved by the Central and State Governments.

Establishment

Social Audit Unit was registered as "Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu" (SASTA) on 9th January 2013 under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975 according to G.O. (Ms) No.125, RD & PR (CGS.1) Department, dated: 21.12.2012, in which the bye-laws for the formation of SASTA were approved.

An independent Social Audit Unit with a Director, two Joint Directors and one Assistant Director from Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department along with resource persons was established in the year 2013 (G.O. (Ms) No. 64, RD & PR (CGS.1) Department dated: 27.07.2012).

Further, 44 District Resource Persons, 31 Supporting Staffs and 770 Block Resource Persons have been sanctioned vide G.O. (Ms) No. 64, RD & PR (CGS.1) Department, dated 27.07.2012. The post of District Resource Persons have been reduced from 44 to 31 vide 4th Governing Body meeting Resolution No. 3 (b) dated 29.7.2016.

The District Resource Persons monitor the conduct of Social Audits in their respective Districts and submit the findings and special reports to the Director of Social Audit. The Block

Resource Persons along with Village Panchayat Resource Persons from the adjoining Panchayats facilitate the Social Audit as per the Social Audit Annual Calendar and submit the findings before the Gram Sabha. 24,831 Women Self Help Group members who have completed a minimum of 25 days of MGNREGS work and who have passed 8th standard have been selected as Village Panchayat Resource Persons (VPRPs). These VPRPs have been imparted with the necessary training for 4 days based on the manual developed by Ministry of Rural Development.

Area of Operation

The area of operation of the Society covers all rural areas of Tamil Nadu consisting of 36 Districts with 388 Panchayat Unions and 12,524 Village Panchayats (except Balamore Village Panchayat of Tiruvattar Block in Kanniyakumari District wherein MGNREGS work do not happen as it is covered with Rubber estates).

Social Audit Process

The Social Audit process consists of activities for 5 days as detailed below:-

Day 01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Co-ordination meeting at Village Panchayat level with the Block officials, elected representatives and Self Help Group members for the smooth conduct of Social Audit. b) Verification of records received from Village Panchayat office and Block Development Office by the Village Panchayat Resource Persons (VPRP) and Block Resource Person. c) Conduct of Habitation level awareness meeting on Social Audit in the evening.
Day 02	Door to door verification of Job Cards with e-Muster Roll, interaction with the beneficiaries and receipt of grievance petitions.
Day 03	Inspection of the worksite; field level measurements of the works.
Day 04	Preparation of Social Audit Report.
Day 05	Conduct of Special Grama Sabha.

Social Audit Activities during the year 2019-20

During the year 2019-20, regular Social Audit had been completed in all 12,523 Village Panchayats and Spill Over Social Audit had been completed in 2,188 Village Panchayats. Thus,

Social Audits have been conducted for 14,711 village panchayats during the year 2019-20.

During the year, 24 District Resource Persons, and 580 Block Resource Persons had been engaged in the Social Audit process.

All the Social Audit Reports for the year 2019-20 have been compiled and the same had been uploaded on the MGNREGA website ([www.nrega.nic.in.](http://www.nrega.nic.in))

Impact of Social Audit

Social Audit is being conducted by the beneficiaries/the stakeholders themselves, as a result of which the impact of Social Audit is tremendous, both among the beneficiaries and the implementing agencies. Deliberations that take place during the Special Gram Sabhas convened to discuss the Social Audit report are akin to public hearings. The process of Social Audit also helps the workers become aware of their rights and entitlements. Rectifications on the findings of the Social Audit take place in the Special Gram Sabhas. As a result of Social Audit, the maintenance of records at Village and Block levels have also improved.

Social Audit activities for the year 2020-21

A detailed calendar for the conduct of Social Audit in all 12,523 Village Panchayats during the year 2020-21 is under preparation. After the Annual Calendar for the year 2020-21 is drawn up, the same will be printed and the copy will be provided to the District Collector, Project Director of District Rural Development Agency, Assistant Director (Audit) and Assistant Director (Panchayats) of all the districts, Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India and the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad.

Based on the guidelines issued for the respective Schemes, Social Audit has been proposed to be extended to other Schemes like the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) and Dr. Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Nutritious Noon Meal Programmes from the year 2020 – 21 onwards.

4.2. Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana- (Gramin) (PMAY-G)

The Centrally sponsored housing scheme Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) was revamped and renamed as Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin) (PMAY-G) from the year 2016-17.

The scheme aims to provide pucca houses with basic amenities to all poor houseless and households living in huts and dilapidated houses in rural areas.

Socio-Economic Caste Census-2011 (SECC-2011) data is used to identify the beneficiaries through Grama Sabha.

60% of total target under PMAY(G) is earmarked to SC/ST, 40% for others (including minorities). In both the categories, 5% of allocation is made for physically challenged persons. The Plinth area of each house is 269 Sq. Ft.

The Government of India has fixed unit cost for a house as Rs.1.20 lakh. The funding for the scheme is shared between Central and State Government in the ratio of 60:40 (Central share Rs.72,000 and State share Rs.48,000). The Government of Tamil Nadu provides Rs.50,000 for

RCC roofing cost from the State fund which is in addition to the unit cost. Hence, the total unit cost of a house in Tamil Nadu is Rs.1.70 lakh.

In addition to the Unit Cost, each beneficiary is paid the notified wage rate in force under MGNREGS towards utilization of 90 persondays for the construction of the house. (90 x Rs.229 = Rs.20,610)

Further, a sum of Rs.12,000 is provided to the beneficiary for construction of Individual House Hold Latrine (IHHL) in convergence with MGNREGS.

Apart from these, cement is provided to the beneficiaries at subsidized rate. In addition steel, doors & windows are also provided based on the need of the beneficiaries and the proportionate cost for supply of materials is deducted from the payments due to the beneficiaries.

Since 2015-16, payments to the beneficiaries are being credited directly to their bank account through Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

The Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin), programme implementation and monitoring is carried out through AwaasSoft and AwaasApp. These two IT applications provide

effective monitoring mechanism for the stage wise implementation of the scheme.

Socio-Economic Caste Census-2011 (SECC-2011) data is used to identify the beneficiaries through Grama Sabha under PMAY(G). But it was found that many eligible beneficiaries were left out in SECC-2011 data. Based on the instructions of Government of India, to include the left out eligible beneficiaries in SECC Data 2011, the State had conducted survey in all Districts and identified 9.11 lakh eligible beneficiaries and their names with details have been entered in the "Awaasplus" application and Government of India approval is awaited.

A new grievance redressal mechanism named Appellate Committee has been introduced in PMAY(G) and constituted at District level to consider the complaints of the beneficiaries regarding the inclusion / exclusion of their names in the beneficiary list and resolve the same.

Under PMAY(G), 5,27,552 houses are being constructed at a total cost of Rs.8968.38 Crore for the years 2016-17 to 2019-20, with state share of Rs.5170.01 crore.

4.3. Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

In the year 1993, the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) had been launched by the Govt. of India which provides infrastructure facilities and bridging the gaps existing in the infrastructure facilities in Rural and Urban areas. Government of India has enhanced the annual allocation from Rs.2 Crore to Rs.5 crore per constituency from the year 2011-12. In Tamil Nadu, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is the nodal department for implementation of the scheme. The District Collectors accord administrative sanction for the works proposed by the MPs. The guidelines contain an illustrative list of works that can be taken and a 'negative list of works' which are not permitted under this scheme. Maintenance works of any type like desilting of ponds, rivers, tanks, canals, etc., are not permitted under MPLADS.

Various works have been taken at an allotment of Rs.290 Crore in various categories under MPLADS during 2019-20 as shown in the table below:

Table 4.2
Details of works taken under MPLADS during 2019-20

Sl. No	Category of works	No.of works
1	Buildings	155
2	Road	209
3	Water Supply	143
4	CD and Irrigation works	276
5	Others	732
	Total	1,515

4.4. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

The Government of India introduced the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) with the objective of providing all-weather road connectivity to unconnected habitations with a population of more than 500. Upgradation of existing roads was also permitted under the scheme.

The scheme was introduced with 100% funding by the Government of India. However, from 2015-16, PMGSY is being implemented on a fund sharing basis with 60% (Central share) and 40% (State share).

PMGSY I

Under PMGSY I, from 2000-01 to 2018-19, MoRD has sanctioned 7,678 number of Village Panchayat & Panchayat Union roads and Other District Roads (ODRs) for a length of 16,321 Km and 98 bridges at a cost of Rs.4,846 crore. This includes a state share of Rs.723.64 crore.

Table 4.3

Details of works sanctioned under PMGSY I

Sl. No	Phase	Year			
			Nos.	Length (in Km)	Value (Rs in crore)
1	I	2000-01	862	1,442.12	152.91
2	II	2001-02	444	795.09	114.27
3	III	2003-04	491	1,096.40	159.07
4	IV	2004-05	393	778.31	111.35
5	V	2005-06	365	799.59	170.84
6	VI	2006-07	810	2,049.02	459.82
7	VII	2007-08	1,581	3,010.32	853.72
8	VIII	2012-13	1,338	3,089.06	1,125.85
9	IX	2014-15	401	940.47	352.97
10	X	2016-17	589	1,321.81	718.47
11	XI	2018-19	502	998.57	626.41
Total			7,776	16,320.80	4,845.68

PMGSY II

The Government of India introduced PMGSY II for consolidating the rural road network by upgrading Through Routes (TRs) and Major Rural Links (MRLs) leading to Growth Centers and Rural Hubs.

Tamil Nadu has got sanctions for 860 number of roads to a length of 2,940 Km and 34 bridges at a cost of Rs.1,434 crore which includes a state share of Rs.620.33 crore.

Table 4.4

Details of works sanctioned under PMGSY II

Sl. No	Year			
		Nos.	Length (in Km)	Value (Rs in crore)
1	2017-18	790	2,653.58	1,240.94
2	2018-19	104	286.84	192.80
Total		894	2,940.42	1,433.74

PMGSY III

Tamil Nadu by virtue of achieving its targets under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana I and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana II has become eligible for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana III.

The objective of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana III is to upgrade existing Through Routes and Major Rural Links that connect habitations to Gramin Agricultural Market (GraMs), High/Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals. Government of

India has allocated an overall target of 7,375 Km length of roads to Tamil Nadu under PMGSY III.

Performance Incentive under PMGSY

Based on the achievement of annual targets under PMGSY, the Government of India had introduced, during 2016-17, sanctioning of Incentive grant to the states under PMGSY.

Tamil Nadu was awarded incentive grants during 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 of Rs.55.58 crore, Rs.45.32 crore and Rs. 30.14 crore respectively.

The incentive grant is utilised for periodic maintenance of 2,168 Km length of PMGSY roads which have completed 5 years routine maintenance and for this, the state has provided its share of Rs.87.35 crore.

Table 4.5
Details of Incentive Grant under PMGSY

Sl.No	Year	Incentive Grant (Rs in crore)			Works Taken	
		GoI	State	Total	No. of Roads	Length in Km
1	2016-17	55.58	37.05	92.63	561	959
2	2017-18	45.32	30.21	75.53	442	730
3	2018-19	30.14	20.09	50.23	270	479
	Total	131.04	87.35	218.39	1,273	2,168

eMARG – Electronics Maintenance of Rural Roads under PMGSY

Maintenance of all PMGSY roads is essential to preserve the asset created with huge investments. In order to monitor the status of maintenance of roads, MoRD has introduced a web portal called eMARG. eMARG enables Performance Based Maintenance of PMGSY roads.

Status of Unconnected Habitations

At the time of inception of PMGSY programme in 2000, Tamil Nadu had 2,402 unconnected habitations with a population of more than 500. Out of these, 2,386 habitations have been provided connectivity through PMGSY and other State schemes. The remaining 16 unconnected habitations could not be proposed under PMGSY due to non-availability of required land or due to Forest Department clearance.

In order to ensure 100% connectivity, it was announced in the Budget speech for the year 2018-19 that "State Government is committed to provide road connectivity and other basic amenities to all rural habitations. Also, the 16 tribal habitations having a population of more

than 500 that remains unconnected by all-weather roads will be provided with road connectivity”.

Based on the above announcement, so far 9 habitations have been connected under various State schemes and for the remaining 7 unconnected habitations, necessary steps are being taken to obtain Forest Department clearance to take up the work.

4.5. Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

The Government of India launched Phase-I of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)-(SBM (G)) on 2nd October 2014 with an objective of accelerating the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage. The Mission has now been extended with a focus on ODF Plus which includes ODF Sustainability and Solid and Liquid Waste Management under Phase – II.

Objective of the Scheme

The main objectives of SBM (G) are as under:

- a) Bring about an improvement in the general quality of life in the rural areas, by promoting cleanliness, hygiene and eliminating open defecation.

- b) Motivate Communities and Panchayat Raj Institutions to adopt sustainable sanitation practices and access facilities through awareness creation and health education.
- c) Develop wherever required, Community managed sanitation systems focusing on scientific Solid and Liquid Waste Management systems for overall cleanliness in the rural areas.

Components of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

Individual Household Latrine (IHHL), Community Managed Sanitary Complex and Solid and Liquid Waste Management are the important components of SBM (G).

(a) Individual Household Latrines

A duly completed household sanitary latrine shall comprise of a Toilet Unit including a substructure, a super structure with water facility. Eligible Households are given an incentive amount of Rs.12,000 for the construction of IHHL. The Mission aims to ensure that all rural families have access to toilets.

(b) Community Managed Sanitary Complexes

Community Managed Sanitary Complexes comprising an appropriate number of toilet seats, bathing cubicles, wash basin, etc., are set up in a place in the village, acceptable and accessible to all. The maximum support per unit prescribed for a Community Managed Sanitary Complex is now fixed as Rs.3 lakh under Phase II.

(c) Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM)

SLWM is one of the components of SBM (G) programme. The total assistance for SLWM projects under SBM (G) Phase II will be worked out on the per capita basis.

Awards and Recognition

Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) is not a mere programme of constructing toilets but it has emerged as a 'Mass Movement' with the huge and effective participation of Community, which reflected in the recent independent survey, 'Swachh Survekshan Gramin 2019', conducted by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, to ascertain the Cleanliness status of the Village in respect of ODF status and Solid and Liquid Waste Management

activities. Tamil Nadu secured 'Overall Best State' award from the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in the Swachh Bharat event held at Ahmedabad on 2nd October, 2019.

4.6. National Rurban Mission (NRuM)

National Rurban Mission (NRuM) was launched by Government of India on 16.09.2015 aiming at developing cluster of villages with facilities perceived to be essentially urban in nature, thus creating "Rurban Villages". The objective of the National Rurban Mission (NRuM) is to stimulate local economic development, enhance basic services and create well planned Rurban clusters.

Criteria for Selection of Rurban Cluster

As per National Rurban Mission Guidelines, a 'Rurban Cluster' would be a cluster of geographically contiguous villages with the population of about 25,000 to 50,000 in plain area.

Non-Tribal and Tribal are two categories of clusters under NRuM. For selection of Non-Tribal cluster, Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi has prescribed the following norms.

Criteria	Weightage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decadal growth in rural population • Rise in land values • Decadal increase in non farm work force participation • % of enrollment of girls in secondary schools 	80%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % Households with bank accounts under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) • Performance in Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) 	20%

The Government of India has approved the following clusters under National Rurban Mission (NRuM) in three phases.

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of Cluster	No.of Panchayats
PHASE – I (2016-2019)			
1	Tiruvallur	Kuthambakkam	11
2	Sivagangai	Vaniyankudi	7
3	Tiruppur	Velayuthampalayam	6
4	Coimbatore	Madukkarai	9
5	Tirunelveli	Suthamalli	14
Total			47
PHASE – II (2017-2020)			
1	Kancheepuram	Singaperumal Kovil	7
2	Madurai	Kovilpappakudi	16
3	Thanjavur	Thirumalaisamudram	9
Total			32

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of Cluster	No. of Panchayats
PHASE – III (2018-2021)			
1	Kanniyakumari	Chadayamangalam	5
2	Theni	Seelayampatti	7
3	Krishnagiri	Alasapalli Batravapalli	7
Total			19

Funding Pattern

Government of India has provided Critical Gap Fund to the clusters to supplement the short fall in funding available through various Government schemes in achieving the outcomes desired for the cluster. For plain areas, the CGF will be capped at 30% of the Project Capital expenditure or Rs.30 crores, whichever is less. The Rurban Mission is executed with a financial sharing pattern of 60:40 (Central and State Government).

Table 4.6
Critical Gap Fund under National Rurban Mission

(Rs in Crore)

Sl. No.	Phase	Scheme Period	No. of Clusters	Amount allocated
1	Phase – I	2016-2019	5	150.00
2	Phase – II	2017-2020	3	90.00
3	Phase - III	2018-2021	3	90.00
Total			11	330.00

The CGF and convergence funds are being utilized for the works under the components such as skill development training linked to Economic activities, Agro processing, Health, Education, Sanitation, Water supply , Solid and Liquid Waste Management, Village street and drains, Street light, Inter village road connectivity, Public Transport, LPG gas, Digital Literacy and Citizen service centre in each cluster.

Rurbansoft Portal was developed by Government of India for monitoring of the Scheme. The details of Integrated Cluster Action Plan (ICAP) and Detailed Project Report (DPR) are being entered in RurbanSoft.

As per the instructions of Government of India steps are being taken for the Integration of the vendor payments using expenditure module protocol through Public Financial Management System (PFMS) in RurbanSoft.

4.7. Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)

Government of India introduced the restructured RGSA scheme which aims to strengthen capacities of institutions for rural local good governance to become more responsive

towards local development needs. It also aims to prepare people's participatory plans, leveraging technologies for effectively utilising available resources for realising sustainable solutions to local problems linked to SDGs. The Panchayats have therefore been designated as a key player for implementation of the United Nations SDGs to be achieved by 2030.

Objectives of RGSA

- Develop governance capabilities of PRIs to deliver on the SDGs.
- Enhance capabilities of Panchayats for inclusive local governance with focus on optimum utilization of available resources and convergence with other schemes to address issues of national importance.
- Enhance capabilities of Panchayats to raise their own sources of revenue.
- Strengthen Gram Sabhas to function effectively as the basic forum of people's participation, transparency and accountability within the Panchayat system.

- Develop a network of institutions of excellence to support capacity building and handholding for PRIs.
- Strengthen institutions for capacity enhancement of PRIs at various.
- Promote e-governance and other technology driven solutions to enable good governance in Panchayats for administrative efficiency and improved service delivery.
- Recognise and incentivize PRIs based on performance.

Funding Pattern

RGSA is executed with a financial sharing pattern of 60: 40 (Central and State Government). The Government of India provides fund for Training, Training Infrastructure and Human Resources, Distance learning, Innovative activities, Technical support to PRI, Administrative and Financial Data Analysis and Planning Cell, Panchayat Building and Community Hall, E-enablement of Panchayats, Project based support for Economic Development and Income enhancement, IEC (2%) and Programme Management (5%).

The Government of India has sanctioned an amount of Rs.190.37 crore under RGSA for the year 2019-20 for conducting various training Programmes and also for the creation of Infrastructure facilities.

4.8. Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) was launched by Government of India on 11.10.2014. The guidelines of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) have been made available in the web-site www.saanjhi.gov.in

Saansad Adharsh Gram Yojana aims at holistic development of people of all walks of life through convergence. The Village Panchayat is the basic unit for implementation of the scheme. Each Member of Parliament should identify one Village Panchayat with a population of 3000-5000 in plain areas and 1000-3000 in hilly tribal and difficult areas. However, in districts where this unit size is not available, Village Panchayats approximating the desirable population size can be chosen. The Member of Parliament is vested with liberty to identify a suitable Village Panchayat for being developed as model Village Panchayat (Adarsh

Gram), other than his/her own village or that of his/her spouse. The Lok Sabha MP has to choose a Village Panchayat from within his / her constituency and Rajya Sabha MP a Village Panchayat from the rural area of a District of his / her choice in the state from which he / she is elected. Nominated MPs may choose a Village Panchayat from the rural area of any District in the country. In case of urban constituencies, (where there are no Village Panchayats), the Member of Parliament will identify a Village Panchayat from a nearby rural constituency. The MP will identify one Village Panchayat to be taken up immediately, two others to be taken up a little later. Primarily, the goal is to develop 3 model Village Panchayats by March 2019, of which one would be achieved by 2016. Thereafter, 5 such model Village Panchayats (one per year) will be selected and developed by 2024.

The Government have constituted the State Level Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government with members nominated vide G.O.(Ms) No.23, Rural Development & Panchayat

Raj (CGS.II) Department, Date:13.2.2015 for monitoring this programme.

The development of Village Panchayats identified under SAGY is intended to convergence and implementation of existing Government schemes and programmes without allocating additional funds or starting new infrastructure or construction schemes. "The resources should be used in a convergent and integrated manner to generate maximum synergy. In respect of Central Sector / Centrally Sponsored Schemes / Programmes, the Ministries / Departments concerned will take appropriate action to make suitable changes in the guidelines to enable priority to be given to the Adarsh Gram".

A number of State schemes are also required to be converged with this scheme for maximising outcomes.

4.9. New National Bio-Gas and Organic Manure Management Programme (NNBOMP)

The New National Bio-Gas and Organic Manure Management Programme (NNBOMP) is a

Centrally Sponsored Scheme, which aims at effective use of organic waste and converting it into renewable energy in rural areas.

The Government of India had defined the objectives of the scheme as follows:-

- i. to provide clean gaseous fuel mainly for cooking purposes and organic manure to rural and semi urban households through family type bio-gas plants
- ii. to mitigate drudgery of rural women, reduce pressure on forests and accentuate social benefits
- iii. to improve sanitation in villages by linking sanitary toilets with biogas plants
- iv. to provide bio digested slurry (liquid / semi-solid and dried) as an upgraded source of enrichment for manure to reduce and / or supplement use of chemical fertilizers by linking biogas digested slurry with enrichment units such as vermi-composting plants
- v. to meet 'lifeline energy' needs for cooking as envisaged in "Integrated Energy Policy" report of the Planning Commission.

This scheme is 100 % funded by the Central Government.

Table 4.7
Details of Subsidy components

Sl. No.	Description	Subsidy amount for Family Type Bio-Gas Plants under NNBOMP (in Rupees)				
		1 Cubic Metre	2-6 Cubic Metre	8-10 Cubic Metre	15 Cubic Metre	20-25 Cubic Metre
1	General Category	7,500	12,000	16,000	20,000	25,000
2	SC/ST Category	10,000	13,000	18,000	21,000	28,000
3	Addl. subsidy for cattle dung based bio-gas plants if linked with sanitary toilets, only for individual household fixed - Rs.1600/-				-Nil -	-Nil -
4	Turn Key Job fee	Rs. 2,500 per plant				

Under this scheme, target is fixed as 1,000 plants for the year 2019-20 and the works are under progress.

5. Establishment

5.1. Gazetted Establishment

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is an important Department in the State Administration which is responsible for the creation of rural infrastructure, maintenance of basic amenities, road connectivity, sanitation, housing, livelihood and local governance through Central and State funds. All these activities including Centrally sponsored and State funding schemes are planned, executed and monitored through State and District level officers of the department.

Table 5.1
Category wise Staff Strength

Government Employees – Gazetted Establishment

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
1.	Additional Director of Rural Development	18	Rs.123400 – 216300 (Level 29)
2.	Joint Director	86	Rs.61900 – 196700 (Level 26)
3.	Assistant Director	393	Rs.56100 – 177500 (Level 22)
4.	Block Development Officer	1061	Rs.37700 – 119500 (Level 20)
	Total	1558	

Creation of Posts for the New Districts and Blocks

The following posts have been sanctioned in the newly formed Chengalpattu, Ranipet, Tirupathur, Kallakurichi and Tenkasi Districts.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
1.	Joint Director	10	Rs.61900 – 196700 (Level 26)
2.	Assistant Director	40	Rs.56100 – 177500 (Level 22)
3.	Block Development Officer	30	Rs.37700 – 119500 (Level 20)
Total		80	

The following post has also been sanctioned in the newly formed Eriyur and Kadathur Blocks in Dharmapuri District and Srimushnam Block in Cuddalore District.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
1.	Block Development Officer	6	Rs.37700 – 119500 (Level 20)
Total		6	

The Government have sanctioned adequate cadre strength and ensures that the entitled benefits to the staff are granted and taken care of.

- There are 18 Additional Directors working in this department and among them 3 Additional Directors are on deputation to other departments.
- There are 86 Joint Directors working in this department and among them 6 Joint Directors are on deputation to other departments.
- 402 Assistant Directors are working in this department.

5.2. Engineering Establishment

For Construction and Maintenance of Rural Infrastructure and basic amenities, an Engineering Establishment consisting of Technical Officers is functioning in this Department.

Table. 5.2
Category Wise Technical Officers Strength

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
1.	Superintending Engineer	3	Rs.123100-215900 (Level 28)
2.	Executive Engineer	43	Rs.61900-196700 (Level 26)
3.	Assistant Executive Engineer	177	Rs.59300-187700 (Level 25)
4.	Assistant Engineer	930	Rs.56100-177500 (Level 22)
5.	Senior Draughting Officer	31	Rs.37700-119500 (Level 20)

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
6.	Junior Engineer	317	Rs.35900 – 113500 (Level 13)
7.	Overseer/JDO	2587	Rs.35400 – 112400 (Level- 11)
8.	Road Inspector	1145	Rs.19500-62000 (Level 8)
Total		5233	

Creation of Posts for the New Districts and Blocks

The following posts have been sanctioned in the newly formed Chengalpattu, Ranipet, Tirupathur, Kallakurichi and Tenkasi Districts.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
1.	Executive Engineer	5	Rs.61900-196700 (Level 26)
2.	Assistant Executive Engineer	20	Rs.59300-187700 (Level 25)
3.	Assistant Engineer	21	Rs.56100-177500 (Level 22)
4.	Senior Draughting Officer	5	Rs.37700-119500 (Level 20)
5.	Overseer/JDO	21	Rs.35400 – 112400 (Level- 11)
Total		72	

The following posts have also been sanctioned in the newly formed Eriyur and Kadathur Blocks in Dharmapuri District and Srimushnam Block in Cuddalore District.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
1.	Assistant Engineer	9	Rs.56100-177500 (Level 22)
2.	Overseer/JDO	13	Rs.35400 – 112400 (Level- 11)
3.	Road Inspector	6	Rs.19500-62000 (Level 8)
Total		28	

- There are 46 Executive Engineers working in this department and among them 8 Executive Engineers are on deputation to other departments.
- Out of 189 Assistant Executive Engineers working in this department, 14 of them are on deputation to other departments.
- There are 946 Assistant Engineers, 317 Junior Engineers, 34 Senior Draughting Officers, 2,605 Overseers / Junior Draughting Officers and 1147 Road Inspectors working in this Department. Out of 946 Assistant Engineers working in this Department, 11 of

them are on deputation to other Departments. Similarly, out of 317 Junior Engineers working in this Department, 6 of them are on deputation to other Department.

5.3. Deputation of Senior Officers to other Departments

The Senior Officers of this department in the cadre of Additional Director, Joint Director, Executive Engineer, Assistant Director and Assistant Executive Engineer have also been deputed to other Departments / Agencies such as Special Programme Implementation Department, State Planning Commission, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency, Mono Rail Project, Entrepreneurship Development Institute, Social Welfare and Noon Meals Programme Department, Tamil Nadu Adi-dravidar Housing & Development Corporation Limited (TAHDCO), Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers Fedaration Limited (Aavin), Chennai Metropolitan Development Agency (CMDA), State Industries Promotion Corporation of TamilNadu (SIPCOT) Directorate of Town Panchayat, National Rural Health Mission

(NRHM), National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA), IFAD assisted Post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (PTSLP), Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments Board, Tamil Nadu Text Books and Educational Services Corporation, Tamil Nadu Cable TV Corporation, etc. The exposure to schemes and experience gained by the officers in other departments equip them to improve their skills in the service of public.

5.4. Non-Gazetted Establishment

Service matters of employees of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department covered under Basic Service Rules, Tamilnadu Ministerial Service Rules and Panchayat Development Subordinate Service Rules are being dealt in Non-Gazetted Establishment Unit. Along with that, the welfare of the employees of the Local Bodies i.e., Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats are also taken care under this wing. The details of sanctioned strength of various categories of staff under Non-Gazetted Establishment and their present level of pay is tabulated below:

Table. 5.3
Details of the Employees under NGE

Sl. No.	Designation of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Level of Pay
a) Government Employees			
i)	Dy. Block Development Officer	3926	Rs.36900-116600
ii)	Assistant	5522	Rs.20600-65500
iii)	Junior Assistant	3110	Rs.19500-62000
iv)	Steno Typist	178	Rs.20600-65500
v)	Typist	1033	Rs.19500-62000
vi)	Driver	880	Rs.19500-62000
vii)	Record Clerk	131	Rs.15900-50400
viii)	Office Assistant	691	Rs.15700-50000
ix)	Night Watchman	121	Rs.15700-50000
x)	Masalji	14	Rs.15700-50000
Category of Local body Employees			
b) Panchayat Union Employees			
i)	Driver	770	Rs.19500-62000
ii)	Record Clerk	387	Rs.15900-50400
iii)	Office Assistant	1521	Rs.15700-50000
iv)	Night Watchman	377	Rs.15700-50000
v)	Masalji	9	Rs.15700-50000
c) Village Panchayat Employees			
i)	Panchayat Secretary	12525	Rs.15900-50400
ii)	Sweepers		
	Special Time Scale	26404	Rs.4100-12500
iii)	OHT Operator	40419	Rs.2600 Consolidated Pay

Creation of posts for the New Districts and Blocks.

The following posts have been sanctioned to the newly formed Chengalpattu, Ranipet, Tirupathur, Kallakurichi and Tenkasi Districts.

Sl. No.	Designation of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Level of Pay
i)	Dy. Block Development Officer	30	Rs.36900-116600
ii)	Assistant	122	Rs.20600-65500
iii)	Junior Assistant	72	Rs.19500-62000
iv)	Steno Typist	20	Rs.20600-65500
v)	Typist	35	Rs.19500-62000
vi)	Driver	55	Rs.19500-62000
vii)	Record Clerk	21	Rs.15900-50400
viii)	Office Assistant	75	Rs.15700-50000
ix)	Night Watchman	14	Rs.15700-50000
	Total	444	

The following posts have been sanctioned to the newly formed Eriyur and Kadathur Blocks in Dharmapuri District and Srimushnam Block in Cuddalore District.

Sl. No.	Designation of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Level of Pay
i)	Dy. Block Development Officer	22	Rs.36900-116600
ii)	Assistant	26	Rs.20600-65500
iii)	Junior Assistant	14	Rs.19500-62000
iv)	Typist	5	Rs.19500-62000
v)	Driver	9	Rs.19500-62000
vi)	Record Clerk	3	Rs.15900-50400
vii)	Office Assistant	12	Rs.15700-50000
viii)	Night Watchman	3	Rs.15700-50000
	Total	94	

1) Filling up of Vacancies

Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission has been requested to fill up the 205 Assistants, 475 Junior Assistants, 226 typists and 60 Steno typists vacancies by direct recruitment for the year 2018-19 & 2019-20. The Basic service vacancies are filled by direct recruitment through Employment Exchange and calling applications through newspapers.

During the year 2019-20, 27 posts being 10% vacancies reserved to Record Clerk / Office Assistant / Night Watchman and 78 posts being 20% reserved to Panchayat Secretaries were promoted as Junior Assistants.

In addition to the above, 287 Typists /Junior Assistants were promoted as Assistants, 332 Assistants were promoted to the cadre of Deputy Block Development Officers and 167 Deputy Block Development Officers were promoted to the cadre of Block Development Officers in the year 2019-20.

2) Recruitment of Village Panchayat Secretaries

The Tamil Nadu Government's reservation policy in the recruitment of Government service is introduced for the first time to Village Panchayat Secretaries also. During the year 2019, 786 posts of Village Panchayat Secretaries were filled up and filling up of 494 further vacancies are being carried out, adopting the reservation rules.

3) Compassionate ground appointment

The scheme of Compassionate ground appointment to support the family of the deceased Government Servants, has been extended to Panchayat Secretaries from the year 2016-17. During the year 2019-20, 104 individuals have been provided with compassionate Ground Appointment who are all the legal heirs of deceased Government employees belonging to

various categories including Village Panchayat Secretaries.

4) Standard Time Scale of Pay to Village Panchayat Secretaries

Considering the nature of work and increasing responsibilities entrusted to Village Panchayat Secretaries by the Government for strengthening the grass root level rural administrative system, the Scale of Pay of Village Panchayat Secretaries is revised from the existing Special Time Scale of Pay of Rs.2,500-5,000/- to Standard Time scale of pay Rs.15,900-50,400/- as per G.O.Ms.No.171, RD & PR (E5) Department, Dated:30.11.2018.

5) Welfare of Village Panchayat employees

For the welfare of the Village Panchayat Secretaries, various Government Orders related to additional charge allowances, fixed travelling allowance, maternity leave of 270 days to women Panchayat Secretaries, Special pension, lumpsum payment on retirement and compassionate ground appointment to their legal heirs as per their educational qualification have been issued from the year 2011 to 2017.

Government have sanctioned special time scale of pay to 9,896 consolidated paid Sanitary

workers working in Village panchayats and Panchayat Unions who completed 3 years as on 01.10.2010 and similarly now 16,508 consolidated paid Sanitary workers working in Village panchayats who completed 3 years were sanctioned special time scale of pay.

In the 12,524 Village Panchayats 40,419 OHT operators are working on part time basis on consolidated pay of Rs.2,600/-. An adhoc increase of Rs.100/- is allowed each time as and when Government increases DA for Government Employees.

The Sweepers on special time scale are entitled for Rs.2,000/- as special monthly pension and Rs.50,000/- as lumpsum payment on retirement.

6)Foundation Training in Civil Service Training Institute

The newly recruited Junior Assistants and Assistants are imparted basic training to acquire knowledge at Civil Service Training Institute, Bhavanisagar which is a fundamental and mandatory training for the successful completion of their probation on Government service, Public relations. During 2019-2020, 2478 persons were imparted this training.

6. Capacity Building

6.1. Capacity Building

A robust training Policy is crucial for any department or organization to train its employees in a structured and systematic way. The capacity building and training enables an employee to strengthen those relevant skills that needs to be improved. Its benefits are intangible. It takes them to a higher level of performance and presents a prime opportunity to expand the knowledge and skill base. It benefits the trainees, departments and community at large. The return on Investment on training is huge in terms of change of attitude, confidence, knowledge and efficient implementations of Government schemes. It improves the productivity, which in turn will ensure larger public welfare through efficient implementation of various Government welfare programmes. Upskilling of the employees will encourage creativity. A strong and relevant Training will enable the trainees to skill, re-skill, unskill and upskill.

The Commissionerate of training of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department functions exclusively for Capacity Building and

training. To undertake the trainings, the State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, at the State level and the 5 Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj at Sathiya Vijaya Nagaram in Tiruvannamalai district, Krishnagiri in Krishnagiri district, Pattukottai in Thanjavur district, Bhavanisagar in Erode district and T.Kallupatti in Madurai district are entrusted with the responsibility of capacity building of staff of the department, Elected representatives of the local self government administration (PRIs) and other stakeholders.

Table 6.1.
Basic details of 5 RIRDs & PR.

Sl. No.	Name of the Institution	Name of the District	Name of Districts Covered	Year of Establishment
1.	S.V.Nagaram	Tiruvannamalai	Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Tiruvallur, Cuddalore, Tiruvannamalai (5 districts)	1956
2.	Krishnagiri Dam	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Salem, Dharmapuri, Vellore (5 districts)	1958

Sl. No.	Name of the Institution	Name of the District	Name of Districts Covered	Year of Establishment
3.	Pattukottai	Thanjavur	Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Tiruchirappalli, Pudukottai, Sivagangai (6 districts)	1954
4.	Bhavanisagar	Erode	Erode, Coimbatore, Dindigul, The Nilgiris, Karur, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Tiruppur (8 districts)	1972
5.	T. Kallupatti	Madurai	Madurai, Theni, Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari (7 districts)	1948

6.1.1. Participants for Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj impart training to Officials and functionaries of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, elected

representatives of Panchayat Raj Institution such as Block Panchayat Ward Members, Village Panchayat Presidents, Village Panchayat Ward Members, Village Panchayat Secretaries and all other local government functionaries, Self Help Group members, CBOs, Line Department Officials and other stakeholders.

6.1.2. Training Programmes

The training programmes of the Regional Institutes include various topics viz., Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1994, Panchayat Administration, Maintenance of Accounts, Audit, various Schemes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Sanitation, Solid Waste Management, Non-Conventional Energy, Stress Management, Personality Development, Social audit, Village Panchayat Development Plans, Sustainable Development Goals, Convergence of SDGs with VPDPs, E-Governance, Right to Information, Cashless transaction, livelihood training, Computer Training, etc. Emphasis is also now being given on the training in technical aspects so that roads, bridges as well as culverts etc. of good quality are constructed. Each Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has got capacity

to train a minimum of 5,000 persons (in campus) to a maximum of 25,000 (including off campus) during a year.

6.1.3. Establishment

Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj are headed by Principals in the cadre of Additional Director/Joint Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

6.1.4. Fund

State Government has sanctioned Rs.7.09 crore during 2019-20 for the five Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj. The Government of India provides Rs.20 lakhs every year to each Regional Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj as recurring grant for the training programmes. It also provides 100% Non-Recurring grant on need basis to improve the infrastructure facilities and training equipments.

Table – 6.2.
Achievements in 2019-20
Training Achievements in 5 RIRDs & PR
(Regular, Computer & Special Training)
(as on 31.1.2020)

Sl. No	Name of the Training	Batches	Participants
1	Regular Training to RD officials	237	4882
2	Computer Training	169	3699

Sl. No	Name of the Training	Batches	Participants
3	Special Trainings	41	2059
4	Training Programme on Office Administration, Water Management, Health & Sanitation	21	412
5	Refresher Course for local body (Village Panchayat Audit Officers)	7	232
6	Audit Training for Technical Officer	5	77
7	Integrated technical training for the maintenance of basic amenities in Rural Areas	14	440
8	Training on basic technical skill in building and road construction for Panchayat works	11	278
9	Training on legal matters and RTI	9	306
10	RWO (Women) Social Welfare	1	35
11	PSA Training on Climate change and Disaster Mitigation	4	148
12	PSA – Training on Cashless transaction	6	180
13	PSA-Training on Community approaches on Sanitation	6	112
14	PSA-Training on Information Communication Technology	101	4001
15	TNSRLM -Orientation workshop/ Training to Community organizers on DAY-NULM	7	476
16	Narikuravar Skill and EDP Training	3	90
17	Water resource management Block level Officials	17	217
18	OSR training for Panchayat Secretaries	6	175
19	TOT training on sanitation and SBM	6	112
20	Awareness Training Programme on Health & Sanitation to Tribals in Nilgiris District	5	187
21	Skilled Development Programme (Beautician (40 days) Course)	1	35
22	PFMS /PS Training	2	28
23	One day Awareness Generation on "Drug Abuse Prevention" for Panchayat Raj Functionaries	1	40
	TOTAL	680	18221

During 2019-20, the five RIRDs & PR have conducted 680 batches of training, covering 18,221 persons as detailed above.

6.1.5. Innovative activities taken by RIRDs & PR

a) Third Party Assessment

During 2019-20, RIRDs &PR have taken up the impact assessment of their Training Programmes through different Third Parties. The identified Third Parties such as Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai etc. and all have submitted their reports in this regard.

**Table 6.3.
Third Party Assessment**

Sl. No	RIRDs&PR	Subject	Third party identified
1	SV Nagaram	Village Panchayat Development Plan	Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Kancheepuram District.
2	Bhavanisagar	Computer Training	Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore
3	Pattukottai	MGNREGS	Alagappa University, Karaikudi.
4	T.Kallupatty	General training	Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai
5	Krishnagiri	Sanitation	Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore

b) Research studies

In order to equip and upgrade their skills, the Faculty Members of RIRDs & PR have taken up research studies on various subjects.

Various workshops involving the experts of NIRD & PR, Hyderabad has been conducted by SIRD&PR to facilitate the Faculty Members of RIRDs & PR to familiarise themselves with the tools and techniques to undertake research studies. The Faculty Members of RIRDs & PR have submitted their proposals of research studies and the designated Committee had also approved the proposals.

Table 6.4.

Research studies undertaken by RIRDs & PR

S. No.	RIRD & PR	Research topics
1	SV Nagaram	A study on Property Tax System and Property Tax in Practice in Rural Village Panchayats
2	Bhavanisagar	"Exploratory Study on Ways and Means to augmenting the Non-Tax revenues of the Village Panchayats
3	Pattukottai	Study on problems in rural drinking water
4	Krishnagiri	Study on the awareness and reach of e-services at Panchayat level
5	T.Kallupatty	Quality of drinking water in Village Panchayats of Coastal area in Tamil Nadu

c) Bio Gas Plant in RIRDs & PR

A Bio-gas Plant has been installed using Kitchen waste, Vegetables and food wastes etc by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and it is functioning successfully in the campus of RIRD & PR Bhavanisagar. Based on the successful functioning of the Bio-gas Plant, the SIRD & PR and the remaining RIRDs & PR have been instructed to install the Bio-Gas plants in their campuses.

d) Agro-Eco Tourism at RIRD & PR, Krishnagiri

RIRD &PR, Krishnagiri has the required cultivable lands for agriculture and horticulture produce and located in an ideal location to attract tourism. Agro-Eco Tourism is the symbiotic association of farming sector, Organic farming, farm business and tourism industry. Agro-Eco Tourism entails visiting a working farm in organic agriculture, horticulture, water conservation techniques, and agribusiness operation for purpose of education, learning, active involvement, revenue earning and enjoyment for younger

generation. An Agro-Eco Tourism has been established in RIRD &PR, Krishnagiri in convergence with MGNREGS at an estimated cost of Rs.56.61 lakhs.

e) Training programme to Tribals of Nilgiris District

A special training programme for 187 Tribals has been conducted in Nilgiris district on Health, Sanitation, Sustainable Development of Agriculture / Horticulture, Animal Husbandry by RIRD & PR, Bhavanisagar during December 2019.

f) Skill Development Training

A Special Skill Development Training Programme on Beautician Course has been imparted to the 35 rural women living below poverty line in RIRD & PR, S.V. Nagaram from 18.11.2019 to 20.1.2020 (40 days) This programme has been conducted in coordination with Tamil Nadu Women Development Corporation, District Unit of Tiruvannamalai District. It has also been planned to conduct the second batch immediately.

g) Orientation Training to Women Rural Welfare Officers of Social Welfare Department

Orientation training to Women Rural Welfare Officers of Social Welfare Department has been conducted by all the 5 RIRDs & PR. It covered 175 Women Rural Welfare Officers and the list of topics covered in the training are children welfare, women welfare, laws for women, elders and senior citizen welfare, transgender welfare etc.

6.2. State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SIRD &PR)

The Government of Tamil Nadu have constituted State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj as a state apex institution to undertake various capacity building and training programmes. SIRD&PR has been registered as a Society under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act of 1975. Presently the Institute is functioning in a 25 acre campus at Maraimalai Nagar near Chennai.

As an apex institution, SIRD&PR organises training and Capacity Building for the elected

representatives of three tier Panchayat Raj Institutions, and different level of officials of Panchayat Raj Institutions and other line departments both through in-house and off campus mode.

6.2.1 Objectives of SIRD & PR

The prime objective of SIRD&PR is to impart training in updating knowledge, upgrading skills and bring in positive attitude towards 'citizen centric' schemes. It also develops necessary training curriculum for the participants of various training programmes.

6.2.2 Training Methodology

The participatory training methodologies like Case study presentation, Experience sharing, Exposure visits, Group discussions etc are being handled in this Institute. The 'Cascading model' is adopted by creating Master Resource Persons, who in turn build the capacity of the target participants at District, Block and Community levels. The Institute conducts residential programmes in its campus and off-campus programmes at District, Block and Village Panchayat levels through District Administration and Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

6.2.3 Resources for Training

State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj receives financial support for conducting training programmes from the State and Central Government and other Institutions as follows:-

1. SIRD &PR receives grants-in-aid to meet the salary and non-salary expenditure from recurring grant on 50:50 basis.
2. The Ministry of Rural Development provides 100% assistance to upgrade the infrastructure facilities like construction of hostels, training halls and for the purchase of teaching equipment's etc., every year on need basis.
3. The Ministry of Panchayat Raj and Government of Tamil Nadu provides financial assistance every year to organize capacity building and training of PRI Representatives and officials and functionaries with different thematic subjects under RGSA (Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan) - a Centrally Sponsored Programme.

6.2.4 Training Programmes in 2019-2020.

During 2019-2020, SIRD&PR has imparted various training programmes covering 1,01,916 persons as shown in the table which includes PRI functionaries at field level, functionaries of line departments, ToT, Training for Resource persons etc.

Table 6.5.
Training Performance 2019-2020

SI.No	Scheme	Achievement	
		Batch	Numbers
1.	SDG/ PRI-SHG convergence/ PFMS/ e- Tender procedures/ technical trainings.	92	2,919
2.	PRI- SHG Networks Convergence Framework to the office bearers of SHGs/ PFs/VPRCs	1,847	73,850
3.	Livelihood training to SHGs/PLFs/CLGs/PRIIs	43	850
4.	Special induction programme for village panchayat presidents and vice presidents	76	19,173
5.	NIRD & PR OFF-Campus Training	03	289
6.	Three Months Certificate Course on Panchayat Raj & Rural Development.	12	793
7.	Venue Programme- conducted by RD & PR Department	32	2,628
8.	Venue Programme- Conducted by other Departments	06	513
9.	Others	31	901
	Total	2142	1,01,916

6.2.5 National Awards

The SIRD&PR, Government of Tamil Nadu has been conferred with National awards for its creditable performance in conducting Number of Training Programmes and Number of participants attended the Training Programmes in Plain Areas for the year 2018-19.

The State has bagged First position under the Category Number of Training Programmes Conducted in Plain Areas for the year 2018-19 and Second position under the Category Number of Participants attended the Training Programmes in Plain Areas for the year 2018-19 from MORD, Government of India.

6.2.6 Strengthening of SIRD&PR

To strengthen the capacity building activities of the department, initiatives have been taken to promote Centers of Excellence in SIRD & PR and all the RIRDs & PR. The following 7 Centers have been established at State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

1. Centre for Panchayat Raj/SPRC
2. Centre for Programme Implementation and Training Co ordination

3. Centre for Livelihood, Women Empowerment and Enterprises promotion.
4. Centre for Engineering and Technology
5. Centre for Information, Communication and Technology
6. Centre for Climate Change and Natural Resource Management
7. Centre for Networking, Communication and New Initiatives

6.2.7 Master Development Plan for the Campus Improvement and Institutional Development

In order to have a holistic and sustained development, the SIRD&PR has prepared a Master Plan for Institutional Development and campus improvement. The Master plan comprising of existing and proposed infrastructure / Activities to be done at the SIRD&PR campus such as model Roads/ Pathway, sports complex, watershed management, Solid & Liquid waste Management, Herbal garden, Cultural Gathering space, Sensory Garden, Flower garden, Pond, Model Village and Spaces for future buildings and development in SIRD&PR campus.

6.2.8 Research Activities

A joint Research project with Centre for Climate Change, Anna University Chennai on the impact of extreme climate changes affecting rural Communities living in Coastal Panchayats of Tamil Nadu have been taken up. In addition to the above the following research studies have also been taken up by SIRD & PR.

- a. An exploratory study on the development initiatives contributing in mitigating and adopting extreme climate changes by local Communities in rural Tamil Nadu with special reference to MGNREGS.
- b. Case studies on the process and procedures of Village Panchayat Audit.
- c. An exploratory study on the challenges in collection of House Tax /Property Tax in Peri-Urban village Panchayats.

6.2.9 Net-working with other Academic Institutions

During 2019-2020, MoUs with IIT-M, Chennai, Gandhi Gram Rural Institute, Institute of Rural Management Anand, Gujarat, Madras School of Social Works etc. have been inked to undertake joint training programmes. This networking is

aimed at bringing in expertise in the areas such as Faculty Development, Research, Exposure visit, Skill Development, Field placements, Publications, Rural Development, Disaster Management etc. Similarly, the Organizations may benefit through Internship, Orientation, Training for Students, Joint Research and Evaluation Projects, Faculty Support, Documentation of best practices etc.

6.2.10 Technical Officers training:

Technical training cell is functioning at State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SIRD &PR) to impart capacity building and training to the technical officials of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. So far 155 different level of Engineers have been trained at Central Road Research Institute, New Delhi.

6.2.11 Other Training Activities undertaken by SIRD & PR

a) Capacity Building towards Public Financial Management System (PFMS)

SIRD&PR has conducted PFMS training to the officials of RD&PR Department covering

20,339 participants in 514 batches at a cost of Rs.3.80 crore.

b) Biodiversity Facilitators Training

SIRD&PR has conducted the Facilitators Training on Biodiversity with Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board by signing a contract with GIZ, New Delhi.

c) Village Panchayat Development Plan

As per the G.O 34, RD&PR (PRI-I) Department, dated 2.3.2016, SIRD&PR and five RIRDs&PR have been entrusted with the capacity building and training of the primary and secondary stakeholders on preparation of Village Panchayat Development Plans. SIRD&PR has trained around 1,37,000 persons through direct / indirect training.

d) PRI Training Initiatives

A massive 'capacity building plan' for the newly elected Rural Bodies Representatives was designed which included Induction training, Orientation training and basic training. To conduct these training programs four categories of trainers i.e. State level Master trainers, Regional level Resource persons, District Resource persons and

Sub-Divisional Resource persons were identified and trained. These trainers would handle the training programmes for six categories of elected representatives.

To facilitate the PRI Representatives for effective functioning and rule-bound administration, 15 books have been prepared on various topics including Panchayat general Administration, Schemes implementation, Financial Administration, e-governance etc.

Further more, Special training Programmes will also be organised exclusively for Women PRI Representatives, SC & ST Representatives to empower them to function effectively.

e) Hogenakkal Water Supply and Fluorosis Mitigation Project (HWS&FMP) in Dharmapuri & Krishnagiri Districts

The Government of Tamil Nadu has implemented "Hogenakkal Water Supply and Fluorosis Mitigation Project" with loan assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for the entire Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts. SIRD&PR has been given the responsibility of

capacity building and training activities at a cost of Rs. 276.64 lakhs by TWAD.

f) Training Programmes with Anna Institute of Management

For conducting training to the officers of RD&PR Department on the contemporary topics, an amount of Rs. 36 lakh is allocated to Anna Institute of Management, Chennai. Accordingly 840 officers will be trained in 28 batches.

g) Certification Course

SIRD&PR is conducting three month Certificate Course on "Panchayat Raj Administration and Rural Development" to Government Officials and General Public. The Course was commenced in the year December 2018. So far 793 Candidates have been trained in three batches.

6.2.12 State Panchayat Resource Center (SPRC)

State Panchayat Resource Center (SPRC) has been established at State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SIRD & PR) with the assistance of Ministry of Panchayat Raj,

Government of India to focus exclusively on Panchayat Raj Capacity Building and Training. The primary responsibility of SPRC will be to accelerate the capability building of the Panchayat functionaries, develop and disseminate knowledge about Panchayat Administration and Rural Development as a whole, among the officials of Rural Development Department and other line departments and function as a think tank on Panchayat Administration for the State Government.

6.2.13. District Resource Centers for Panchayats (DRCs)

District Resource Centres for Panchayats (DRCs) have been established under RGSA to focus exclusively on Panchayat Raj Capacity Building and Training at district level. The DRCs function under the administrative control of the District Collector. The Principal, RIRD&PR will coordinate and monitor the training activities.

6.3. Implementation during 2020-21

It has been proposed to train approximately 1,53,620 persons in 3,840 batches by SIRD & PR and five RIRDs & PR. This will go a long way in

implementing all the schemes effectively and efficiently.

All the training Institutes are trying their best to strengthen their strengths and to weaken their weaknesses.

7. Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women

7. Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women

"My aim is to relentlessly work for transforming Tamil Nadu as the best State in India, introducing and implementing various welfare schemes for women and ensuring that nobody should be below poverty line in the State.

I have greater interest in handholding and uplifting the poor, destitute, aged, widows and vulnerable who are in at the bottom of the Society".

- Hon'ble former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Purachi Thalaivi Amma

Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW) was established in 1983 by the Government of Tamil Nadu with the objective of making the women socially and economically empowered and ensuring them education, employment, economic development to become socially equal self-reliant and self-confident.

The TNCDW, by aggregating the poor women into SHGs, providing them capacity building, forming Community Based organisations (CBOs), facilitating financial linkages, employment

opportunities and empowering the women has established the SHG movement a great force to reckon with.

TNCDW through its multiple interventions over the years has effected a visible change in the life of the poor in Tamil Nadu by facilitating them to move towards the achievement of No poverty and Gender Equality being the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) brought out by the United Nations.

TNCDW is implementing the following four important schemes,

i. **Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM):**

A scheme for poverty reduction and livelihoods promotion in rural areas funded by Centre and State in the ratio of 60:40.

ii. **Tamil Nadu Urban Livelihoods Mission (TNULM):**

It is a scheme for the upliftment of urban poor funded by Centre and State in the ratio of 60:40.

iii. **National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP):**

The project is being implemented in 20 rural blocks in 5 Districts and funded by Centre and State in the ratio of 60:40.

iv. **Amma Two Wheeler Scheme (ATWS):**

Subsidy based Amma Two Wheeler Scheme, fully funded by Government of Tamil Nadu is implemented for the benefit of working women to ease their commute to their working place.

7.1. Mahalir Thittam

In the beginning, TNCDW with support of the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) implemented Women Development Project by mobilising women involved in agricultural activities into Self Help Groups (SHGs). This project was first started in Dharmapuri district and later extended to Salem, Ramanathapuram, Villupuram and Madurai districts. On its admirable performance, the Government of Tamil Nadu launched Mahalir Thittam (MaThi) and gradually expanded in all districts for the welfare of women.

Under this scheme, SHGs were formed with women members, provided with systematic training, networked through federations and provided bank linkages for taking up income generation activities for their socio-economic empowerment.

All the projects/programmes related to Poverty alleviation and development implemented by both TNCDW and World Bank are the improved versions of Mahalir Thittam only.

7.1.1. Self Help Groups (SHGs)

A group of 12 to 20 poor women in the age group of 18 to 60 years who are residing in the same area are organised as a 'Self Help Group' (SHG). The objectives of SHG are to conduct regular meetings, promote savings and internal lending among its members and inculcate the practice of collective and democratic decision making. To ensure the economic and social empowerment of women the SHGs are trained to effectively follow the Pancha Sutras namely regular meetings, regular savings, regular internal lending, regular repayment and regular maintenance of book of accounts.

Table 7.1
Details of Self Help Groups

1	No. of SHGs	6.96 lakh
	No. of SHG Members	103.32 lakh
2	No. of Rural SHGs	4.67 lakh
	No. of Members	69.28 lakh
3	No. of Urban SHGs	2.29 lakh
	No. of Members	34.04 lakh
4	Total Savings of SHGs	Rs.8,921 crore
5	No. of SHGs given Seed Money	5.98 lakh
6	Cumulative credit availed by SHGs (2011-2020)	Rs.65,930 crore

7.2. Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM)

Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission is implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu from the year 2012-13. The objectives of TNSRLM are to build strong and vibrant institutional platforms of the poor in the rural areas which enable them to increase their household income through livelihood enhancements and access to financial and other services. Under this scheme, the target group comprises of poor, very poor, vulnerable and differently abled.

7.2.1. Important features of TNSRLM

- Focus is on the very poor, poor, vulnerable and differently abled unlike other schemes.
- Identification and mobilization of the left out poor into the SHG network.
- Establishing and strengthening community organisations for the development of rural poor.
- Social empowerment of the rural poor through capacity building.
- Improving the quality of the SHG products and facilitating marketing.
- Providing financial assistance to SHGs for lending to their members for taking up economic activities.
- Employment linked skill training for rural youth.
- Convergence with the Government departments to leverage their financial and non-financial services and utilizing them in an effective manner.
- Enabling the rural poor to access basic facilities and to train them in conserving their environment and sanitation.

7.2.2. Area of operation

In Tamil Nadu, TNSRLM is implemented in 36 districts, except Chennai, covering 388 Blocks (including 120 TN RTP blocks and 20 blocks in 5 districts covered under World Bank assisted NRETP).

Table 7.2
Phase Wise Distribution of Blocks

Sl. No	Phase	Districts	Blocks	Village Panchayats
1	TNSRLM - Phase I	20	60	2250
2	TNSRLM - Phase II	32	110	3391
3	TNSRLM - Phase III	26	98	2472
4	TNSRLM- Phase IV (Erstwhile TNPVP)	31	120	4174
Sub Total		36	388	12,287
5	PTSLP(IFAD)	-	-	238
Total		36	388	12,525

Phase I (2012-13 onwards) – Out of 2,323 Village Panchayats in 60 blocks, 2,250 Village Panchayats under TNSRLM and 73 Village Panchayats by IFAD assisted Post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihood Programme (PTSLP) are covered.

Phase II (2013-14 onwards) – Out of 3,491 Village Panchayats, TNSRLM is implemented in 3,391 Village Panchayats in 110 blocks of 27 districts (now 32 districts) and the remaining 100

Village Panchayats were covered by IFAD assisted PTSLP.

Phase III (2014-15 onwards) – Out of 2,536 Village Panchayats, TNSRLM is being implemented in 2,472 Village Panchayats covering 98 Blocks from 2014-15 and the remaining 65 Village Panchayats have been covered by IFAD assisted PTSLP.

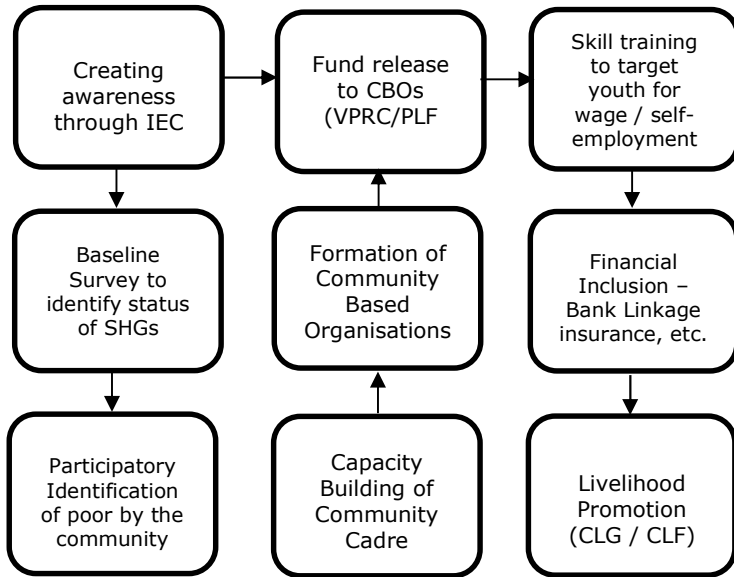
Phase IV (July 2017 onwards) - TNPVP was implemented in 4,174 Village Panchayats in 120 blocks of 26 districts (now 32 districts) and now covered under TNSRLM.

7.2.3. High Level Empowered Committee

TNCDW has been designated by the State Government as the nodal agency and it is the State level Mission Management Unit (SMMU) to implement TNSRLM. Under the Chairmanship of Honourable Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development and Special Programme Implementation, a High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC), has been constituted to provide policy level guidance and to review and monitor the implementation of TNSRLM activities. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Rural

Development and Panchayat Raj Department is the Mission Director and the Managing Director, TNCDW is the Chief Executive Officer of the Mission. The TNSRLM activities are being implemented through a dedicated staff structure at State, District and Block levels.

7.2.4. Sequence of Activities



7.3. Project Activities

The project activities are implemented in each and every village panchayat as follows:

7.3.1. IEC activities

TNSRLM creates awareness about the objectives and activities of the project among the public by conducting folk arts, street plays, rallies and through other tools such as wall paintings, posters, stickers, pamphlets and information boards.

7.3.2. Baseline Survey on the status of SHGs

Baseline survey is conducted by Community Resource Persons (CRPs) of TNSRLM / TNPVP in all the village panchayats to identify active, defunct and disintegrated SHGs. The details are used to revive the identified defunct SHGs through Capacity Building.

7.3.3. Participatory Identification of Poor (PIP)

TNSRLM conducted the PIP exercise from 2013-14 to 2016 in various phases to identify Very Poor, Poor, Differently abled, Vulnerable, Tribal and other marginalized communities in all the Village Panchayats as a collective exercise in which the entire community was involved. In order to ensure that no poor family is left out, TNSRLM adopts the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tool

and techniques such as Transect walk, Social Mapping, Wealth Ranking and Triangulation.

The PIP list is displayed in prominent places in all the habitations to receive claims and objections, if any, and the PIP list is approved by the Grama Sabha.

PIP process has been completed in all the three phases of TNSRLM and forms the basis for all further interventions under this project.

7.3.4. Formation of Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC)

VPRC is a committee comprising of the representatives of target people such as Very Poor, Poor, Differently abled, Vulnerable and Tribal people. As a committee having 11 to 19 members, it helps to identify the target poor, provide individual loans to redeem them from poverty and to reduce their vulnerabilities.

So far 12,734 VPRCs (including 472 tribal VPRCs) have been formed in the Project area covering all 388 blocks.

7.3.5. Formation of Social Audit Committee (SAC)

SAC has been constituted in all the Village Panchayats where VPRCs have been formed. The SAC is a monitoring committee consisting of 5 to 7 members constituted in the VPRC areas to monitor the activities of VPRC & PLFs and submit its report to the Grama Sabha.

7.3.6. Formation of new Self Help Groups (SHGs)

New SHGs are formed from the left out target (Very Poor & Poor) households identified through PIP process. The Animators, Representatives and Members of SHGs are imparted training on functioning of group and maintenance of the Books of Accounts. The TNSRLM facilitates the SHGs to progress economically by insisting the adoption of Panchasutra principles.

During the year 2019-20, 11,264 SHGs (both new and revived) have been formed under TNSRLM.

These SHGs will be graded and provided with financial assistance such as Seed Money, Community Investment Fund and Bank Linkages to

enable the SHGs to take up the economic activities.

7.3.7. Panchayat Level Federation (PLF)

Panchayat Level Federations have been formed at the village level and all the SHGs at the village level are federated under a PLF which is a registered body under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975.

The Government have exempted the PLFs from the purview of Section 25 and Section 42 of Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 have provided an institutional frame work for PLFs to take up income generation activities and benefit from them.

PLF will act as a most important link between the project and the village community.

Roles & Responsibilities of PLFs:

- The main responsibility is to mobilize all eligible women identified in the PIP process into Self Help Groups,
- To strengthen and lead the SHGs through financial interventions,

- To disseminate the information about the project among the SHGs,
- To support the SHGs in maintaining accounts, conducting audit and arranging for grading and credit rating,
- Act as a financial intermediary to facilitate low cost loans to SHGs by directly borrowing from Banks
- Converging with various Government departments to take up activities like social issues, health, nutrition and gender issues related to women development and empowerment.

Sub-Committees

PLFs discharge the above responsibilities through the following sub-committees for the betterment of its members and community:

- SHG Formation and Strengthening Sub-Committee
- Credit linkage and Monitoring Sub-Committee
- Livelihoods Sub-Committee
- Sub-Committee on Social issues.

Totally, 12,358 PLFs and 166 Livelihoods Sub Committees have been formed in all 388 blocks.

**Table 7.3
Details of PLFs**

Sl. No	Projects	Blocks	Village Pts	PLFs formed	Sub Committee formed*	Total
1	TNSRLM	388	12,287	12,120	166	12,286
2	PTSLP(IFAD)	-	238	238	-	238
Total		388	12,525	12,358	166	12,524

* The Sub Committees are formed in the Village Panchayats having less than 10 SHGs and such Sub Committees act as PLFs in these Villages

7.3.8. Block Level Federations (BLFs)

In Tamil Nadu, Block Level Federations have been formed and registered in 385 Blocks. The BLFs are formed primarily from the representatives of the PLFs and VPRCs from each Panchayat in that Block.

The functions of BLFs are;

- a) To enhance the capacity of the SHGs in accessing the bank linkages
- b) To ensure the repayment of loans
- c) To identify viable and sustainable income generation activities for the community

- d) To ensure social inclusion and to address social issues including Gender, Rights and Entitlements, FNHW etc., and
- e) It will also act as Block Level Training Centre to conduct all capacity building training using the services of Community Resource Persons (CRPs)

7.3.9. Financial Assistance to SHGs

a. Seed Money to SHGs

Seed Money is provided to the SHGs, on its completion of 3 months from the date of formation and grading. An amount of Rs.15,000 is given to the SHGs as a means of encouragement and to supplement their internal savings, augment their corpus and to enable more members to avail internal loans.

During the year 2019-20, Rs.8.62 crore has been released to the 5,745 newly formed SHGs at the rate of Rs.15,000/- per SHG.

b. Community Investment Fund (CIF)

Community Investment Fund is a project fund given to SHGs as a loan for their economic activities. CIF is released to PLF and in turn PLF releases this amount to the SHGs, as a loan to undertake economic activities. Loan is given to a

maximum amount of Rs.75,000/- per SHG at 9% rate of interest per annum. This amount is given to PLFs in one or more doses based on their livelihood activities so as to cover at least 50% of SHGs. PLF will function as the custodian of CIF amount.

PLF will ensure the 100% repayment, proper utilization and rotation of CIF.

During the year 2019-20, Rs.76.19 crore has been released to 15,238 SHGs at the rate of Rs.50,000/- per SHG.

C. Vulnerability Reduction Fund

Through PIP process the vulnerable people are identified in the project. The Vulnerability Reduction Fund is provided to differently abled and vulnerable individuals at the rate of Rs.10,000/- to Rs.25,000/- as an individual assistance for consumption or production purpose. The loan amount is used to address the issues such as food security, unexpected illness or hospitalization expenses, rehabilitation expenses for natural calamities etc., and Livelihood activities. The Vulnerability Reduction Fund is released to individuals through VPRCs.

During the year 2019-20, Rs.14.60 crore has been released to 5,839 VPRCs in the range of Rs.10,000/- to 25,000/- per VPRC.

7.4. Capacity Building

7.4.1. Training to TNSRLM staff

Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission, as a mandate ensures an intensive training on various components to its project staff. The following trainings are given to the staff to enable them to understand the project principles and concepts:

- Induction Training - I (Institution Building)
- Induction Training - II
- Thematic Training

7.4.2. Capacity Building to Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

Community Based Organizations are the bedrock entities for the successful implementation of TNSRLM project. These pro-poor organizations such as SHGs, PLFs, VPRCs, BLFs, MaKaMai (Makkal Kattral Maiyam) etc., are regularly provided with necessary training to ensure best services of their members. Governance and

Financial Management are the two focus areas in the training for CBOs. Basic trainings given to the CBOs are;

- Animator & Representative trainings and SHG members training to newly formed SHGs
- Training on Governance and Financial Management to the office bearers of PLFs.
- Executive Committee members training to PLF Members.
- Community Operation Manual (COM) training to VPRC members.
- Training to Sub-Committee members of PLFs and SAC.
- Training to Members and Office bearers of Block Level Federations.

7.4.3. Cluster of Master Trainers & Community Resource Persons

Social Capital is one of the biggest assets for any community development project. In order to ensure the Community Driven Development, TNSRLM creates a pool of resource persons on various project themes. These Resource Persons are developed through stringent empanelment

procedures amongst which best performing Resource Persons are identified and trained as Master Trainers. These Master Trainers train the other Resource Persons on various themes and in-turn these Resource Persons train the community.

The categorised master trainers and resource persons will conduct trainings at state, districts and block levels. TNSRLM effectively plans to create the pool of such trainers and ensures that the project based trainings reach the beneficiaries through them. The types of Community cadres developed by TNSRLM are detailed below:

- **Community SHG Trainers (CSTs)** – CSTs are identified to ensure the formation of SHGs and for their continuous monitoring. CSTs are basically SHG members. These CSTs are identified from the active and experienced members of the vibrant rural SHGs by providing necessary trainings and capacity buildings to monitor the SHGs and assist them in need. Monitoring the functional efficacy of SHGs and ensuring Panchasutra principles are the important work of the CSTs. Each CST monitors 10 to 15 SHGs at the village level.

- **Community Differently - abled Facilitators (CDFs)** – CDFs are the para-professionals selected one per VPRC, trained and deployed for the community based rehabilitation management. They mainly identify the needs of differently-abled persons, arrange necessary institution based rehabilitation training for them and link them with various Government schemes to ensure their coverage through convergence.
- **Community Resource Persons – Jobs (CRP-Jobs)**–TNSRLM acts as a pioneer in providing youth skill training and implements various training programme to the youth. In-order to mobilize youth from villages and to monitor their progress, CRP-Jobs are identified and deployed. These CRP-Jobs maintain the database of youth at the village and enable skilling for wage employment in the desired trades. Thus community based monitoring is ensured.
- **Community Bank Coordinators (CBCs)**–To ensure bank linkage for the SHGs two efficient members per cluster are selected as Community Bank Coordinators and trained on credit linkage,

financial inclusion and financial products and schemes of the government and banking sectors. They, in turn guide the SHGs to get bank linkage, credit facilities, repayment and insurance etc. and conduct meetings among the SHGs to create awareness on the financial literacy and digital transactions.

7.4.4. Training to Bank Officials

Credit linkage to the SHGs is one of the most important components of TNSRLM. For livelihoods promotion and income generation, the SHGs need bank credit linkage at a reasonable rate of interest. In providing bank credit the role of Bank Managers/Bank personnel is very vital. Hence, the Bank officials need to be sensitised on SHG movement, its role in poverty alleviation, the various components of TNSRLM and other projects implemented by the TNCDW. For this purpose, orientation training is conducted on concepts related to SHG–Bank Linkage, Financial literacy, Financial Inclusion, Digital Literacy etc., A team of Resource Persons trained in such Capacity Building is conducting the training and workshops for Bankers at State and District level.

7.4.5. Activities under Capacity Building 2019-20

- 3,902 New SHGs have been given SHG Animator & Representative (A&R) and SHG members training in 1951 batches (Each Batch 30 members)
- 10,607 Community Self Help Group Trainers (CSTs) were trained in Book Keeping to train SHG Animators & Representatives.
- 39,210 members of 7,842 PLF were given Refresher training on Governance and Financial management for PLF.
- 400 Community Bank Coordinators were trained for strengthening Financial Inclusion.
- 8,013 Book keepers of VPRCs were given book keeping training.
- 1,432 Office Bearers and 1,565 members of BLFs were trained on Governance and Financial Management for BLF.

7.5. Skill and Placement Programme under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) is a Placement linked Skill Development scheme for the rural poor youth

implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India through the State Government with a funding pattern of 60:40 ratio. The Vision of DDU-GKY is to *"Transform rural poor youth into an economically independent and globally relevant workforce"*. This scheme aims to skill rural youth aged between 18-35 who are poor and provide them with jobs having regular monthly wages, which are above the minimum wages of the State.

Salient features of DDU-GKY

- Rural youth from poor households in the age group of 18 to 35 years are eligible beneficiaries, both male/female (upper age limit is 45 years in case of vulnerable such as tribal, widows deserted women, freed bonded laboures & transgenders)
- Training institutions/Industries with Permanent Registration Number (PRN) and having expertise in skill training and placement with a proven track record are eligible to apply and impart training as a PIA (Project Implementing Agency).
- Social inclusion through mandatory coverage of socially disadvantaged groups (SC - 62%,

ST – 3%, Minorities – 16%, Persons with Disability (PWD) – 3% and Women (Combining all categories) – 33%) is one of the pivotal inclusive aspects.

- Mandatory assured placement of minimum 70% of trained candidates.
- Course duration varies from 3 to 12 months according to the job role and skill requirement in the job market.
- Both residential and non-residential trainings are available.
- Facilitation by the field level functionaries (CRP-Jobs, BC-Skills) for mobilising the candidates and community based monitoring.
- Training modules include domain curriculum and mandatory skilling in non-domain areas such as Spoken English, basics in Computer, Soft Skills and On-the-Job Training (OJT) to enhance employability.
- Candidates on completion of training and assessment are awarded with certificates issued by the Government agencies namely National council for Vocational Training (NCVT) and Sector Skill Councils (SSC).
- Minimum remuneration of Rs.6,000/- per month or the minimum wages of the State for the

semi-skilled person, whichever is higher will be ensured for the trained candidates on placement. However our state has stressed Rs.8,000/- as minimum wage per month for DDU-GKY trained candidates.

- The scheme is inbuilt with Post-placement Support, Career progression and facilitation through Migration support Centres across the State.
- The scheme facilitates both domestic and foreign placements.
- One year monitoring and facilitation after placement.
- Counseling for Parents during mobilization.

Table 7.4
Sector wise cumulative target and achievement under skill Training –
(From 2012 – 13 to 31.01.2020)

SI. No	Sector	Total Trained
1	Industries	4,203
2	Information Technology	14,868
3	Garments & Apparel	10,040
4	Tourism & Hospitality	3,483
5	Construction	1,221
6	Automobile	4,353

SI. No	Sector	Total Trained
7	Beauty & Culture	1,236
8	Fire & Safety	458
9	Health	2,904
10	Retail	2,535
11	Leather	720
12	Driving	2,110
13	Automotive	760
14	Electronics	632
15	Capital Goods	541
16	Logistics	647
17	Banking Financial Services and Insurance	484
Total		51,195

From the year 2016-17 onwards, projects for training and placing the candidates are being sanctioned to the PIAs (Project implementing Agencies) as three year projects through a Project Approval Committee (PAC) headed by the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. A target of 44,416 candidates has been fixed for the period 2016-19. So far, 102 projects

have been sanctioned by identifying training partners to train the candidates.

For the period of 2019-2022, an additional target of 84,000 candidates with an outlay of Rs.1,026.50 crore has been sanctioned by MoRD to be trained under this scheme.

7.5.1. IEC Activities

i. Dial a job

State Mission Monitoring Unit has now been equipped with a Call Centre/Help Line facility to facilitate the identification of right beneficiaries for the scheme and mobilisation of youth. The call centre functions on all working days between 10 am to 6 pm and provides necessary information for the helpline callers such as:

- Details of DDU- GKY
- Availability of Training Centres & Courses at the districts.
- Contact details of PIAs and District office.
- Counselling to rural youth.

ii. Training Calendar

For the first time, the Training Calendar was evolved and sent to all district collectors for effective monitoring. This training calendar

provides information on the consolidated target details of all PIAs in the state. The calendar helps the district team to plan the skill development mobilisation & training plan for DDU-GKY scheme.

7.5.2. Kaushal Panjee Portal along with Mobile App

The Ministry of Rural Development, GoI has initiated the Kaushal Panjee skill registry to capture and upgrade skills of rural youth aged between 18-35 years. The Project Implementation Agencies (PIAs) can also contribute by registering trainees registering in the Kaushal Panjee portal / Mobile App.

The candidate can either register himself/herself by using the existing details of SECC data or by entering the details as a fresh candidate.

As on 31.01.2020 **Tamil Nadu ranks 1st** in the national level for enrolment of 4,47,030 candidates through this App.

7.5.3. Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs)

Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institutes (RUDSETI) was formed by

Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank for mitigating the unemployment among the youth. These institutions started in cities such as Bengaluru and Madurai. Following this, Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) established by various Banks in Districts are engaged in training rural youth for taking up self-employment opportunities and thus promoting rural entrepreneurship.

RSETIs strive to achieve high allotment rate for all the trained candidates and facilitates bank credit linkage for the candidates.

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is providing funding support for creation of infrastructure and also reimbursing training cost of BPL candidates. State Governments, DRDAs, TNSRLMs, SIDBI, NABARD and other development organizations are also extending support to the training programmes of RSETIs. There are 30 RSETIs functioning in the state.

Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM) plays a very crucial role through DDU-GKY in the functioning of RSETIs by way of mobilization of candidates for training, monitoring and release of funds to RSETIs.

Table 7.5
RSETI Training and Settlement - 2019-20

Sl. No	Name of the Bank	No. of RSETIs	Trained	Total Settled	Self – Employment		Wage Employment
					Bank Loan	Self-Fund	
1	IOB	11	9704	4207	1718	2489	169
2	INDIAN Bank	10	5453	2888	742	2146	274
3	Canara Bank	6	3329	3136	771	2365	432
4	SBI	2	1178	819	248	571	58
5	RUDSETI (Madurai)	1	643	384	180	204	79
Total		30	20307	11434	3659	7775	1012

7.5.4. "UNNATI" Scheme

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 aims at building sustainable livelihoods for the rural households. The main thrust is on providing unskilled manual work for 100 days to the eligible rural households. The Government of India, as an improved format, have formulated a Project for Promoting Skilling of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers.

Aim of the Scheme

This project "UNNATI" intends to upgrade the skill-base of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers, and thereby improve their livelihoods, so that they can move from the current partial employment to full employment and thereby

reduce their dependence on Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

7.6. Financial Inclusion and Micro Credit

7.6.1. Bank linkage to SHGs

SHG Bank Linkage Programme is an intervention which ensures the "*Right to Credit*" for the poor by enabling access to formal banking and financial services. Right to Credit is ensured in the programme by ensuring not just *access*, but also *adequate* and *timely* credit at *affordable* interest rates. SHG-BLP has brought innumerable households out of the debt trap and enabled subsequent access to finance to start income generating activities for diversifying and augmenting their family income thereby enabling a good quality of life and a way out of the vicious cycle of poverty.

SHG-BLP enables women to avail loans at lower rate of interest and build a strong relationship with bankers for up-scaling their economic activities by availing higher quantum of loans continuously. Timely and adequate credit delivery at a reasonable rate of interest through SHG Bank Linkage programme and the provision of Interest

Subvention has enabled economic empowerment of women in the state.

During the year 2018-19, against the target of Rs.11,000 crore, Rs.11,448.99 crore was achieved through credit linkage to 2,95,612 SHGs. For the first time, this achievement of Rs.11,448.99 crores under Bank Linkage Programme is the highest achievement ever in our state.

It is our endeavour that the average loan size in our State shall be Rs.6.00 lakhs per SHG to enable the SHG members to undertake sustainable livelihood activities to improve their family income and thereby come out of the poverty.

During 2019-20, as against the target of Rs.12,500 crore a sum of Rs.13,300.64 crore loan have been achieved to 3,03,703 SHGs upto 29.02.2020. The average loan size per SHG is improved from Rs.3.87 lakh to Rs.4.37 lakh.

In the last nine years alone since 2011, totally Rs.65,929.61 crore has been availed as credit by the SHGs through Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRB) and District Central Cooperative Banks including

Primary Agriculture Cooperative Credit Society (DCCB-PACCS) in the state.

The endeavour of TNCDW is that the SHG members should utilise 80% of the loan thus received to undertake income generating activities to augment their house-hold income.

7.6.2. MoUs with Banks

In order to ensure more credit from Banks continuously, at lower rate of interest with higher quantum of loans to SHGs, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is being signed with Banks.

So far, 6 MoUs are signed with the following banks viz.

Table 7.6

S. No	Name of the Bank	Date of signing of MoU
1	IDBI Bank	07.09.2017
2	ICICI Bank	07.09.2017
3	Bank of Baroda	25.07.2018
4	State Bank of India	25.01.2019
5	UCO Bank	06.11.2019
6	Tamil Nadu Grama Bank	09.11.2019

The MoU covers the following;

1. Sanctioning of adequate loan without delay with increased quantum of loans for repeat linkages at lower rate of interest, as per RBI guidelines.
2. Engagement of SHG members trained under Indian Institute of Banking and Finance (IIBF), Pune as Business Correspondent agent (BC-Sakhi) either directly by the bank or through the banks' Corporate Banking Correspondent.
3. Engaging SHG members as Business Facilitators (BF) for sourcing of banking business for Banks and also as Debt Recovery Agents (DRA) for recovery of NPA loans by paying commission on agreed terms.

After signing of MoU, there is substantial increase in the SHG Bank Linkage achievement.

7.6.3. Tamil Nadu Grama Bank

In Tamil Nadu, there were two Regional Rural Banks functioning namely 1) Pallavan Grama Bank sponsored by Indian Bank with Head Office at Salem covering 15 districts in northern part of Tamil Nadu 2) Pandyan Grama Bank sponsored by Indian Overseas Bank, Head Office at Virudhunagar covering 16 districts in the southern part of

Tamil Nadu. As per Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance (MoF) and Government of India instructions both the RRBs in the State have been amalgamated and Tamil Nadu Grama Bank with Head Office at Salem under the sponsorship of Indian Bank has been formed on 01.04.2019.

Out of 9 Directors in the Banks' Board, two Directors represent the State Government viz., (1) Additional Chief Secretary to Government, RD & PR Department and (2) Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, TNCDW & TNSRLM.

The combined presence and reach of the amalgamated RRB and TNCDW will enable to further deepen the financial inclusion and financing SHG enterprises.

7.6.4. RBI guidelines for SHG Loan amount

As per guidelines of RBI, the SHGs can avail either Term Loan (TL) or Cash Credit Limit (CCL) loan or both based on need.

Cash Credit Limit (CCL): In case of CCL, banks are advised to sanction minimum loan of Rs.5 lakh to each eligible SHG for a period of 5 years with a yearly Drawing Power (DP). The drawing power

may be enhanced annually based on the repayment performance of the SHG.

7.6.5. Community Based Recovery Mechanism (CBRM)

Community Based Recovery Mechanism is a system to enable the community to participate in the banking process and to help both SHGs and Banks in repayment and recovery.

For availing adequate loan by SHGs, effective monitoring and recovery of Non-Performing Assets (NPA), if any, Community Based Recovery Mechanism (CBRM) is being formed in all the SHG lending Bank branches. The CBRM meeting will be held periodically and issues related to SHG bank Linkage will be discussed and sorted out.

7.6.6. Interest Subvention to SHGs

In order to help the poor SHG women to come out of poverty as envisaged in the Financial Inclusion Committee report, National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), GoI has introduced Interest Subvention scheme since 2013-14 to women SHGs who have availed loans up to Rs.3 lakh. Interest subvention scheme to SHGs is directly implemented by the GoI in Dharmapuri,

Vellore, Villupuram, Thiruvannamalai, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Trichy and Dindigul districts.

In the remaining districts, the scheme is being implemented by the State through TNSRLM in the ratio 60:40. SHGs who repay the loan instalment and interest amount regularly without any delay or default will become eligible for Interest Subvention.

So far, 3,56,006 women SHGs who have availed loans from Public Sector Banks and Private Sector Banks have been provided with Interest subvention to the tune of Rs.59.91 crore by TNSRLM.

During 2019-20, so far alone 1,32,352 SHGs have been provided with Interest Subvention of Rs.18.73 crore. In 2020-21, a sum of Rs.20 crore is estimated for release of Interest Subvention.

7.6.7. Bulk Loan to Panchayat Level Federations

As SHGs are not adequately financed by banks and to avoid the SHGs falling prey to exorbitant interest rates by private money lenders

or other institutions, PLF Bulk Loan scheme is introduced.

PLFs obtain bulk loan from the banks ranging from Rs.10 lakh to Rs.1.5 crore to ensure adequate credit flow to SHGs. During the last nine years, Rs.176.88 crore has been provided by banks as Bulk Loan to 765 PLFs and in turn to SHGs. During 2019-20, as against the target of Rs.150 crore, so far Rs.48.74 crore was provided to 94 PLFs.

7.7. Livelihoods Promotion

TNSRLM recognizes that the poor need to have multiple livelihoods. One of the key interventions of TNSRLM is to enhance and expand the existing livelihoods of the poor. More than 70% of the poor are dependent on agriculture either as cultivators or as agriculture labour. Besides, livestock rearing is also a key livelihood for the poor.

Key objectives of farm based livelihood promotion activities.

- Every poor household is supported with at least 2 farm sector livelihoods

- Assured annual incremental income of more than Rs.50,000 per family per year after 2 years of intervention
- Year-long food & nutritional security for the households
- Income streams throughout the year
- Creation of Social Capital for Agriculture, NTFP and Livestock from the best practitioners.

TNSRLM has been working strongly towards achieving the above objectives.

Progress in coverage of Blocks

Livelihood activities was initially started with Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) from the year 2015-16. It is a concerted effort to recognize the role of women in agriculture, to enhance their capacities and increase their income in agriculture and allied activities. MKSP was implemented in Tamil Nadu with a budget outlay of Rs.24.35 crore in the districts of Villupuram, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram and Karur covering 14 blocks.

From the year 2016-17, livelihood promotion activities were also being taken up from NRLM Annual Action Plan. Year wise and scheme wise

progress in coverage of Livelihood activities is given in the table.

Table 7.7
Block Coverage Plan

SI. No.	Year	No.of Districts	Blocks	Mahila Kisans
MKSP				
1	I Phase	3	10	16,800
2	II Phase	2	4	12,000
Total		4	14	28,800
NRLM				
1	2016-17	14	7	38400
2	2017-18	9	15	28950
3	2018-19	9	29	47150
4	2019-20	30	65	271370
Total		30	116	385870

In the year 2020-21, it is proposed to take livelihood promotion activities covering 97,900 women farmers in 29 blocks.

7.7.1. Strategy for Implementation of Livelihood activities

Under Farm Livelihoods interventions, the core focus would be to promote sustainable agriculture, where the inputs are localized, risks are mitigated, productivity is enhanced, and food-nutritional security is ensured. Hence, net income of family is increased. In sustainable agriculture, TNSRLM is focusing on agro-ecology by promoting

low cost sustainable practices such as Non Pesticidal Management (NPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), inclusion of cultural practices, climate resilient practices, soil health improvement / management, in-situ water conservation, diversified poly-crop model and promoting traditional varieties of seeds.

TNSRLM recognized the importance of livestock, especially the small ruminant and poultry in the livelihoods of the poorest. TNSRLM would be engaged in aligning livestock activity as an integral part of farm sector livelihoods through community based institutions by creating a cadre of community service providers for delivering the related services at the door step of the SHG members.

The following are some of the interventions at household level and village level:

a. Household Level

- Nutri garden promotion for household's nutritional security and regular income.
- Preparation and usage of Beejamruth for seed treatment and Ghanjeevamruth etc., for soil fertility management.

- Promotion of NADEP/Vermi compost, sticky traps etc.,
- For in-situ moisture conservation, practices like mulching.
- Promotion of SRI/SSI, Azolla cultivation, trap cropping and bund cropping.

b. Village Panchayat Level

- Non Pesticidal Management (NPM) shop
- Custom Hiring Centre (CHC)
- Regular Farmer Field School (FFS)
- Community Resource Persons (CRPs)
- Seed bank
- VO/PLF sub-committee
- Producer Group

The focus of the entire livelihood promotion will be through social capital by promoting Community Resource Persons (CRP) for every village to provide supports in agriculture and livestock activities.

Livelihoods interventions in the project blocks should be started in a programmatic manner with the following guiding principles:

- Identify small and marginal farmers (SHG members by giving priority to vulnerable, deprived and Women headed households).
- Mobilize them into institutions such as Producer's Groups and Farmer Producer Organisations
- Intensive engagement through promotion of Farmers' Field Schools.
- Focus on capacity building and handholding support.
- Build Social Capital – create a cadre of Community Resource Person (CRPs) for scaling up in the new areas
- Address the needs of entire livelihoods basket and integrate agriculture and livestock.

7.7.2. Primary Producer Groups

To overcome the difficulty of individual farmers and to improve their bargaining power, collective approach is being promoted by TNSRLM by forming 'Producer Groups'. A group of mahila kisans involved in agriculture and livestock having marketable surplus will be aggregated to form such Producer Group.

Based on the primary crop cultivated by the Producer Group, Capacity Building to the members will be provided for the Sustainable farming activities viz., Micro irrigation, Organic farming, Integrated Farming System, Integrated Plant Protection Management, Integrated Nutrient Management and Marketing. The training and necessary demonstration will also be converged with departments of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

So far, 3,850 Farmer Producer Groups have been formed with 1,01,019 mahila kisans. The members of the producer groups will be motivated to take up collective activities such as collective procurement of raw materials, other inputs and aggregation of their produce for marketing and value addition.

In 2020-21, it is proposed to extend farm activity in 979 Village Panchayats to cover 1 lakh beneficiaries and additionally it is proposed to form 850 Producer Groups. Each Producer Group will be provided with a working capital loan to the tune of Rs.1.50 lakh for collective procurement of raw material, aggregation and marketing. In addition, each Producer group can avail loan of Rs.50,000

for infrastructure such as facilities for sorting, grading, plastic crates and other tools and equipment for safe storage and transportation.

7.7.3. Farmer Producer Enterprises

In order to compete with the market situation and to strengthen the value chain services, Producer members are aligned together to form a Producer Enterprise. The Producer Enterprises may be registered under the Companies Act or Cooperative Act or any other Act. They are expected to take up higher order activities such as processing and value addition post-harvest management, market linkages and extending inputs and services to its member constituents apart from accessing financial institutions for capital requirements. Over a period of time it is proposed to establish 10 to 20 Producer Enterprises by TNSRLM.

7.7.4. Custom Hiring Centre (CHC)

Custom Hiring Centre refers to collection of various tools and equipments suitable to various crops at one place to provide farm based services at a pre-determined service cost. People who desire to hire the services of tool bank can utilise the services by paying a service charge. The tools

for such a bank / custom hiring centre will be selected based on available crop, demand, cost of such machines, manageability etc. With a careful choice of different tools & equipments, the CHC will be in a position to get orders throughout the year.

During the year 2019-20, orders for establishing 251 Custom Hiring Centre were issued at a cost of Rs.10.00 lakhs each with a funding pattern of 80:15:5 viz department subsidy (80%), project contribution (15%) and beneficiaries contribution (5%). District wise, the PLFs which are interested to run the CHC with their 5% contribution have been identified. Orientation training was given to PLFs to expose the availability of various machineries suitable to various crops. To operate and run various machineries, group of farm women in the name of Labour Army will be formed and they will be engaged to provide farm mechanisation services for various crops. While the CHCs will be owned by the PLF of the village, the labour army will run the CHC and render services on cost basis.

The Objectives of Custom Hiring Centre are;

- To create opportunity to a group of women to provide farm mechanization services and to earn income.
- To achieve drudgery reduction for women by introducing crop specific women friendly tools and machineries.
- Expand mechanized activities amongst small and marginal farmers.

7.7.5. Farm Field School (FFS)

In order to engage the farmers intensively and to disseminate various agronomic practices to farmers, it is proposed to conduct Farm Field School under TNSRLM. FFS is fundamentally a participatory group approach for collective action to experiment and solve problems independently.

In FFS, groups of farmers meet regularly with a facilitator, observe, talk, ask questions and learn together for 8-12 weeks for a growing season of a crop. FFS is based on the fact that the best learning takes place by doing rather than just listening. Farmers are encouraged to make their own discoveries and draw conclusions. The scope of FFS approach includes not only agriculture and IPM but also include aspects such as water management, household livelihood security etc.,

As part of Livelihood Promotion strategy, especially for the Farm Sector under TNSRLM Farm Field Schools are proposed to be conducted in all project blocks where Farm Livelihood Promotion has been rolled out @ 20 Farm Field Schools per block (10 FFS for Agri and 10 FFS for Livestock), totally 2,320 Farm Field Schools.

7.7.6 Nutri Garden

As a special initiative to address the food and nutrition and for the promotion of health and well-being among the rural people Nutri garden is being promoted under TNSRLM. Under the scheme awareness is created about food and nutrition, training is given to set up Nutri garden and required seeds and seedlings are distributed to the selected SHG members. The beneficiaries have to establish nutri garden in their backyards or roof tops or any other place available to them. Papaya, moringa, lemon, curry leaf, manathakkali keerai, Mango, Guava, Banana are some of the vegetable and fruits promoted under nutri garden. During the year 2019-20, training was given to 2 Lakhs SHG members and formation of nutri garden done in the villages.

For the year 2020-21, it is proposed to extend the scheme to additional 2 lakh SHG members.

7.7.7. Promotion of Organic Village Cluster

TNSRLM has been strengthening livelihoods by interventions in agro-ecological practices, improved livestock rearing, and sustainable Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) collection and value addition. Organic farming is the next logical progression as it moves towards organic certification and marketing to enable farmers to get better market access.

The activities to be taken up under Organic Village Cluster are

- Identification of organic village clusters (selection of village clusters)
- Placing qualified staff for implementation of the programme
- Technical support Agencies (TSAs) and partnership for implementation support
- Identification of interested Mahila Kisans
- Identification of Resource Persons (Community Resource Persons (CRPs) and Master Trainers)
- Initiating Organic Certification process

- Training and capacity building of project staff, CRPs and mahila kisans.
- Consultations at state and district level for collaboration with other institutions and line departments for convergence with existing schemes like Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY).

During the year 2018-19, 20 clusters covering 2,000 farmers were selected for promotion of organic cultivation and all the farmers were grouped in to Local Groups and their details of farming are uploaded in the PGS portal by the Resource Agency. During the year 2019-20, an additional 20 clusters have been identified covering additional 2,000 farmers. They are also formed into Local Groups for Organic certification processes. Based on the successful implementation, it is proposed to scale up organic village clusters promotion to 100 clusters during 2020-21.

7.7.8. Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP)

Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP) is a sub-scheme under National Rural Livelihoods Mission, Ministry of

Rural Development, Government of India for the promotion of Non-Farm livelihoods.

The scheme was initiated in the year 2014-15 with the primary objective of stimulating economic growth and reducing poverty and unemployment in the villages by encouraging SHG members to take up local nonfarm activities. The scheme is funded by the Centre and State in the ratio of 60:40.

Core objectives of the programme are:

- To help the rural poor come out of poverty by setting up enterprises and provide mentoring support till the enterprises stabilize.
- To provide them with business skills, exposure, loans for starting enterprises and business support during the first six critical months of their enterprises.
- Development of social capital in the form of Community Resource Persons-Enterprise Promotion (CRP-EP) who will provide hand holding support to the enterprises.
- Skill development of Entrepreneurs.

The Scheme is implemented in Tamil Nadu in 2 blocks namely Thiruporur (Chengalpattu

District) and Ulundurpet (Kallakurichi District) with a budget outlay of Rs.10.18 crore to assist 3096 identified new and existing micro enterprises.

Enterprises in Manufacturing, Trading and Service sectors that has the potential to be profitable and generate employment in villages will be identified by CRP – EPs. Based on the interest and basic knowledge on the selected enterprise by the SHGs / SHG member, support for business plan preparation would be rendered by the CRP – EPs. TNSRLM will also provide mentoring and handholding support for the beneficiaries.

On approval of the Business Plan, the financial support will be provided to SHG member entrepreneurs through Community Investment Fund (CIF), Community Enterprise Fund (CEF) and Bank Linkage.

7.7.9. Non-Farm enterprises promotion through NRLM

In addition to Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP), Non-Farm enterprises promotion is taken up through NRETP and NRLM in selected blocks. Individual and group enterprises are proposed to be promoted through One Stop Facility which comprises of group of

CRP – EPs and other professionals capable of supporting interested SHG member entrepreneurs. One Stop Facility will help entrepreneurs to identify possible enterprises, preparation of business plan, accessing Community Enterprises Fund or Bank loan etc. Similar to OSF, Incubators will be set up to promote and mentor some of the replicable enterprises which have got good potential in that area. Institutions which can run such incubators will be roped into provide incubating services.

During the year 2020-21, it is proposed to develop 3,000 non-farm enterprises through OSF, Incubators and clusters development.

7.7.10. Marketing Support

a. Exhibitions

TNSRLM supports SHGs for marketing their products periodically through exhibitions, bazaars and regularly through marketing complexes. These exhibitions create avenues for improving marketability of SHG products and marketing skills of SHG members.

TNCDW organizes 3 State Level exhibition every year on the eve of Pongal, Chithirai and

Navarathiri festivals under the Banner “Mahalir Mela” to popularize and promote the sales of SHG products like handicrafts, artificial jewellery, jute products, leather goods, millet products etc., During the year 2019-20, Navarathri Exhibition was conducted at State level in which 130 SHGs participated and sold products worth of Rs.68.25 lakh.

Sale of Articles of Rural Artisans Society (SARAS) exhibitions are a regular annual national-level event and are able to elicit wide participation of Self Help Groups from all over the country. The participants bring an impressive range of rural products. During the year 2019-20, 319 SHGs from Tamil Nadu have participated in 11 SARAS Exhibitions at National level and sold products worth of Rs.86 lakh.

Organic Melas

Tamil Nadu Rural Livelihood Mission supports the livelihood of organic farmers & SHG members by periodically conducting organic melas. The promotion of organic products has reached the public and thereby the sales motivate the organic farmer. In 2019-20, nine organic melas were conducted with sales worth of Rs.45 lakh.

In continuation of the last year, 12 organic melas are planned for 2020-21.

b. State and District Supply & Marketing Societies

The State Supply and Marketing Society (SSMS) is a registered society under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 established for promoting the sale of SHG products and value addition. Similarly, District Supply and Marketing Societies function at district level to promote SHG products in the districts through kiosks and marketing complexes built for promotion of SHG products. All District Supply and Marketing Societies have been linked to the State Supply and Marketing Society.

c. College Bazaars

College Bazaar is one of the market avenues to familiarise the SHG products among the youth. Such bazaars benefit SHG members to assess the latest market requirements and help in popularising SHG products apart from ensuring good revenues for the SHGs.

During 2019-20, so far 26 college bazaars have been organized. In these bazaars, 682 SHGs

have participated and sold products worth of Rs.82.78 lakh.

d. Mathi Kiosk

Mathi Kiosk is an exclusive sales outlet to promote the sale of SHG products. 137 kiosks have so far been established in prominent locations like tourist places, bus stands, temples, Government offices and other institutions across the state. Products like herbal products, handicrafts, stylish jute products, artificial jewellery, minor millets and handmade toys etc., are sold through the kiosks. During 2019-20 so far the total sales made through these kiosks are Rs.192.40 lakh.

e. Sanitary Napkin Federation

As a special initiative, TNCDW promoted a Sanitary Napkin Federation (TNSANFED) by federating 54 Sanitary Napkin producing SHGs functioning across the State. The federation ensures timely and qualitative supply of napkins to Health Unit Districts (HUDs) to implement Menstrual Hygiene programme.

Government through the Health and Family Welfare Department have placed an order for the

supply of 36 lakh packets of belt type of Sanitary Napkin to the tune of 7.56 crore in the year 2018-19, vide G.O.(Ms) No.458, Health and Family Welfare (P2) Department, Dated.08.12.2017.

During 2019-20, TNSANFED have produced and supplied 43.75 lakh sanitary napkin packets through 54 SHGs across the State to 32 Health Unit Districts (HUD) allocated to them to the tune of Rs.9.18 crore.

f. Formalization of SHG entrepreneurs

As a special initiative, SHG members who are engaged in manufacturing, trading and service sector as part of their livelihood activities, but do not have Udyog aadhar, PAN Card, FSSAI license, GST etc., have been helped for improving and scaling up their activities. Holders of the above documents have many advantages such as availing government subsidy, easy access for finance from banks, priority in government procurements and other entitlements. In order to enable SHG members to avail such benefits, a special drive was conducted. About 9,000 SHG entrepreneurs have benefitted so far.

g. Branding

To improve the marketing of SHG products, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women have developed and registered a brand and logo for the state in the name of 'Mathi'. In addition, it is also planned to support districts to have their own district specific brand name and logo.

Based on the level of attainment of quality and turnover and the level of adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, the SHG products will be brought under district / state level branding.

7.8. Social Inclusion and Social Development

Special efforts are being undertaken under TNSRLM to identify and mobilize vulnerable and marginalized households, particularly those belonging to SC/ST, Minorities, Differently abled, Women Headed Households, Landless, Migrant labour & Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups and households located in isolated and remote villages in hilly terrains. In this context, there is a need to initiate various social inclusion and social development (SI&SD) related interventions and integrating with the TNSRLM activities.

During the current year (2020-21), the following activities will be carried out under this component:

a. Special convergence for Differently Abled & Elderly

As part of the social inclusion strategies, TNSRLM proposes interventions for extending community based support to differently abled and vulnerable persons. This will be carried out in 9 Districts covering 1,163 Village Panchayats of 29 blocks with a budget outlay of Rs.777.83 lakh in 2020-21.

As part of the intervention, a technically qualified agency (BDMRFA – Block Disability Mitigation and Rehabilitation Facilitating Agency) will be engaged for each block so as to effectively address the needs of differently abled and vulnerables through development of skilled Community Differently abled Facilitators (CDFs).

Identification of persons with disability, their entitlements and rehabilitation wherever applicable will be done through this programme. Special Groups for the PWDs, Elders and other vulnerables will be formed and their requirements will be addressed through this strategy.

b. Community Based Mental Health Programme – Manam Inithu

Mental Health and Well-being are fundamental for the over all development of individuals – particularly women. Based on this, a pilot programme on community mental health is introduced by TNSRLM from the year 2019-20. The objective of this programme is to develop community level mental health counsellors in the proposed village panchayats to provide counselling, assisting and mentoring community members for the well-being of their family members in convergence with the Health Department, NHM (National Health Mission), NGOs etc. A community training manual on mental health has been released by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 31.10.2019 and ToT on mental health and well-being was imparted to 35 members (5 from each districts) of 7 pilot districts. To facilitate the technical support for implementation, a knowledge partner namely Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF) Chennai has been engaged. An amount of Rs.802.47 lakh is earmarked during 2020-21 to carry out the following activities:

- Developing CRPs as community mental health counsellors / Bare Foot Counsellors (BFCs) in village panchayats.
- Conducting community camp for identification of affected persons.
- Remuneration for the services rendered by community mental health counsellor.
- Orientation to PRIs, VPRCs, SHGs and PLFs on positive mental health practices.

The programme is proposed to be implemented in 22 districts covering 22 Blocks and 735 village Panchayats.

Follow up activities:

In continuation of the above process, the follow-up activities like Family counselling, Coping support, Medical follow-up and Community peer support will be carried out through trained CRPs to ensure expected outcome of the programme besides arranging for livelihood trainings and engaging the recovered persons in MGNREGS works. The CBOs shall act as community institution for first level approachable institution for mentoring, referrals etc.

c. Food, Nutrition, Health & WASH (FNHW)

TNSRLM is given top priority to Food, Nutrition, Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (FNHW) health and through this component it is addressing issues in the project areas to find progressive solution. It is proposed to support the empowerment of CBOs by integrating community based FNHW convergence interventions. This component of intervention will be implemented in co-ordination with Health, ICDS and Education Departments as a collective initiative.

Under this component, a Block Nutrition Centre (BNC) will be created on a pilot basis in one block by which the reduction in the proportion of women and children affected by Anaemia, Stunting, Wasting and Underweight in will be demonstrated besides creation of awareness to the SHGs of the 5 blocks selected for implementation.

The proposed interventions will be implemented in Coimbatore, Virudhunagar and Ramnad Districts under TNSRLM covering 104 Village Panchayats and in Salem and Cuddalore Districts under NRETP covering 83 Village Panchayats at an estimated cost of Rs.356.35 lakh.

d. Gender Interventions

During these days of increasing economic growth, there is a need to get away with the Gender biased treatments persisting in the society. There is a need to intervene in the matter of child marriage, domestic violence and sexual abuse so as to safeguard the women and children.

Keeping the above social concerns in mind, the Gender interventions are planned to be implemented and integrated with the TNSRLM activities from the current year (2020-21) onwards.

The above component of intervention will be piloted in Dharmapuri, Ramnad and Nilgiris Districts covering 6 village Panchayats under TNSRLM and in 2 Village Panchayats in Cuddalore District under NRETP at an estimated amount of Rs.82.02 lakh in the year 2020-21.

e. PRI - CBO Convergence

The Convergence between the Gram Panchayat and the Community Based Organisations (VPRC/PLF) is very much essential in the development of a village as the SHGs are nurtured by the CBOs. Hence, the following initiatives are proposed to be implemented in the

selected village panchayats.

- Expansion of PRI-CBO Convergence projects.
- Preparation of VRP (Vulnerability Reduction Plan) and converging into Village Poverty Reduction Plan.
- Participation of VPRCs/PLFs in VPDP (Village Panchayat Development Plan) preparation.
- Enhanced participation of SHGs in Gram Sabhas.
- Convergence with flagship schemes & programmes.

An amount of Rs.89.64 lakh has been budgeted for the implementation in 13 districts (Cimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Nagapattinam, Ramnad, Nilgiris, Salam, Thiruvarur, Thiruvannamalai, Vellore, Villupuram and Virudhunagar) covering 1,356 village panchayats during 2020-21.

7.9. Management Information System (MIS)

TNCDW manages a large amount of socio-economic data regarding SHGs, other CBOs and in particular, their transactions and governance details through real time Management Information System (MIS) for project planning and decisions making.

e-Mathi, a part of TNCDW, is a portal which enables Real Time Transactional Accounting & Governance developed to enable the CBOs to manage themselves. For the project it helps to manage and monitor the activities of the CBOs by acting as a Decision Support System (DSS). e-Mathi portal and database of TNSRLM has been upgraded to capture and provide real time information of SHGs and CBOs like VPRCs and PLFs by capturing the details of savings, loans, repayment, maintenance of books of accounts etc.,

Apart from e-Mathi, the other important IT initiatives taken during 2019-20 are:

- tnatws.org – Portal working as an online MIS for Amma Two Wheeler Scheme.
- eCRP.in – Portal for Community Cadres (Community Resource Persons).
- Mobile App for monitoring of Sanitary Napkin Federations activities.
- eMathi App – Mobile app Community Digital Radio and e-Learning platform.

7.10. National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP)

Subsequent to the closing of National Rural Livelihoods Project (NRLP) in 2018-19, which aimed to provide additional pro-poor investments along with the provision of skilled technical assistance in the implementation of NRLM, the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has introduced a new scheme namely National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP) from 2019-20 with the funding by Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu in the ratio of 60:40.

The NRETP will focus on implementing higher order activities such as strengthening of Block/Cluster level federations, promotion of value chain development, individual and collective enterprises in Farm and Non-Farm sectors, skill development and scaling up of alternate models for delivery of financial services. Also, the farm livelihoods interventions will be focused around the promotion of producer groups, producer enterprises, organic village clusters and value chain interventions. Apart from the livelihood related interventions, the social development

interventions like FNHW (Food, Nutrition, Health & WASH), Gender ect., are being integrated with activities of Model CLF/PLF.

The project design envisages that there will be an organic link between the model cluster level federation and financial inclusion strategies, insurance and pension schemes, producer groups and organisations, product marketing and enterprise development.

This project is implemented on a pilot basis in the State in 20 blocks, covering 4 blocks each in 5 districts namely Cuddalore, Erode, Salem, Thanjavur and Trichy districts. The blocks have been chosen for implementation on the consideration of

- Presence of more than 2 years old SHG federation.
- Atleast 50% of SHGs federated and provided with Community Investment Fund (CIF).
- Farm and non-farm livelihoods interventions have been grounded
- Adequate amount of social capital has been generated under various thematic areas.

A budget of Rs.30.12 crore has been proposed for the year 2020-21 for our state which includes a central share (60%) of Rs.18.07 crore and state share (40%) of Rs.12.05 crore.

7.10.1. Model Panchayat Level Federation (PLF)

Under National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP) 20 Blocks have been identified in 5 NRETP districts, in which 729 panchayats are existing out of which 50% of the Panchayats i.e 365 have been selected to develop Model PLF / CLF in 3 phases as given below:

Table 7.8

Phase	No. of Blocks	No. of Pts	Period
I	5	80	April 2019 to March 2020
II	7	122	April 2020 to March 2021
III	8	163	April 2021 to March 2022

7.10.2. Digital Finance

The objective of this component is to lay foundations for creating a credit history for SHG women through a transactional MIS with links to their bank accounts. The credit history thus created will be the next step in facilitating higher order financial linkages by supplementing CIBIL and Hi-Mark scores.

7.11. Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana -National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)

The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India restructured the erstwhile Swarna Jayanthi Sehri Rozgar Yojana and launched the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) in 2014-15 with the funding ratio of 60:40 by the Central and State Governments. DAY-NULM intends to reduce poverty and vulnerability of the urban poor households by building strong Community Based Organisations of the urban poor and enabling them to access gainful Self-employment and Skilled wage employment opportunities, resulting in an appreciable improvement in their livelihoods on a sustainable basis.

The mission also specifically targets the needs of the Urban Homeless by providing shelters equipped with essential services and the livelihood concerns of the Street Vending Community by facilitating access to suitable vending spaces, institutional credit, social security and skills for accessing emerging market opportunities.

The components of DAY-NULM scheme are:

1. Social Mobilization and Institution Development (SMID)
2. Self-Employment Programme (SEP)
3. Employment through Skill Training and Placement (ESTP)
4. Capacity Building and Training (CBT)
5. Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH)
6. Support to Urban Street Vendors (SUSV)
7. Innovative and Special Projects (I&SP).

The Tamil Nadu Urban Livelihoods Mission (TNULM) was implemented by the Commissionerate of Municipal Administration from 2014 to 2016 and was initially implemented in 40 towns including District Headquarters and towns having population more than one lakh.

The Nodal Agency / Mission Directorate for the implementation of TNULM has been transferred to Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW) from the Commissionerate of Municipal Administration, vide G.O(Ms). No. 62, Municipal Administration & Water Supply (M.A.2) department, dated 04.03.2016. Based on the above order, the four major components of TNULM, namely, Social Mobilization and Institution Development (SM&ID), Capacity Building and

Training (CB&T), Employment through Skill Training and Placement (EST&P), Self-Employment Programme (SEP) are being implemented by TNCDW from 2016-17. Further vide G.O.(Ms) No.114, MA & WS Department, dated 27.10.2017, the implementation of Innovative and Special Projects (I&SP) has been transferred to TNCDW.

The remaining two components namely, Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH), Support to Urban Street Vendors (SUSV) continue to be implemented by the Commissionerate of Municipal Administration through the Urban Local Bodies. While the regulatory functions of forming and monitoring the Vending Committees and preparation of Street Vending Plans will continue to lie with the Urban Local Bodies, TNCDW focuses on the economic development support of urban Street Vendors like skill development, financial linkage, economic rehabilitation etc.,

7.11.1. Social Mobilization and Institution Development (SM&ID)

a. Self Help Group Formation and Seed fund to SHGs

From the year 2016-17 to 2018-19, 34,461 SHGs have been formed with the financial assistance of Rs.34.46 crore. 10,635 SHGs have

been formed in the year 2019–20 and 10,000 groups were supported by seed fund of Rs.10 Crore.

b. Formation of Area Level Federations and Seed fund to ALFs

So far, 644 ALFs have been formed from the year 2016-17 to 2018-19. 443 ALFs have been formed in the year 2019–20 and 304 ALFs have been supported with seed fund of Rs.1.52 crore.

c. Formation of City Level Federations

42 City Level Federations were formed from the year 2016-17 to 2018-19. 5 City Level Federations have been formed in the year 2019–20.

d. City Livelihood Centres

So far, 12 CLCs have been formed from the year 2016-17 to 2018-19 at a total cost of Rs.1.20 crore. 39 CLCs have been formed in the year 2019–20 including 10 model CLCs and assisted with total cost of Rs.3.90 Crore.

e. Employment through Skill Training and Placement

During the year 2016-17 & 2017-18 22,083 youth have been trained under various

sectors with the financial assistance of Rs.33.12 crore and training for 12,000 members of 2018–19 has been covered with financial assistance of Rs.18.20 crore. In the year 2019–20, training is being imparted to 5,939 youth.

f. Self-Employment Programme for Individuals (SEP- I)

So far, Rs.145.43 crore has been provided to 24,284 SEP-I beneficiaries from the year 2016-17 to 2018-19 through bank loans. During the year 2019-20, 7,460 individuals (including 2247 individual street vendors) have been assisted with Rs.38.94 crore through various banks.

g. Self-Employment Programme for Groups (SEP-G)

So far, Rs.440.18 crore has been provided to 15,953 groups under SEP-G as bank loans from the year 2016-17 to 2018-19. During the year 2019-20, 4,759 groups (including 200 Common Interest Groups of Street Vendors) have been assisted with bank loans of Rs.175.04 crore.

h. Self-Employment Programme (Bank Linkage) [SEP-BL]

So far, Rs.828.79 crore has been provided to 21,420 SHGs under SEP-BL as bank loans from

the year 2016-17 to 2018-19. In the year 2019-20, 7,880 SHGs have been assisted with bank loans of Rs.293.26 crore.

7.11.2. Portal for Affordable credit and interest Subvention Access (PAiSA Portal)

So far, a total interest subvention amount of Rs.3.01 crore has been released to the beneficiaries from the year 2016-17 to 2018-19. In the year 2019-20, an amount of Rs.7.41 crore have been released as interest subvention to beneficiaries under SEP.

7.11.3. Support to Urban Street Vendors (SUSV)

So far 1,21,098 street vendors have been surveyed and identified in 664 Urban Local Bodies. 2,247 street vendors have been assisted with bank loans amounting to Rs.12.20 crore under SEP-I and 200 Common Interest Groups of street vendors have been assisted with bank loan of Rs.2.19 crore under SEP-G. Further 2 infrastructure development projects benefiting 2,595 street vendors have been approved at a total cost of Rs.31.73 crore for Greater Chennai Corporation and Madurai Corporation.

7.11.4. Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH)

Under the SUH Component, so far, 242 Shelter Units (153 Regular Shelter and 89 Special Shelters including Shelters for Mentally Retarded, Mentally Ill, Transgenders and hospital shelters) have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.101.33 crore, of which 161 shelters are completed covering 12,073 residents. The remaining shelters are under various stages of progress. For 2019-20, 12 new shelters have been sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.4.08 crore. Further, 108 shelters are being supported with O&M cost of Rs.5.37 crore.

7.12. Awards to Best CBOs (SHGs and PLFs) and Bankers

In order to encourage good governance and social awareness among SHGs, awards have been instituted for SHGs and PLFs at State, District and Block levels. These awards are intended to honour the recipients as well as encourage and motivate others towards best practices. These awards are given every year to 5 best PLFs and 10 best SHGs at the State Level and 1 best PLF and 3 best SHGs at District level.

Awards are also given to appreciate the services of the banks which have rendered support to SHGs and to motivate them.

7.13. Tamil Nadu State Non-Governmental organizations and Volunteers Resource Centre (TNVRC)

Tamil Nadu State Non-Governmental Organizations and Volunteers Resource Centre (TNVRC), as a part of TNCDW, was started in the year 2001 and is functioning with the support of TNCDW. It has been registered as a society under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975. TNVRC is aimed at a) providing capacity building to Project Staff, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Master Trainers at State/District/Block levels b) developing training materials / manuals, charts and other Resource books for the Projects c) providing support services to new community oriented projects related to socio economic development d) act as a Knowledge repository for better initiatives, strategies, learning and outcomes of various interventions undertaken by TNCDW in the larger context of Poverty Alleviation and e) to facilitate proactive and positive engagement with the Non-Governmental sector.

National Health Mission (NHM) has executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with TNCDW for the implementation of population based screening of Non - Communicable Diseases (NCD) programme in association with TNVRC. It has been implemented in 85 blocks and 2 Municipal Corporation areas (Coimbatore and Thirunelveli) covering 30 districts through 1902 Community Resource Persons (Health). The programme is an indicator of the tremendous potential of the Social Capital that TNCDW wields through its SHG members and it is an outcome of the sustained investment that TNCDW has made in Community Resource Persons.

Another initiative of TNVRC is to extend the benefits of TNSRLM/TNULM to the people relocated in the tenements of Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board (TNSCB) resettlement areas in Navalur, Perumbakkam, Gudapakkam & All India Radio land and aims to bring the lives of the displaced people to normality, to make them resilient from the pains of displacement.

TNVRC has been recognised as a National Resource Organization (NRO) on 2nd February 2018 by the National Rural Livelihoods Mission,

MoRD, GoI. TNVRC is providing technical support to other SRLMs on Disability & Vulnerability Interventions, Support for Elders, Farm and Non-Farm Livelihoods, Institutional Convergence and support in the formation of higher level federations.

7.14. Tamil Nadu Women Development Mutram Monthly Magazine

A monthly magazine was found essential to act as an information, Education and Communication tool for the various women activities and schemes being implemented through Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women. Consequently, the Mutram society was founded and registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 (Tamil Nadu Act No 27 of 1975). Under this society, the Mutram monthly magazine is published every month. The first edition of Mutram magazine was published with 10,000 copies. Now, around 77,000 copies of Mutram magazine are being sent to the subscribed SHGs having 17 lakh members throughout Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu Women Development Mutram is to bring the news about the booming activities of Women's Self Help Groups, Village Poverty

Reduction Committees and Panchayat Level Federations working in all districts of Tamil Nadu.

The main objective is to collect and disseminate the information about women related developmental activities and updates issues in all schemes by publishing regularly. Mutram monthly magazine brings out the actual success stories of SHGs, achievement of Panchayat Level Federations and Village Poverty Reduction Committees and Women Development projects being implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu, Consumer Protection and Rights of Women, Women Education, Women Protection Laws, Poverty alleviation programmes, the importance on savings, women entrepreneurship, Development Programmes, Group activities, Natural Farming methods, Health awareness, activities of differently abled persons and Mental Health awareness are being published to provide necessary information to all the SHGs formed under Mahalir Thittam, TNSRLM and NULM. Mutram magazine enlightens the lives of SHG Women.

7.15. Amma Two Wheeler Scheme for working women

Amma Two Wheeler Scheme is a State funded special scheme implemented from 2017-18. It is a scheme to empower working women by enabling them to purchase women friendly two wheelers to ease their commute to their enterprises, places of employment, engagement with banks and community based institutions. Ease of use is a key consideration and therefore the vehicle is gearless/auto-gearred.

Women who are engaged individually or collectively as a group in a livelihood activity / wage employment and are commuting for a long distance with their earnings being the primary source of income for the family, are the intended beneficiaries. This will also include (among others) the following categories:

Eligible Beneficiaries

1. Women registered as workers in the Organized and Un-Organized sectors.
2. Women employed in shops and establishments.
3. Self-employed women involved in petty trades or otherwise.

4. Women working in Government Aided Organizations / Private Institutions / Government Projects / Community Based Organizations – Panchayat Level Federations (PLF), Village Poverty Reduction Committees (VPRCs), Mavatta Makkal Kattral Maiyam (Makamai) who are either on consolidated salary or daily wages or on contract employment.
5. Banking correspondents / Banking Facilitators and ASHA workers.

Apart from the working women covered under the above categories, an amendment has been issued by the Government through G.O (Ms).No.179. RD&PR (CGS3) Department, dated 29.11.2019 with the following amended provisions for the benefit of more number of working women.

1. The maximum age limit is raised from 40 to 45.
2. Educational qualification is fully relaxed.
3. Women working on special time scale in Government Departments and Undertakings.

The Government have sanctioned Rs.252.50 crore each year from 2017-18 onwards for the past 3 years. A beneficiary under this

scheme will be provided with a maximum subsidy of 50% of the cost of the vehicle or Rs.25,000/- whichever is less, to purchase a brand new motorized two wheeler whose engine capacity should not exceed 125 cc. An additional assistance of Rs.6,250/- thereby totalling Rs.31,250/- is provided to beneficiaries who are differently abled.

A target of 1 lakh beneficiaries is proposed for 2020-21 with an allocation of Rs.252.50 crores. So far 2,07,823 vehicles have been distributed under this scheme and an expenditure of Rs.468.75 crore incurred.

7.16. e-Learning and Community Digital Radio

To benefit nearly 1 crore members of SHGs in Tamil Nadu, a mobile App based e-Learning platform has been developed with the SHG relevant content such as SHG success stories, guidance, advisories, experiences, sharing of ideas and important information and facilitated the SHG members to watch, understand and learn through their mobiles. This online learning platform with its customised content will initially enhance the existing capacity building programmes and subsequently become the main training strategy

when combined with e-Certification programme in the future, resulting in enormous savings of time and budget combined with latest media approach quickly reachable to the SHGs. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had inaugurated the launch of e-learning platform and Community Digital Radio on 06.03.2019.

e-Learning modules were developed for SHG governance, Financial Inclusion, Livelihoods, Skill Training, Enterprise Promotion, Marketing, Swachh Bharat Mission, PRI-CBO Convergence and Poshan Abhiyan. The App has also hosted a Community Digital Radio with curated best contents targeting the holistic development of SHG women in future.

It has been planned to cover 65 Master Class contents and 40 Radio contents. Out of which 28 Master Class content and 27 Radio content have been uploaded so far for community digital radio and e-learning module.

8. Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project (TNRTP)

8. Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project (TNRTP)

8.1. Introduction

Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project (TNRTP) is implemented with an objective of transforming the rural communities by creating sustainable development and prosperity through enterprise promotion, access to finance and employment opportunities. It is a unique World Bank aided project that intends through its innovative strategies a higher intervention order beyond poverty alleviation and to establish an affluent rural society.

TNRTP has been designed based on the various investments made and community assets created by the erstwhile Tamil Nadu Pudhu Vaazhvu Project (2005-17), National Rural Livelihoods Project (2012-13 to 2018-19) and the existing Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (2012-13).

8.2. Project Development Objective

The Project Development Objective (PDO) of TNRTP is “to promote rural enterprises, access to

finance, and create employment opportunities” in selected blocks of Tamil Nadu.

8.3. Area of Operation

The Project is implemented in 2 phases covering originally 26 districts (now 30 districts after some districts’ bifurcation), 120 blocks and 3,994 village panchayats over a period of 6 years.

8.4. Funding

The World Bank and the Government of Tamil Nadu are funding this Project in the ratio of 70:30 at an estimated cost of Rs.918.20 crore (142.8 million US\$). The loan assistance from World Bank will be Rs.642.74 crore (100 million US\$) and the assistance by Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) will be Rs.275.46 crore (42.8 million US\$).

8.5. Beneficiaries of the Project

The project will mainly target the SHG households who have basic level of assets, resources and skills created by the previous projects; the emphasis will be on women, scheduled tribes, scheduled castes, differently abled, youth and aspiring entrepreneurs. The beneficiaries will be producer households,

aggregated into producer groups/producer collectives and individual entrepreneurs across farm and non-farm sectors in the selected project blocks.

The Project intends to create Nano, Micro and Small Entrepreneurs both individually and in groups in the project area and to form Producer groups (PGs), Enterprise groups (EGs) and Producer Collectives (PCs) to nurture and promote rural enterprises. The Project will also support skilling through community skill / farm schools.

8.6 Major Components of the Project

This Project comprises of the following four major components:

1. Rural Enterprise Ecosystem Development
2. Enterprise Business Plan Financing
3. Skills and Job Opportunities
4. Project Management, Results Monitoring & Evaluation

Environment and social management framework (ESMF), women (gender parity), Information, Communication & Technology, Partnership and Convergence are the cross cuttings of the entire project.

8.6.1. Rural Enterprise Ecosystem Development

The prime objective of this component is to facilitate an enabling rural enterprise ecosystem development. This will include District Diagnostic Study (DDS), Value Chain Analysis (VCA), Participatory Growth Plan (PGP) and One Stop Facility (OSF) etc.,

Identification of potential enterprises through participatory methods for promotion of rural enterprises (group and individuals), strengthening of existing rural enterprises, identifying market and value chain development opportunities, providing business development support services and informed pathways to develop sustainable business are followed in this component. The component will also focus on promoting women-led enterprises and green enterprises.

a. District Diagnostic Study (DDS)

The objective of the DDS is to identify and prioritize major sectors/sub sectors and commodities for enterprise promotion in the local context. DDS is the first level of analytics based on stakeholder consultations and analysis of

secondary information. This includes in-depth evaluation of the district for identifying the opportunities and challenges in specific sectors, sub sectors and commodities for next level of analytics through value chain approach.

This DDS report has been prepared in the original 26 project districts for the promotion of enterprises and approved by the district committee headed by the District Collectors.

b. Value Chain Analysis (VCA)

Value Chain Analysis is done to deep dive in the prioritized commodities/ sub sectors (identified through DDS) and obtain deeper understanding on the opportunities, challenges and risks that enable to develop strategies for enterprise promotion with specific focus on women tribal and differently abled. This study will help to provide an analytical insights from market opportunities and constraints and to facilitate TNRTP project interventions and investments for enterprise promotion.

A value chain study on millet production and opportunities for rural enterprises and employment has been initiated under this project.

c. Participatory Growth Planning (PGP)

Participatory Growth Planning is a method to develop inclusive investment plans at village, block and district level for enterprise promotion and for the development of rural communities in discussion with the local people and focused groups.

For this purpose a mobile app with templates containing details of village resources in the spheres such as Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Horticulture, Fisheries, Cottage Industries, Traditional Artisan Industries and Tourism etc., has been created under this project and through this mobile app, field survey in 1393 village panchayats (1st Phase) is taken up by a team of 7 members consisting 3 Community Professionals, one representative each from SHG, VPRC, PLF and a village entrepreneur. This exercise has commenced in Phase-I 38 blocks (1393 village panchayats) and will be completed before the end of April 2020. The SPMU is monitoring the progress of survey through its district and block units. In the rest of the 82 blocks (2601 village panchayats) the PGP exercise will be completed before July 2020.

d. One Stop Facility (OSF)

One Stop Facility is a business facilitation center to be established for every 2 blocks through which the rural entrepreneurs and enterprises can get access to a range of business development support services viz., business ideation and conceptualization, business plan preparation and its appraisal, handholding support to initiate the business, support to access the required finance, technology, skills, regulation & compliances, market information, linkages etc.,

8.6.2. Enterprise Business Plan financing

The component deals with access to finance for business plans of individual and group enterprises through Matching Grant Program (MGP) and other financial services by formal financial institutions.

a. Matching Grant Program

To bridge the supply and demand gap for new individual and group enterprises to access finance from formal financial institutions is the objective of this component. Matching grants would be intended for first time entrepreneurs, women led businesses, enterprise groups, producer collectives, differently abled led

enterprises and other types of enterprises perceived as a challenge by the financial sector.

Matching Grant Program (MGP) intends to incentivize the repayment of borrowers and generate momentum amongst the financial institutions to lend to the above said enterprises. Matching Grant will be available to the borrowers together with the loans sanctioned by the PFI (Participating Financial Institutions). On prompt repayment of 70% of the loan amount, the borrower is eligible for 30% waiver from the Project. This method facilitates the entrepreneurs/groups to fully concentrate in their enterprise to run it profitable and to repay the loan promptly. To monitor the financial transactions, a Transaction Manager will be supporting the SPMU for effective implementation of the Project.

b. Innovative Pilot Projects

TNRTP will be piloting certain projects that are innovative such as (a) Creative industries in the fields of weaving, pottery, metal works, sculpture and fine arts to support rural artisans, (b) Agri food hub facility - especially native and traditional food to promote Culinary sector, (c) Green enterprises such as solar power based

activities and bio-degradable Sanitary Napkins to promote menstrual hygiene among women.

8.6.3. Skills and Jobs

The objective of this component is

- a) to create Sustainable wage and self-employment opportunities
- b) promote relevant skills for higher value agriculture and allied activities and
- c) enable entrepreneurship through market responsive skills and entrepreneurship development”.

This sub-component will target skill upgrades for rural youth particularly women to ensure employment opportunities through community skill schools and community farm schools.

a. Community Skill Schools (CSS)

Among rural communities there is a high demand for certain traditional skills such as weaving, metal works, paintings, pottery, basket and mat making etc., for which master practitioners will be available in the local areas for decades. Such practitioners/experts identified as

Trainers will be facilitated to set up community skill schools with simple and minimum required infrastructure to train the interested local people so as to revive these ancient arts and ensure enterprise promotion.

Trainers in trades like two/four wheeler mechanism, home appliance service, masonry, plumbing, welding, electrician, mobile repair, IT enabled (computer) services etc., will be identified and they will be facilitated to train the communities under CSS to create more rural enterprises. Generally those experienced persons who train the communities through CSS for various trades will be called as Trainers.

b. Community Farm Schools (CFS)

CFS seeks to develop a cadre of self employed technical service providers (SPARKS) in agriculture and allied sub sectors who will, in turn build skills among the community members through the use of these farm schools.

The CFS will identify specific skill gaps in farm related occupation and bring in required technical expertise for solutions and identify and train sparks to deliver these suitable technological

support to the community. The CFS will work with the individual and groups enterprises promoted by the project for better synergy.

c. Sparks

Spark is a community expert/a practitioner who has knowledge, skills, attitude and rich experience in a particular farm activity. They possess interest and keenness to share their expertise and train community members on required technical skills at village or block level.

The project will identify such individuals and engage them as sparks to mentor, teach, train, guide and handhold other individual practitioners of similar activity under community farm schools.

8.6.4. Project Management, Results Monitoring & Evaluation

For effective implementation of the TNRTP, this component aims to provide support services, develop management and monitoring systems, create delivery processes for Financial Management, Procurement Management, Human Resource Management, Social, Environmental and Tribal safeguards and Information Communication Technology (ICT).

a. Monitoring and Evaluation

M&E is a continuous activity to generate feedback on the performance of the project activities and support project managers to take timely corrective measures to address any shortcomings and deviations. M&E system will provide realistic, real time and easily understandable information on various aspects of project implementation.

The objectives of M&E are

1. Impact Evaluation through Baseline and Mid Term Evaluation Survey including data collection and analysis.
2. Project Monitoring including physical and financial achievement against the target.
3. Thematic Studies & Case Studies and
4. Overall assistance to the Project to design an MIS for monitoring.

b. Creation of Digital Platform

Information, communication and Technology (ICT) is an inevitable part of the Project to establish a digital platform for the real time monitoring of the project activities and their efficient functioning. TNRTP is in the process of developing, designing and implementing the software application for this project.

This application will stabilize and strengthen the Management Information System (MIS) of the Project and serve as a ready reckoner for all the data related to the TNRTP Project.

8.7. Organizational Structure

The Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Society (TNRTS) has been formed and registered on 07.07.2017 under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975. The Project management and implementation is governed and guided by the TNRTS, formed under the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Tamil Nadu. At the District level, the District Rural Transformation Societies (District Society) were formed under the Chairmanship of District Collector, to guide and facilitate the implementation of the project. The Governing Body (GB) and Executive Committee (EC) of the TNRTS will provide guidance on policy level decisions, coordination and direction to the SPMU Team. The Project is being implemented through the State, District and Block Level Project Management units.

8.7.1. State Project Management Unit (SPMU)

The SPMU is headed by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), an IAS officer on deputation who is directly monitoring the implementation of the Project. She/He is supported by a state team in the implementation, monitoring and supervision of the project interventions.

8.7.2. District Project Management Unit (DPMU)

Though the Project is implemented in 30 districts, there are 24 DPMUs (Theni and Karur districts have been aligned to Madurai and Tiruchirappalli) are functioning as implementation units at present. The District Executive Officer (DEO), heading the unit is supported by 4 Executive Officers in each district unit for monitoring the progress of the Project.

8.7.3. Block Unit (BU)

The Block Unit has been established in 120 blocks across 30 districts headed by a Block Team Leader and a team of 3 Project Executives.

The services of various Community cadres and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) such as SHGs, VPRCs, PLFs, BLFs etc., will be

judiciously utilized for the effective implementation of the Project on need basis.

8.8. Recruitment and Training of Project Staff

On 31.10.2019 appointment orders for 525 contract staff to engage at various levels of service in the TNRTP were given by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Project Induction training was provided to the newly appointed staff at State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) and Anna Institute of Management (AIM) varying from 7 to 15 days to understand the project objectives, components, administration, roles and responsibilities of Staff etc.,

8.9. Expenditure

A sum of Rs.17.33 crore was incurred as expenditure up to 31st January 2020.

8.10. Budget Provision for 2020 - 21

A sum of Rs.163.35 crore has been provided in the budget of 2020-21 for the implementation of the project.

**9. INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
assisted
POST TSUNAMI SUSTAINABLE
LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME**

9. INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT assisted POST TSUNAMI SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME

Immediately after the devastating effects of December 26th 2004, the Government of Tamil Nadu undertook many relief and rehabilitation programmes. As a long term Sustainable solution, it was decided to provide alternate and sustainable livelihoods to the affected people in the coastal areas, by implementing the Post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihood Programme with the assistance of International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). This programme, with a multi pronged approach, has addressed crucial requirements of the coastal population through the establishment of community based organisation like Self Help Groups, Joint Liability Groups, Primary Producer Groups, Panchayat Level Federations and District Level Federations of Fish Marketing Societies. It has successfully built capacity of coastal community and upgraded their skills and income for improving their sustainable livelihood.

Self-employment and Disaster Management programmes have contributed enormously towards providing sustainable livelihood opportunities to the affected coastal community.

I. Goal:

- To build self reliant coastal communities that are able to manage their livelihoods in a sustainable manner and resilient to shocks.

II. Objectives

- Developing viable enterprises and coastal resource management systems supported by the Community and other appropriate institutions.

The activities are implemented in two phases as detailed below:-

III. Programme at a glance:

		Phase - I	Phase - II
Duration	:	11 years (2008 - 2019)	4 years (2016 - 2020)
Cost	:	Rs.283.69 crore	Rs.279.49 crore
Project areas	:	1.Thiruvallur 2.Kancheepuram 3.Villupuram 4.Cuddalore 5.Nagapattinam 6.Kanyakumari	1.Thanjavur 2.Tiruvarur 3.Pudukkottai 4. Ramnathapuram 5.Tirunelveli 6. Thoothukudi
No. of Blocks & Panchayats		24 Blocks and 109 panchayats	36 blocks and 129 panchayats
Coverage		1.55 lakh Households about 6 lakh population	1.20 lakh households about 6.12 lakh population

IV. Target Groups:

Coastal dwellers (in village directly or indirectly affected by the Tsunami) ie.

- i) Wage labourers employed in the fisheries and agriculture sectors;
- ii) Coastal fishers using beach launched crafts;
- iii) Small-scale women fish vendors and processors;
- iv) Marginalized occupation groups (e.g seashell workers)
- v) Small and marginal farmers;
- vi) Very poor and poor identified through Participatory Rural Appraisal exercise etc.
- vii) We cover around 2,21,587 households.

V. Strategy :

The proposed strategy for livelihood development has four complementary thrusts:

- (i) building and supporting community organisations;
- (ii) ensuring access to micro-finance and other financial services;

- (iii) developing the skills and knowledge of target group households;
- (iv) fostering the development of sustainable larger enterprises and access to more distant markets. This strategy for livelihood development would be complemented by community level planning and education and awareness for resource management and conservation, leading to the development of community level infrastructures and improvements in disaster mitigation.

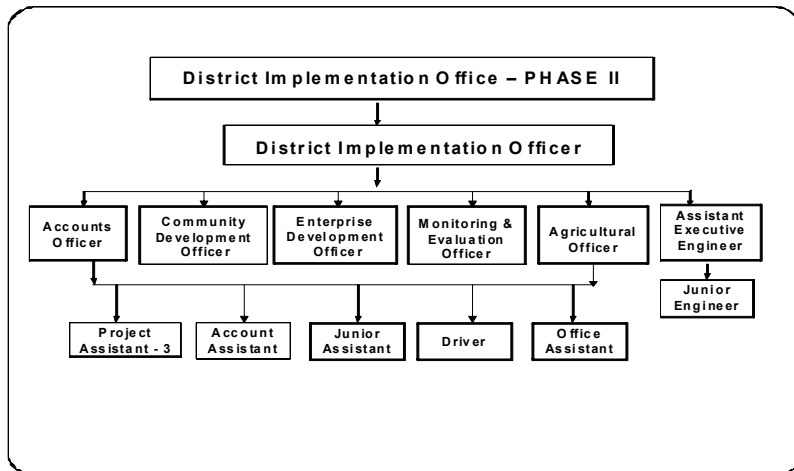
The project lay special emphasis on women – helping them to improve existing fish-related livelihoods or diversify into new activities such as livestock and agriculture and agri-related activities. As most members of Self Help Groups (SHGs)/Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) are women, they become owners of the larger micro-enterprises supported by the project i.e. job-seekers become job givers.

VI. Project Implementation:

Three Committees oversee the project implementation.

1. The Programme Steering Committee, at State level, headed by the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and Additional Chief Secretary/Project Director is the Member Secretary of the Project Steering Committee
2. District Level Implementation Advisory Committee (DLIAC) at the district level, headed by the District Collector.
3. Cluster Advisory Committee (CAC) in the village level, consisting of representatives of Panchayat Raj Institutions, Non-Government Organizations, other traditional Institutions etc.

Chairman	Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department
Member Secretary	Additional Chief Secretary / PTSLP
Members :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Dept. • Principal Secretary & Commissioner of Revenue Administration • Director of Fisheries, Fisheries Department • Director of Rural Devevelopment and Panchayat Raj • Project Director, TNRTP • Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd. • District Collector, Thiruvallur District



VII. Project Components :

Many activities under following three components are implemented through the project:-

- a) Coastal Area Resource Management
- b) Enterprise promotion and employment generation and
- c) Programme Management.

9.1 Component – 1 : Coastal Area Resource Management:

(a) Community Support

64 Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs) have been established in the project area in partnership with Facilitating Non-Governmental Organizations

(FNGOs). A Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) is a group of approximately 1 to 8 coastal panchayats. At the grass root level, the programme is supported by the Cluster Resource Centres. A Cluster Coordinator, a Facilitator and a Business Promoter have been placed in each of the CRCs. Community Based Organizations like Panchayat Level Federations (PLFs) and District Fishermen Federations have been established and strengthened for effective support to the Community. 120 PLF buildings and 2 Fishermen Federation buildings have been established at a total cost of Rs.10.15 crore.

Further, construction of 1 PLF office building and two fishermen federations are in progress and will be constructed before March 2020 at the total cost of Rs.1.32 crore.

b) Community Resource Planning

The objective is to create relevant and useful infrastructure facilities in the project area. A unique feature is the extensive involvement of the community at all levels from planning, contribution of resources, construction and maintenance of the assets. Through Participatory Resource Mapping exercise, infrastructure needs of the community

are prioritized with micro plans. 856 livelihood linked infrastructure works such as 140 netmending sheds, 76 dry fishing yards, 7 RO plants and 633 numbers of other works including link roads, street lights and extension of pipelines at a cost of Rs.44.05 crore have been created and put to use.

Further, 54 Net mending sheds, 18 Fish drying yards and 3 RO plants are in progress and will be constructed before March 2020 to a total cost of Rs.8.33 crore.

Environmental, Gender concerns and various livelihood options are also addressed in these micro plans.

c) Fisheries Resource Management

Decline of the fisheries resources due to mechanization of fishing activities, and the disturbances of breeding grounds are some of the key problems identified. To augment the dwindling fisheries resources, it has been decided by the programme to deploy artificial reefs in the inshore waters of the twelve project districts. The services of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has been utilized to deploy

18 artificial reefs at a cost of Rs.3.08 crore in Phase-I, six districts. The impact of artificial reefs on fishermen community has so far been very positive, as more diverse fish species are now available for fishermen to catch. Other activities like mud crab fattening, sea weed collection and cultivation are also undertaken. Awareness creation on scientific and sustainable management of fisheries resources is being carried out in convergence with Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Department of Fisheries in all fishing hamlets along the coast.

For the year 2019 – 20, deployment of artificial reef in 48 sites in Phase-II six additional districts Thiruvarur, Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts to a total cost of Rs.19.00 crore will be completed with the assistance of National Institute of Ocean Technology before March 2020.

9.2 Component – 2: Enterprise promotion and employment generation

a) Micro credit to SHGs

The Self Help Groups (SHGs) in the project area are regularly trained and graded according to their performance. The invigorated SHGs are then

formed into Habitation Level Federations (HLFs) and Panchayat Level Federations (PLFs). To ensure the sustainability of the PLFs, they are being elevated as Business Development Correspondents (BDCs) of various banks. The PLFs get 2% of the loan amount disbursed to the Self Help groups (SHGs) and Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) as commission in lieu of their facilitation in monitoring and recovery of loans. 1% is given at the time of disbursement of loan and 1% at the time of repayment of loan. This initiative will go a long way in ensuring sustainability of PLFs.

Upto 2018-19, 5215 SHGs loans to the tune of Rs.354.94 crore has been sanctioned.

In 2019-20, a target is fixed to provide SHG loans to 2000 SHGs to a tune of Rs.60.00 crore through bankers. Against the above target as on 31.12.2019, 358 SHGs are linked with banks and provided credit of Rs.21.38 crore, the steps are taken to achieve the target. Bankers are also directly exposed to all information related to the performance of SHGs and PLFs so as to facilitate timely credit.

At present, our financial partners in the project are:

1. NABFINS
2. Tamil Nadu Grama Bank (RRB sponsored by Indian Bank)
3. Indian Bank
4. ICICI also participates in credit linkage in two districts for SHGs

In Phase I, existing 6 districts there are 109 PLFs, of which 107 are elevated as BDCs who have earned BDC commission of Rs.2.46 crore as on 31.12.2019.

In Phase II, additional districts there are 127 PLFs of which 124 are now recognized as BDCs by Indian Bank, NABFINS and Tamil Nadu Grama Bank and the rest 3 are under process. BDC commission of Rs.68.87 lakh has been earned upto 31.12.2019.

b) Risk Management and Insurance

The Vulnerability Reduction Fund (VRF) is managed by the PLFs. The VRF extends soft loans to the poor people at times of natural disaster. The project contributes 4/5th share of the fund and 1/5th share is contributed by the community. The loan amount ranges from Rs.1000 – 7500 and for differently abled persons it is Rs.10,000/- at the rate of 6%.

Utilization of Vulnerability Reduction Fund over the years

Year wise	No. of people benefited	Amount (Rs.in lakh)
2010 – 11	1875	62.86
2011 – 12	1667	68.46
2012 – 13	3391	151.48
2013 – 14	3870	205.92
2014 – 15	6582	324.28
2015 – 16	6731	343.51
2016 – 17	4376	276.58
2017 – 18	3437	219.93
2018 – 19	2940	205.15
2019 – 20	5467	441.52
Total	40336	2299.69

Self Help Groups, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) and the members of Fish Marketing Societies (FMSs) are exposed to various insurance products covering life, personal accident, cattle and assets. For the purpose of providing insurance coverage to the fishing assets, a new organization called PTSLP Fishing Asset Risk Mutual Society (PFARMS) has been established.

PFARMS

The small scale fishing sector, which is operating through beach landing crafts such as dinghies, canoes, FRP Boats, Kattumaram with or without Out Board Motors, etc., generally lack safety and communication equipment. One of the

major risks confronting the small scale fishing sector is asset risks that includes loss of or damage to their small fishing vessels, equipment and gears as a result of natural and individual disasters. The Insurance companies intended to consider the small scale fishing vessel insurance treat them at a par with marine insurance and wanted to charge an annual premium of 4% of the value of the craft, which is applicable for large deep sea industrial fishing vessels and mechanized boats. This was very high premium and small and poor fishermen could not afford it. Therefore the PTSLP devised an affordable and accessible fishing asset insurance programme for the small scale fishers and the implementation model is purely a hybrid model by forming a community based institution named PTSLP Fishing Asset Risk Mutual Society (PFARMS). In which the District Level Fishermen Sangams' Federations (DLFSFs) are also the members. PTSLP has signed a tripartite MoA with PFARMS and UIIC for the implementation of asset insurance. The main features of the programme are

- a) the claims of catastrophic events will be settled by the UIIC and the claims of

individual accidents will be settled by the PFARMS

- b) 1% premium only will be charged.
- c) The claims will be settled within 7 days of submission of all required documents.

Year wise asset insurance enrolment under this programme

S. No.	Year	No. of fishing assets enrolled
1	2017 - 18	5914
2	2018 - 19	7538
3	2019 - 20	7798
Total		21250

As of now, 15 claims have been settled for personal accident to a tune of Rs.5.08 lakh by

PTSLP Fishing Asset Risk Mutual Society

189 claims affected through GAJA Cyclone have been settled by United India Insurance Company to as tune of Rs.27.59 lakh.

c) Product Development and Innovation Fund

Kitchen waste based bio gas plants have been introduced in the project area as an innovation. Through these plants the kitchen wastes in those locations are best utilized enabling

a clean and safe environment besides providing bio-fuel. The details are as follows :

• Total per unit cost - Rs.23,400/-	
○ Project contribution (Grant component)	- Rs.12,500
○ Beneficiary contribution	- Rs. 8,000
○ Loan component	-Rs. 2,900
	<hr/>
	Rs.23,400
	<hr/>

During 2019-20, 137 plants are installed with a budget of Rs.32.00 lakh. It is also being up-scaled in training institutes of Rural Development Department.

d) Support to SHGs

The weak SHGs identified through periodical structured survey are provided with capacity building training. The PLFs are restructured and the office bearers are given specialized training. Exposure visits are also arranged to SHG members. In addition to these measures, workshops and retreats refresh their knowledge. For the management of PLF accounts, a customized Tally Software has been installed. Book keepers have been appointed for all PLFs. Loans for Income Generation Activities are also provided to the SHG members apart from group loans.

e) Formation of Fish Marketing Societies

118 Fish Marketing Societies (FMS) have been formed with the help of South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS). To free the members of the Fish Marketing Societies from indebtedness and from the clutches of moneylenders/ traders and to break the vicious cycle of poverty, a debt redemption loan is given to each member of the FMS ranging between Rs 15,000 to Rs 70,000. All the FMS have been provided with office buildings and other necessary infrastructures. District fishermen federations have been established at Thiruvallur and Nagapattinam districts and one Regional Federation has been formed at Villupuram for Kancheepuram, Villupuram and Cuddalore districts. 3 Out board motor workshops and 3 boat yards have been established to a total cost of Rs.105 lakh to aid the fishermen in boat repair. For hygienic handling of fish, 4 fish procurement centres and 4 Fish Auction halls have been constructed at a total cost of Rs.282 lakh. For the effective functioning of fish marketing societies, 75 fish marketing society buildings have been constructed at a cost of Rs.4.49 crore. Besides the above measures, fisher

women have been facilitated with credit for net mending, formation of JLG for fish vending women.

1858 Fish vending women JLGs have been formed so far and revolving fund of Rs.11.61 crore has been given to 9018 members to facilitate them to get out of the strangle hold of money lenders. Their repayment of loan % is an impressive 99%. PTSLP won a SKOCH GOLDEN NATIONAL AWARD for this intervention of "Economic Inclusiveness of poor fish vending women JLGs"

For the year 2019-20, 22 fish marketing society buildings are under progress and will be completed before March 2020.

f) Income Generation Activities

Strengthening of existing livelihoods and provision of alternate livelihoods to interested women is an important priority in the programme. To achieve this objective, providing livelihood skills is very important. Realizing the need, the project has trained 19000 people in various Income Generation Activities. The training has sensitized the people to available opportunities, ways to tap them and taught them various value additions and

marketing options. The women have been trained in various trades like, hygienic fish making, rabbit rearing, palm leaf products, tailoring, screen printing etc.

In 2019-20, about 1647 women are trained for income generation in poultry rearing, palm leaf products, sea shell crafts, tailoring, etc. with a budget of Rs.183.00 lakh.

g) Micro Enterprise Development

The Programme Management Unit in partnership with PLFs / Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) / other organizations that have experience in development of micro enterprises, works to develop clusters of enterprises in the identified sub-sectors like dairy, drumsticks, Jasmine and mango activities. Besides these clusters, micro enterprises based on sub sectors like poultry, vegetable and mushrooms cultivation, Dry fish production, coir products, Floriculture, toys making, cashew nut processing, beauty parlour, saree printing, etc., have been supported with loans and skill training.

As on 31.12.2019, 4280 Joint Liability Groups have taken up various micro enterprise activities at a cost of Rs.87.01 crore.

In the year 2019-20, a target is fixed to provide financial assistance to 2000 JLGs to a tune of Rs.50 crore to take up the livelihood activities against which 668 JLGs are linked and Rs.12.84 crore disbursed. The steps are initiated to reach the target.

h) Vocational Training

Employment linked vocational trainings in many trades, with duration ranging from one month to one year were provided to 5216 unemployed youth in the project area at a cost of Rs.473.11 lakh.

9.3. Special Initiatives

Amongst other programmes, is the sub sector initiative support given to the project area with suitable livelihood activity, wherein overall integration to meet the requirements is provided to the community through experienced NGOs.

Features of sub sector projects :

- Organize groups/JLGs and train on group mobility and operations

- Provide technical assistance
- Integrate with existing Government programmes
- Provide credit support through bank linkage
- Assist in market linkage
- Ensure envisaged productivity and income
- Work towards sustainability in the operations

(A) Projects in Phase 1 districts –

1. Development of Mango, vegetables and Medicinal Plants Sub Sectors in Nagapattinam district

Mango/Vegetables/Medicinal plants sub sector project in Nagapattinam district is being implemented benefitting about 2850 farmers from 12 coastal panchayats in 3 blocks. About 190 Primary Producers Groups have been formed and they have been federated into ThirumaraiKadu Vivasaijal Kootamaippu (TKVK). PTSLP has assisted it with revolving fund of Rs.73.00 lakh for their cultivation and group operations besides setting up of procurement centres and organic input sales centre. The farmers have been facilitated for sales through the centres for getting better returns. The hand holding support was given by

Covenant Centre for Development (CCD) -
NGO.

Evolution of the Mango sub sector project

With the passing of the sub sector project operations in Nagapattinam district, the federation came up with a proposal to establish a fruit processing unit and upgraded their activities as a producers company in the name of Nagai Organic Farmers Producers Company Limited (NOFPCL).

PTSLP with the assistance of IFAD has implemented the project with a budget of Rs.1044.14 lakh (project funding of Rs.866.74 lakh & beneficiary contribution of Rs.177.40 lakh).

This pulp unit will facilitate the growers to enhance their product for value addition and provide the opportunity to fetch a higher price. It supports the community on a long term basis for a sustained well heeled status.

2. Dairy sub sector in Cuddalore district with the support of Hand in Hand

Dairy project in Cuddalore district, benefitting 400 women from a cluster of 9 coastal villages

through joint liability group concept assisted with credit through Tamil Nadu Grama Bank. A dairy federation has been formed with these members and operating for milk sales and feed purchase. PTSLP has assisted the federation with revolving fund of Rs.15.00 lakh for feed purchase and animals purchase. The hand holding support was given by Hand in Hand (HiH) - NGO.

Projects in Phase 1I districts –

1. Value addition and Marketing of Paddy and Millets in Ramnad district

The project aims to increase the income of farmers in Ramnad district, through value addition at the source, and to market the minor millets and traditional paddy while promoting farmers into producers' company to ensure sustainability of farming in coastal rain-fed and semi-arid regions. The project area covers 12 coastal panchayats for the benefit of 1000 farmers.

The project is implemented with handhold of Covenant centre for Development (CCD) - NGO for implementation with a project cost of Rs. 60.04 lakhs.

2. Cultivation of Jasmine Layer Nursery & Jasmine Flowers and Marketing in Ramnad district

The project is implemented to benefit 400 jasmines growers from 2 coastal panchayats SHG members in Ramnad district. Through this project it aims at skill development on cultivation and marketing aspects of the members on jasmine for increasing the area of the jasmine layer nursery, mother plant cultivation and possibility of increasing the jasmine production to result in earning good profit from jasmine flower sale as well as jasmine seedlings sale. The project is implemented by Sivagangai Multipurpose Social Service Society (SMSSS) NGO.

During 2019-20, the project is extended to another 100 jasmine growing women with a budget of Rs.12.00 lakh.

3. Goat rearing project

A Goat rearing livelihood project is implemented in Pudukottai district facilitating the women to rear goats with minimum mortality and enhanced health and hygiene through simple low cost techniques. This

project benefits about 500 women from 14 coastal panchayats with 42 numbers of Community Livestock Volunteers (CLVs) working for them to assist in attaining the envisaged objectives. The project is implemented with the handholding support of Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Action (SEVA) – NGO.

During 2019-20, it is up-scaled to another 1000 goat rearing women in Pudukottai district with a budget of Rs.12.80 lakh.

Further, to benefit the goat rearing women of Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts it is implemented to benefit about 2000 beneficiaries with a budget of Rs.50.00 lakh.

4. Moringa cultivation and Marketing in Tirunelveli district

Cultivation and Value addition of Moringa in Tirunelveli district to 800 women farmers from 11 coastal panchayats who will be involved in cultivation of moringa pods, leaves and in production of moringa oil for export purpose. The implementation of this activity is done

through Stella Maris Institute for Development (SMIDS) NGO.

During 2019-20, the project is extended to another 200 women growing Moringa with a budget of Rs.38.59 lakh.

All the sub sector projects are programmed for assistance through bank credit so as to facilitate the activity on time and the groups (JLGs) are geared up to operate with group cohesiveness by proper training and exercise.

5. Introduction of Machinery in Palm

- Trainings and Capacity Building program on palm climbing for women, using multi tree climber machine specially designed for avoiding accidents.
- 25 women trained for climbing palm tree.

6. Formation of Activity Clusters

To consolidate the efforts in JLG formation, it has been proposed to study the scope for establishing one or two activity Clusters per CRC depending on the resources available, opportunities for aggregating similar activities for backward & forward linkages in an innovative/ sustainable way to achieve

sustainable livelihoods. The following steps are undertaken.

- Mapping the CRC wise activities.
- Assess the JLGs efficiency by verifying
- Identification of gaps in the normal business cycle of the JLG activities
- Mechanism to plug the gaps
- Aggregation of cluster activity

9.4 Monitoring and Evaluation

To closely monitor the activities, a simplified Tally MIS software is utilized at all levels. Online monitoring of the progress against outcome indicators is regularly done. Through monthly review meetings for District and cluster level staff, progress of individual activities against the timelines are followed up. Annual Outcome Survey is conducted by third party every year. At the state level, Programme Steering Committee and at country level, Tripartite Portfolio Review meetings are regularly conducted.

9.5. Conclusion

Post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihood Programme (PTSLP) **has made a tremendous impact on the livelihoods of the coastal**

community. The income levels of the target households have increased significantly. The awareness level of the people has reached new heights. The Review teams of International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome have repeatedly commented upon the performance of the programme as **satisfactory**.

Few notable achievements of the project include the successful involvement of the community at all stages of project implementation. Sustainability of community based organizations like the PLFs have been ensured through Business Development Correspondents and Sub Sector project on agri and allied enterprises. The poor and very poor people have been roped in the process of financial inclusion. Alternate and successful self employment opportunities have been created. The fishermen have been now better organized so that their bargaining power has enhanced; Few challenges like, continuance of banned fishing practices; reluctance of financial institutions to look into the entrepreneurial proposals of the poor and very poor are being addressed by the programme.

9.6 Project Financing - Agency wise Details (Rs.in crore)

Sl. No.	Agency	Amount	
		Phase - I	Phase - II
1.	IFAD	132.32	142.15
2.	Govt. of Tamil Nadu	12.00	16.08
3.	Bank / Micro Finance Institutions	100.61	94.32
4.	Beneficiary Contribution	38.76	26.94
Total		283.69	279.49

9.7 Cumulative Expenditure Financial Statement

i) *Existing Districts: (Project closed on 30.09.2019)*

S. No.	Component	Project Appraisal	Project Mid Term Appraisal	Expenditure from 2007 to 31.03.2019	2019-20 (01.04.2019 to 30.09.2019)		Cumulative Expenditure incurred upto 30.09.2019
					Revised AWPB 2019 - 20	Exp. Incurred	
I.	Coastal Area Resource Management	3851	5632	6154.78	76.00	91.02	6245.80
II.	Rural Finance & Risk Transfer Instruments	983	1398	1527.10	0	0	1527.10
III.	Employment Generation & Skill Training	6631	9399	6476.51	261.82	196.76	6673.27
IV.	Community Based Sea Safety & Disaster Management	180	242	235.51	0	0	235.51
V.	Programme Management	1592	2256	4058.16	186.00	125.65	4183.81
Total		13237	18927	18452.06	523.82	413.43	18865.49

Additional Districts

a) Component wise

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No	Component	Project Appraisal	2017-19		2019-20 (01.04.2019 to 31.12.2019)		Cumulative Expenditure incurred up to 31.12.19
			Fund release	Expenditure upto 31.03.19	Revised AWPB 2019-20	Exp. incurred	
I.	Coastal Area Resource Management	6104.46	3768.67	2170.81	4433.71	1143.31	3314.12
II.	Enterprise Promotion and employment generation	7455.15	3709.00	1550.39	3118.83	701.37	2251.76
III.	Programme Management	2262.90	927.10	914.81	1086.52	468.04	1382.85
Total		15822.51	8404.77	4636.01	8639.06	2312.72	6948.73

b) Category wise

(Rs.in Lakh)

S. No.	Category	Project Appraisal	2017-19		2019-20 (01.04.2019 to 31.12.2019)		Cumulative Expenditure incurred upto 31.12.19
			Fund release	Exp. Incurred upto 31.03.19	AWPB	Exp. Incurred	
I.	Civil Works	4421.09	3040.90	961.09	2045.00	615.80	1576.89
II.	Grants & Subsidies	3592.00	2790.05	1245.37	3724.00	416.04	1661.41
III.	Vehicles & Equipments	312.02	174.57	238.64	102.24	75.03	313.67
IV.	Consultancies	2024.70	841.75	523.29	1179.59	535.04	1058.33
V.	Goods, input & Services	3656.07	794.94	909.95	837.79	258.01	1167.96
VI.	Salaries and Allowances	1816.63	762.56	757.67	750.44	412.80	1170.47
Total		15822.51	8404.77	4636.01	8639.06	2312.72	6948.73

PTSLP has taken into account the vulnerability of coastal areas and has gone a long way in incorporating resilience, adaptive system of self-organization, self reliance through Self Help Groups, Joint Liability Groups and Fish Marketing Societies etc., ensuring sustainability of multifarious livelihood programmes through or independent of PLFs. It has also taken a successful and realistic view point at enhancing the capacity of socio-eco systems of coastal areas.

Post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihood Programme (PTSLP) has made a tremendous positive impact on the livelihoods of the coastal community and constructed relevant infrastructures like net mending halls, fish auction halls, fish procurement centres, etc., to improve the income of coastal community. The income levels of the target households have increased significantly. The awareness level of the people have increased impressively. The JRMs/ISMs of International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome have commented upon the performance of the programme as "satisfactory" and as one of the successful IFAD programmes in the Asia Pacific Region.

It has successfully facilitated the increase of income, standard of living, nutrition level, economic inclusiveness of poor fishers especially poor fish vending women, Sea shell workers, small and marginal farmers etc. It has empowered coastal population and has given them 'Confidence' and 'Hope' to come up in life and face any disaster or natural calamity.

10. Budget

10. BUDGET FOR 2020-21

A sum of Rs.21,585.633 Crore is provided in the Budget for the year 2020-21. Out of which, the Revenue Expenditure is Rs.19,679.255 Crore, Capital Expenditure is Rs.1,906.227 Crore and loans to the Government Servants is Rs.0.150 Crore.

11. Conclusion

Conclusion

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department under the guidance of **Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu** is implementing various schemes of central and state Governments efficiently and expeditiously with the aim of improving the quality of life of the poor in the rural areas.

The objectives of Rural Development Schemes will not fully bear fruits without the support and participation of elected representatives of the Rural Local Bodies. Hence, the three tiers of panchayats are vested with adequate powers and responsibilities to enable them function as effective local self Governments.

The Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS) and Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin) schemes effectively address the housing needs of the rural houseless people. The repairs to houses constructed 25 years before under various Government schemes is a unique initiative to carry out repair to the shelters of poor people which gives them protection during heavy rains, cyclones and other natural disasters.

The implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has been given new thrust to increase the income of the poor families, by enlarging the land development activities which will directly benefit the SC/ST as well as Small and Marginal farmers in rural areas. Further, the impetus given to Natural Resource Management and kudimaramathu works in the implementation of the scheme facilitate rain water conservation and ground water recharge and thus contribute to increase in Agriculture production and productivity.

The Government has created an extensive rural roads infrastructure to improve rural connectivity. The positive impact of the rural road connectivity is well established and hence the Government is continuously focusing on the improvement of the rural road network in the state. This is being made with huge investment of funds from various schemes like TNRRIS, PMGSY, NABARD, SCPAR and other State and Central Schemes. These comprehensive schemes ensure sustained development in rural areas.

“Muzhu Sugaathaara Thamizhagam” in its holistic approach will continue to be the key focus

of this Government to ensure improved sanitation facilities in rural areas thereby creating a healthier society. The key messages on Safe Sanitation, Personal Hygiene, Menstrual Hygiene Management, Solid and Liquid Waste Management will be effectively disseminated and reinforced among the rural community through continuous Inter-Personal Communication activities by involving the field functionaries. Towards this end, continuous capacity building of the Stakeholders is being undertaken from time to time. The guiding principles in the Sanitation Policy of the State will be effectively taken forward for ensuring the overall development of the State.

The implementation of the erstwhile Tamil Nadu PudhuVaazhvu Project (TNPVP), the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM) and the Tamil Nadu Urban Livelihoods Mission (TNULM) has provided the poor and the women in rural and urban areas with myriad opportunities. The objective of this Government is to make the women self-reliant through empowerment, skill development and financial assistance. The thrust in the coming years will be on promoting sustainable community based institutions and

promoting rural enterprises by creating a conducive ecosystem thereby triggering rural transformation. The Government will continue to maximise the involvement of the Self Help Groups in its endeavour towards making visible transformation in Tamil Nadu.

The Government will continue to implement the Policies and Programmes as set out by the **Hon'ble Former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma** steadfastly so as to ensure Tamil Nadu the best performing State in the country in all fronts.

S.P.VELUMANI

**Minister for Municipal Administration,
Rural Development and Implementation of
Special Programme**



Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House



Amma – Adi Dravidar Habitations Improvement Scheme Work



**Tamil Nadu Water Resources
Conservation and Augmentation Mission – Kudimaramathu**



Formation of Black Topped Road



Construction of New Bridge



Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Works



Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Works



Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Works



Tamil Nadu secured "Overall Best State" Award based on Sanitation Survey – "Swachh Survekshan Grameen – 2019" conducted in all States



State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Tamil Nadu has been awarded as the Best Performing SIRD & PR at National Level



**Supply Order to SHGs for Sanitary Napkins
at an estimate cost of Rs.9.18 crore on 19.09.2019 at Chennai**



SHG Credit Linkage Mega Function on 31.10.2019 at Chennai



**Releasing of "Manam Inidhu Booklet"
 on Mental Health Programme on 31.10.2019 at Chennai**



**Issuing Appointment Orders to 525 Persons
under Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project in Chennai**



Distribution of Amma Two Wheelers on 22.11.2019 in Tenkasi District



Placement Order issued under DDU-GKY Scheme in Chennai



Sales Exhibition of SHGs Products in Chennai



Sales Exhibitions of SHGs Products in Chennai



Waste Plastics Re-cycling Unit run by a PLF in Dindugal District



International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) assisted post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihood Programme (PTSLP) Activities