



Achievements of the Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department

(May 2006 - Sep. 2009)

Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department
Tamil Nadu

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**DIRECTORATE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT &
PANCHAYAT RAJ**

I. PANCHAYAT ADMINISTRATION

- Elections were held for 12,618 Village Panchayats, 385 Panchayat Unions and 29 District Panchayats during October 2006. There was high participation of voters in the rural areas with a record turnout of 76%.

Table -1
Details of Reservation

Sl. No.	Designation	Total No. of seats/ Offices	Women		Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
			No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
1.	District Pt. Chairman	29	10	34	7	24	0	0
2.	Pt. Union Chairman	385	140	36	87	23	4	1
3.	Village Panchayat Presidents	12,618	4,275	34	3,143	25	156	1
4.	District Panchayat Ward Members	656	226	34	154	23	8	1
5.	Pt. Union Ward Members	6,570	2,302	35	1,534	23	64	1
6.	Village.Pt. Ward Members	97,458	32,638	33	24,630	25	983	1

- Elections were held successfully in October 2006 for Pappapatti, Keeripatti, Nattarmangalam and Kottakatchiyendal Village Panchayats where it could not be held for a prolonged period due to local opposition to reservation. The Hon'ble Chief Minister held a "**Samathuva Peruvizha**" in Chennai on **13.11.2006** and felicitated the newly elected Presidents, Vice-Presidents and community leaders of the Villages.
- A High Level Committee** was formed under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration to devolve more

powers and functions to the Local bodies. The first meeting of the Committee was held on **7.3.2007**. In continuation of this, a conference of Local body representatives was held in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister on 18.3.2007, following which Regional Conferences of local body representatives were held in Erode (24.7.2007), Trichy (25.7.2007), Tiruvannamalai (03.8.2007), and Virudhunagar (23.8.2007), under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development & Local Administration. The second meeting of High Level Committee was conducted on 19.9.2007. Further, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration conducted discussions on 11.10.2007 and 12.10.2007 with the Secretaries of other departments, in order to devolve more powers to the rural local bodies. The High Level Committee submitted its report to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 10.12.2007 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration. After considering **99** recommendations of the Committee on **39** subjects, the Government have issued orders on **61** recommendations so far. Action is being taken by the Government on the remaining recommendations and orders will be issued soon.

- **Delimitation of Rural Local body boundaries** -In order to satisfy the Long Pending public demand for **upgradation, bifurcation and amalgamation of the local bodies**, the District Collectors were advised to hold public hearings, and after scrutiny, send necessary proposals to the concerned Head of Departments. The Heads of Departments will send their final reports to the Government. The Government will take suitable decision on the proposals according to their eligibility.
- **Dispensing of Levy of Local Cess and Local Cess Surcharge** – The Government have announced in the Budget Speech **2009-2010** that the existing system of land revenue collection will be simplified and farmers shall not be burdened with any other levy such as Local Cess (LC) and Local Cess Surcharge (LCS). Consequent upon the above decision of the Government, levy of Local Cess and Local Cess Surcharge needed to be

dispensed with. Hence, Sections 167, 168, 169, 176, 186 (b) and 188 (d) of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 were amended vide Tamil Nadu Act No. 12 of 2009 and the levy of Local Cess and Local Cess Surcharge was dispensed with.

- **Conversion of Multi Member Wards to Single Member Wards** – The system of Multi Member Wards is in existence only in Village Panchayats and not in any other rural or urban Local Body. It has posed difficulties at the time of voting for the voters as well as at the time of counting. There has also been lack of clear responsibility amongst the members in the existing scenario of there being Multi Member wards in the Village Panchayats. The Third High Level Committee headed by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister has recommended for conversion of Multi Member Village Panchayat Wards into Single Member Wards. Hence, the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 Section 12 has been amended by abolishing the Multi Member Ward System in Village Panchayats and replacing it with Single Member Wards vide Tamil Nadu Act No. 20 of 2009.
- **Maintenance of Tanks and Ponds** – Traditionally, the Village Ponds have been maintained by the Village Panchayats. The Minor Irrigation (MI) tanks are being maintained by the Panchayat Unions, though, there is no statutory provision enforcing the same. The renovation and maintenance of Village Ponds and Tanks is being taken up under various Centrally Sponsored and State Funded Schemes. It is an anomaly that the statutory duty of repair and maintenance of both ponds and tanks was vested with the Village Panchayats alone as per Section 110 (g) of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994.

Hence in order to remove this anomaly and to statutorily vest the duty of maintenance of ponds alone with the Village Panchayats and empower Panchayat Unions with the maintenance of tanks, Section 110 (g) and Section 112 (aa) of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 have been amended vide Tamil Nadu Act No. 28 of 2009.

- **Devolution of Funds to Rural Local Bodies** –The Government have **enhanced the devolution funds** to the local bodies from State's Own Tax Revenue during **2007-08** from **8% to 9%**. Further it will be enhanced during **2009-10** from **9% to 9.5%**.

The allotment to the rural local bodies has been increased from **Rs.1,225** crores during 2006-07 to **Rs.1,583.58** crores in **2007-08**. In absolute term, it was an increase of **Rs.358 crores or 30%**. For the year 2008-09, **1,716.44** crores was allocated i.e. an increase of **Rs.133** crores i.e. **8%** over **2007-08**. For the year **2009-10**, **Rs.2,065.33** crores has been allocated tentatively, an increase of **Rs.348.89** crores or **20 %** over **2008-09**.

Table - 2
Devolution of funds to Rural Local Bodies

Year	Allocation (Rs. in Crores)	% Increase over previous year
2006-07	1,225.00	23%
2007-08	1,583.58	30%
2008-09	1716.44	8%
2009-10	2065.33	20%

- **Assigned Revenue** -Local Cess, Local Cess Surcharge, Stamp duty and Entertainment tax receipts that were previously adjusted to the rural local bodies concerned at district level by the District Collectors, are now pooled at the State level and apportioned to the rural local bodies from **2007-2008** onwards, in order to Strengthen the financial position of the local bodies. For the year **2007-08**, **Rs.270** crores had been allocated and out of this, $\frac{2}{3}$ rd portion was distributed to the rural local bodies, (i.e.,Rs 180 crores) and in respect of the $\frac{1}{3}$ rd portion (Rs 90 crores), action was pursued on the basis of priority schemes for improving basic amenities. Sanction has been given for the construction of **53** new Panchayat Union Office buildings in the place of severely damaged buildings. Under Scheme

component of Pooled Assigned Revenue, **385** Vehicles have been provided to Panchayat Union Chairpersons and **409** vehicles have been allocated to BDOs and AEEs of newly created sub divisions. During **2008-09**, an amount of **Rs.541.77** crores was allocated under the Pooled Assigned Revenue, out of which, **Rs.180.59** crores is the Scheme Component. For **2009-10**, an amount of **Rs.359.49** crore is allocated under the Pooled Assigned Revenue, out of which, **Rs.179.745** crore is the Scheme component.

- The Village Panchayats are responsible for provision and maintenance of basic amenities like Drinking Water Supply, Street Lights, Roads and Sanitation. But, many Village Panchayats were finding it difficult to provide basic amenities due to insufficient financial position. Hence, the following action was taken to set right this position:
 1. From **2007-08** onwards the SFC devolution grant share of Village Panchayats has been raised from **47% to 60%**.
 2. When funds are allotted based on the basis of population alone, bigger Village Panchayats get a major share and many smaller Village Panchayats do not get sufficient funds. To change this situation, it has been ordered to release evenly a **minimum grant of Rs.3 lakhs** to all the Village Panchayats and to apportion the balance amount on population basis.
 3. From the year **2008-09**, a **minimum grant of Rs. 30** lakhs has been ordered to be released to all the Panchayat Unions as a measure of equalization and the balance is released on the basis of population.
 4. The **Government have ordered to allot the entire Twelfth Central Finance Commission grant to the Village Panchayats** and this is being implemented from the second half-year allocation of **2006-07**.
 5. This Government, for the first time, have created a **Training Corpus Fund** of Rs.3 crores per year to train the elected representatives of

PRIs on various aspects of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj. In order to acquire first-hand knowledge of the best practices & innovative measures of other Panchayats, exposure visits are organized for the PRI representatives. The districts were grouped into 4 different regions and departures were scheduled from Chennai, Trichy, Madurai and Salem. The itinerary included Odanthurai Village Panchayat (Uthamar Gandhi Award winning Panchayat), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in Coimbatore district and the Tamilnadu Horticultural Research Station in Nilgiris district. A total of **8** trips were arranged in **2007-08**, covering **450** Village Panchayat Presidents. The Village Panchayat Presidents who participated in the exposure visits met the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration on **24.01.08** and explained that they had immensely benefited from the visit. For the year **2008-09** also, an exposure visit was arranged for **439** men Village Panchayat Presidents and **199** women Village Panchayat Presidents. Further, two exposure visits were arranged for rural local body representatives to National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad. Also, **12** trips (exclusively **4** trips for women Panchayat Presidents) were arranged for rural local body representatives covering **700** Village Panchayat Presidents (including **191** women Panchayat Presidents) to Madurai, Kodaikanal and Ramanathapuram districts to enable them to acquire knowledge on the new and special initiatives carried out in the village and gain exposure to Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Tamil Nadu Horticultural College, Periyakulam, Central Government Sheep and Rabbit Research Centre & Fish Farm in Mannavanoor Panchayat, Projects implemented by Dhan Foundation, Mandapam Central Marine Fisheries Institute, Naripaiyur and Michaelpattinam Village Panchayat. Training was also arranged for rural local body representatives covering **900** Village Panchayat Presidents and Vice Presidents at **Anna University, Chennai** regarding **Building Technology** and **Good Quality**

Construction. During **2009-10**, the Training Corpus fund is being utilised to arrange **12** trips of Village Panchayat Presidents in the two training circuits. It is also proposed to use the funds to train the Village Panchayat Presidents, Panchayat Union Chairpersons and District Panchayat Chairpersons and Councillors about Panchayat Raj System and Rural Development Schemes.

6. Under **Rastriya Gram Swaraj Yojana** (RGSY), there is a need for the capacity building of these Panchayat Raj functionaries and individuals who manage the affairs in these institutions. The five RIRDs and State Institute of Rural Development have conducted 1,647 programmes covering 57,883 Panchayat Raj functionaries like Panchayat Presidents / Panchayat Union Councilors and Panchayat Ward Members. Accordingly, the Government of India have issued orders vide Lr.No.11011/10/2008-Training dated 29.03.08 for the release of **Rs.2.36** crores. The State Government also released **Rs.78.68** lakhs as State share vide G.O. (M.S.) No 29, RD & PR (PR.III) Department, Dated 31.03.2009. The Government of India have also released **Rs.2.36** crores for the year **2009-10** for capacity Building and an amount of **Rs.78.66** lakhs will be released as State share shortly for the capacity building activities for the Panchayat Raj functionaries.
7. **BRGF Capability Building Fund** – An allocation of **Rs.16.32** crores has been made in 2008-09 under Backward Regions Grant Fund – Capability Building Component for Tamil Nadu. The Capability Building Fund is to be utilised for training of rural and urban Local Body functionaries and officials of other Sectoral Departments, Exposure Visits, Grama Sabha Campaigns, T.V.Channel and Radio Programmes, Panchayat news letters, Block Resource Centres and Infrastructure Development of State Institute for Rural Development.

- **TNEB issues:** Since **70%** of the annual expenditure of the Village Panchayat is on electricity charges, the following long pending issues relating to Electricity Board have been successfully resolved:

1. The Unit Cost of electricity in rural areas has been reduced from **Rs.3.40** to **Rs.3.00** per unit.
2. The surcharge payable by the local bodies to the Electricity Board for arrear payments has been reduced from **12%** to **6%**.
3. The surcharge of **Rs.18.46** Crores due to TNEB from rural Local Bodies prior to 13.3.07 had been written off.
4. The period of payment for electricity charges, has been raised from **20** days to **60** days.
5. To avoid raising bills without meter reading, the Government have ordered to fix meters to all the EB service connections and to raise the demand, based on the meter readings only.
6. To avoid delay in installation of new poles, the Government have standardized the installation cost and fixed it at **Rs.9,500/-** per pole.
7. The Government, vide G.O.Ms.No.206, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS.1) Department, dated 31.12.2007, have given a blanket '**No Objection Certificate**' to the other user departments for which the Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department has built buildings through its various schemes, so as to enable them to apply to TNEB for electricity connections and pay the recurring consumption charges to TNEB, without any financial commitment on the part of the rural Local Bodies.

The above efforts have settled many long pending issues with Electricity Board and will pave way for the improvement of the Village Panchayat finances.

- The Government have instituted **Uthamar Gandhi Panchayat Award** which is given to **15** Village Panchayats annually which adopt innovative approaches and undertake special initiatives. For the year **2006-07**, **15** selected Village Panchayats was conferred with **Uthamar Gandhi Panchayat Award** by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on **10.10.07** along with a certificate, shield and a cash prize of **Rs.5.00 lakhs** each to those holding Panchayat President Post at that time. For the year **2007-08** also, **15** selected Village Panchayats were conferred with **Uthamar Gandhi Panchayat Award** by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on **19.12.08** along with a certificate, and shield to the Panchayat Presidents as well as the previous Panchayats Presidents. A cash prize of **Rs.5.00 lakhs** has also been given to each of the 15 Panchayats.

Table-3
Uthamar Gandhi Panchayat Award –Winning Panchayats

2006-07		2007-08	
District	Panchayats	District	Panchayats
Coimbatore	Odanthurai	Tirunelveli	Keelavellakkal
Erode	Thindal	Virudhunagar	Pethureddiyapatti
Ramnad	Michael Pattinam	Ramnad	Thamaraikulam
Sivagangai	Nalukottai	Nagapattinam	Vizhunthamavadi
Vellore	Kattuputhur	Tiruvarur	Pallivarthi
Salem	Chinnanur	Tirunelveli	Idaiyankudi
Tiruvarur	Keelathirupalakudi	Thanjavur	Seenivasanallur
Kanniyakumari	Thikkanankodu	Ramnad	Thiruvarangam
Trichy	Valadi	Karur	Esanatham
Theni	Lakshmipuram	The Nilgiris	Thummanatti
Namakkal	Kaadachanallur	Theni	Ramasamy naickenpatti
Kancheepuram	Pappanallur	Namakkal	Mudalaipatti
Cuddalore	Ma.Kolakudi	Dindigul	M.M.Kovilur
Villupuram	Jaggampettai	Erode	Mylambadi
Dindigul	K.Keeranur	Sivagangai	Kattenthal Sukkanoorani

- Increase in the allowances of Rural Local Body Representatives:**
 Increase of the allowances to Rural Local Body Representatives Fixed Traveling Allowance (FTA) was initially sanctioned by the Government to the Presidents of Village Panchayats, Chairpersons and Members of the Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats vide G.O.Ms.No. 262 Rural Development Department dated 20.12.1997. This amount was enhanced by **10%** in the year **1999** and was not revised thereafter. The Government vide G.O.(D) No.569 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (C1) Department, dated 28.09.07, have enhanced the FTA for the rural Local Body representatives as under:

Table-4
Monthly FTA for rural Local Body representatives

Sl. No.	Name of the office / seat	Previous Monthly FTA (Rs.)	Revised Monthly FTA (Rs.)
1	President , Village Panchayat	330	500
2	Chairperson, Panchayat Union	550	750
3	Member, Panchayat Union	220	400
4	Chairperson, District Panchayat	1,100	1,500
5	Member, District Panchayat	330	500

- Issue of Identity Cards to Heads of Panchayat Raj Institutions:**
 Based on the representations of the Village Panchayat Presidents during the Regional Conferences of Village Panchayat Presidents at Erode and Tiruchirappalli, the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration announced the decision of the Government to give Identity Cards to all the **12,618** Village Panchayat Presidents which were immediately issued thereafter. Identity Cards were also given to the Chairpersons and members of the Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats.

- **Local Bodies' Day** -The rural and urban Local Bodies are perhaps, the agencies with maximum public interface. There is need to further strengthen this interface and bring about greater transparency and openness in the functioning of the Local Bodies. At the same time, it is also necessary to highlight their achievements and carry out various Information, Education and Communication campaigns relating to civil administration and implementation of schemes. One method of doing this is to designate a particular day in a calendar year as "**Local Bodies Day**". The Government have issued G.O.No.632, RD & PR (C1) Department, dated 26.10.2007 earmarking November 1 as ' Local Bodies Day' to be celebrated every year, by all rural and urban Local Bodies in Tamil Nadu.
- **Rationalization of Village Panchayat Accounts**-Several instances came to notice, that Village Panchayat Presidents and Vice Presidents issued cheques for Scheme funds works / National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme works without measurement and check-measurement of works and without the bills being passed by the Block Development Officers (Village Panchayats) concerned. The number of instances of unauthorized drawals was greater on the eve of Local Body elections. Therefore, the Government have issued orders in G.O. Ms.No.146 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department dated: 17.8.2007 for further rationalizing of the Village Panchayat Accounts and streamlining the procedure in operation of the Accounts. The Government have further streamlined the above accounting procedure through G.O. Ms.No.178, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department dated: 25.11.2008 and G.O. Ms.No.180 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department dated: 01.12.2008.
- **Administrative Powers** - Government have issued orders raising the administrative sanction limit for the works undertaken in the Local Bodies from the General fund, wherein Village Panchayats have been empowered to give administration sanction and execute individual works upto **Rs.2** lakhs. Previously, the limit was Rs. **1** lakh only. The power of the Panchayat

Union Council to give administration sanction for an individual work has been revised from **Rs.5** lakhs to **Rs.10** lakhs. District Panchayat council can now give administrative sanction for individual works upto to Rs.20 lakhs (Previously, it was Rs.10 lakhs). The Government have issued orders in G.O.Ms.No.203 RD & PR Department dated 20.12.07 raising the technical sanction powers and for rationalizing the powers of Engineers for works taken under National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme. Further, the Government have issued order in G.O.Ms.No.204 RD and PR dt.24.12.2007 specifying various authorities to scrutinize the tender proposals.

- The Government have given sanction for **provision of Computers along with Printers** for the use of all the Chairpersons of District Panchayats & Panchayat Unions. The orders for the purchase of the same have already been placed.
- The Government have ordered for **provision of Telephone** to all the Village Panchayat offices to improve their communication facility and the same has been provided to all Village Panchayats.
- In order to identify and **honour the Industrial, Service or Business** sectors involved in **Corporate Social Responsibility**. The Government have ordered a cash award of **Rs.5** lakhs and a certificate for five Industrial, Service or Commercial organizations annually from the year **2007-08**. For the year **2007-08 & 2008-09, 9 (Nine) organisations** have been selected for the **Corporate Social Responsibility Award**. The Award was conferred on the following 9 Organisations by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister on 19.10.2009.

Table-5
Corporate Social Responsibility Award - Winning Corporate

Sl. No.	2007-08	Sl. No.	2008-09
1.	TamilNadu Newsprint Papers Ltd. Kakithapuram, Karur District.	1.	Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd, Manali, Chennai.
2.	Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Karaikal, Pondicherry.	2.	Steel Authority of India Ltd., Salem Steel Plant, Salem District.
3.	Srinivasan Services Endowment, T.V.S Motors Group. Chennai.	3.	Orchid Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Nungambakkam, Chennai.
4.	Saint Gobain Glass India Ltd, Sriperumbudur,Kancheepuram District.	4.	Shree Ramalinga Mills Ltd, Aruppukottai, Virudhunagar District.
5.	Sakthi Masala Pvt.Ltd, Mamarathupalayam, Erode District.		

- Stability in Tenure of Local Body Representatives-**The Government felt that frequent moving of no-confidence motions on trivial and unjustifiable grounds affected the continuity in planning and implementation of works in rural Local Bodies and is detrimental to public interest. In order to make the provisions for moving and passing the no-confidence motion more stringent, the Government have amended the relevant provisions of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, wherein the minimum strength required for issuance of motion of no confidence against the Vice-President of the Village Panchayat or the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson of the Panchayat Union or the District Panchayat concerned, has been increased from the existing half of the sanctioned strength to three-fifth and the minimum strength required for carrying the motion has been increased from the existing two-third to four-fifth of the strength of the local body concerned. Also it has been stipulated that no motion of any confidence can be brought within one year of the assumption of the office or during the last year of the term of office of the Vice-President of the Village Panchayat or the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson of the Panchayat Union or the District Panchayat concerned.

- **Appointment of Special Officers for Village Panchayats by District Collectors** The power of appointment of Special Officers for Village Panchayats in certain circumstances is vested with the Government. In order to avoid delay and to ensure uninterrupted administration of village panchayats, a new section 9-C has been inserted in Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act, 1994. So that the District Collectors concerned can appoint Special Officers for Village Panchayats which could not be constituted even after resorting to election process.
- **Duty of the President to implement schemes entrusted to the Village Panchayat** -Village Panchayats implement various Centrally Sponsored schemes and State funded schemes besides undertaking works out of general funds. However, there was no specific provision in the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, to require the President of the Village Panchayat to execute or implement the schemes entrusted to the Village Panchayats. Hence, necessary amendment to Section 46 of the Act has been issued making it mandatory for the President of Village Panchayat to execute or implement the schemes entrusted to the Village Panchayat.
- **Annual report of the functioning of Panchayats** - At present, District Panchayat performs advisory-cum-planning role. The implementation of developmental programmes is done by the Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats. Since the Act provided only for laying the Annual Report of the individual District Panchayats on the floor of the Legislative Assembly, a new Section 166-A was inserted to the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, so that an overall view of the functioning of the three tiers of the Panchayat Raj Institutions can be presented in the form of "Annual report of the functioning of Panchayats" before the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. Annual reports of the functioning of Panchayats for the years **2006-07 & 2007-08** have already been placed on the floor of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly during **February, 2009**. The Annual Report on the functioning of the Panchayats for the year **2008-09** has been placed on the floor of the Assembly during **June, 2009**.

- **Enhancement of Penalties** - Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1994, contemplates imposition of penalties on the persons who contravene any of the provisions of the Act specified in Schedule-II or who fail to comply with any directions lawfully given to them or requisition lawfully made upon them. Schedule-III of the Act prescribes penalties for the continuing breaches. Since the penalty amount provided in the above Schedules were prescribed 50 years back and have lost the deterrent effect, amendments were issued to Schedule II and Schedule III enhancing the penalty amount leviable under the Act. This will empower the rural Local Bodies in strict enforcement and also to impose and collect higher penalties in case of violation.
- **Disqualification of Members of Panchayats** -The Government has now been empowered to decide the question of disqualification for being chosen as, and for being a member of a Panchayat in consultation with the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission by an amendment to Sections 34, 35,37,38,39 and 41. This is in consonance with the disqualification provisions in respect of Members of Legislative Assembly contained in the Representation of People Act, 1951. Necessary provisions have also been made in the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 by inserting new sections 41-A, 41-B,41-C and 41-D, empowering the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission in the matter of conduct of enquiries as to disqualification of members of the Panchayats.

II. RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

- Out of **1,540 Lakh** works pending as on **13.5.06**, **1,538 lakh** works have been completed.
- **Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam** - inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in January, 07 is the largest Rural Development scheme among all the Central / State sponsored schemes. Under this scheme, formation of pond, library, Sports Centre, burial ground and provision of water supply are compulsory item of works taken up in each Village Panchayat. Street lights, Inland fisheries, CC Roads, Shandies etc. are taken up based on the local needs.

Table-6
Allocation & Expenditure under AGAMT

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Number of Village Panchayats	Allocation	Expenditure
2006-07	2,540	513.08	484.15
2007-08	2,534	511.87	474.24
2008-09	2,520	509.04	449.13
2009-10	2,510	507.02	58.54

Table-7
Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam - Year Wise Progress

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 as on 30.09.2009.	
		Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed
1.	Ponds	2,599	2,599	2,546	2,546	2,520	2,459
2.	Burial Ground/ Cremation Shed	4,482	4,482	3,850	3,850	3,531	3,531
3.	Sports Centres	2,539	2,539	2,536	2,536	2521	2,485
4.	Libraries	2,500	2,500	2,516	2,516	2,520	2,517
5.	Drinking Water supply	8,576	8,576	7,265	7,265	5,693	5,692
6.	Cement Roads No./Km	9,972/ 1339.39	9,972/ 1339.39	8,158/ 842.30	8,158/ 842.30	5,519/ 720.77	5,519 720.77
7.	Inland Fishery	1,031	1,031	1,097	1,097	908	908
8.	Village Shandies	122	122	46	46	32	32
9.	Street Lights	2,526	2,526	2,524	2,524	2,222	2,222
10.	Other works	7,691	7,691	6,712	6,712	4,713	4,707
Total		42,038	42,038	37,250	37,250	30,179	30,072

Table 8
Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Progress - 2009-10

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	2009-10	
		Taken up	Completed
1.	Ponds	2,511	399
2.	Burial Ground/ Cremation Shed	3,784	270
3.	Sports Centres	2,510	
4.	Libraries	2,511	85
5.	Drinking Water supply	4,683	2,206
6.	Cement Roads No./Km	4,225/ 508.99	1,950/ 247.12
7.	Inland Fishery	832	41
8.	Village Shandies	14	2
9.	Street Lights	2,096	585
10.	Other works	4,809	942
	Total	27,975	6,480

Further, funds from other schemes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and other departments such as Agriculture, Education, TWAD, Highways etc, are also dovetailed as far as possible into the Village Panchayats taken up under AGAMT.

Table-9
AGAMT - Dovetailing and convergence of funds

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	No.of works	Value of works	Average per AGAMT Village
2006-07	7,80,805	2,13,725.38	84.14
2007-08	7,43,087	2,22,891.34	87.96
2008-09	5,19,385	2,63,314.146	104.49
2009-10	5,22,136	2,76,512.46	110.16

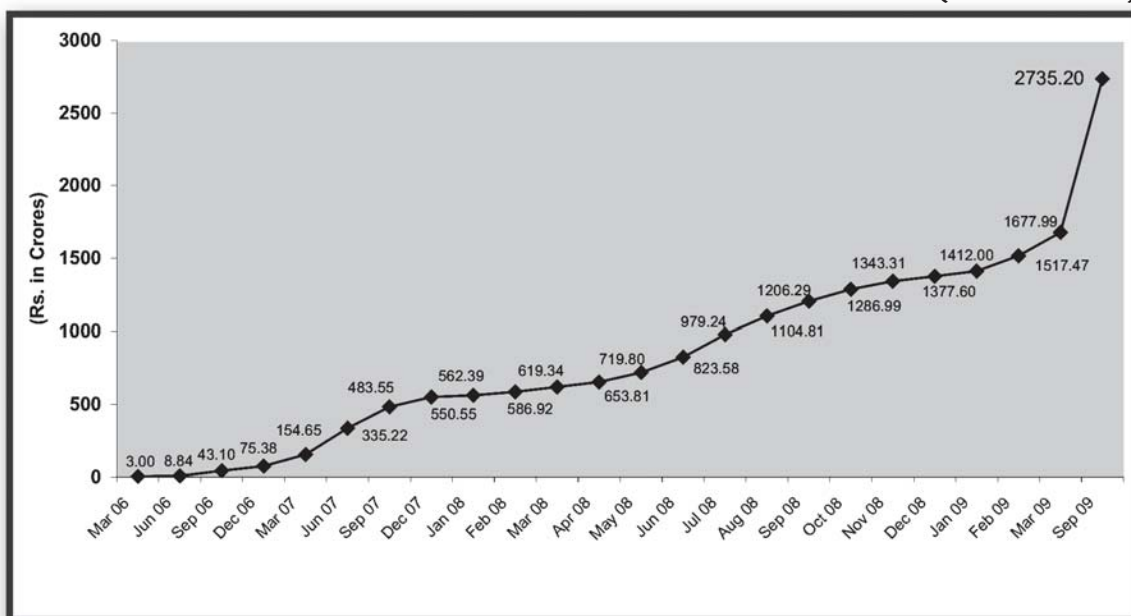
- **National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme - Tamil Nadu** was initially implemented in six notified (Phase I) districts viz. Cuddalore, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Nagapattinam, Dindigul and Sivagangai districts from **2.2.2006**. In the second phase, it was extended to Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Karur and Tirunelveli districts with effect from **1.4.2007**. From

1.4.2008 onwards, the Scheme has been extended to all the remaining 20 districts (Phase III) of Tamilnadu viz. Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Vellore, Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Erode, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Trichy, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Pudukottai, Madurai, Theni, Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Tuticorin and Kanniyakumari.

Table-10
Funds Released & Expenditure under NREGS year wise
 (Rs. in crores)

Year	Central Govt.	State Govt.	Total	Expenditure
2005-06	65.72	7.31	73.03	3.00
2005-06	65.72	7.31	73.03	3.00
2006-07	170.89	18.08	188.97	151.65
2007-08	516.29	57.29	573.58	517.84
2008-09	1,401.26	191.98	1,593.24	1,005.50
2009-10	879.297	42.615	921.912	1,057.21
Total	3,033.457	317.275	3,350.732	2,735.20

Total expenditure incurred under
National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in Tamil Nadu
(Feb 2006 to September 2009)
 (Rs. in crores)



- The expenditure which was **Rs.3** crores as on 13.05.06 under this Scheme (that commenced in February, 2006), rose to **Rs.111** crore in Jan. 07 and has now crossed **Rs.2,735.20** crores. **31,169** works have been completed under the Scheme by generating **33.14** crores mandays. In Tamilnadu, **82%** of the beneficiaries under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme are women and over **59%** of the beneficiaries belong to SC/ST families. In rural areas, the wages of women workers have considerably increased. Cuddalore, Sivagangai and Dindigul find place among 22 Districts at National level which have received Annual Award for Excellence in NREGA Administration for promoting effective implementation of NREGA ACT on 2.2.2009 in New Delhi. For implementing this Scheme, new posts have also been created as follows:

Table-11
NREGS - Posts sanctioned to expedite Progress

Sl. No.	Name of the Designation	No of posts
State Level		
1	Executive Engineer	1
2	Assistant Directors	2
3	MIS Specialists	5*
District Rural Development Agencies		
4	Superintendents (in the cadre of BDO)	31
5	Assistants	31
6	Computer Assistants	93
Block Development Offices		
7	Dy BDOs	385
8	Assistants	385
9	Computer Assistants	1,280
Technical Posts		
10	Assistant Executive Engineers	33
11	Assistant Engineers	248
12	Overseers	673
13	Junior Draughting Officers	33

* Two or more but salary of the MIS should not exceed Rs.50,000 per month

The following special steps were initiated to streamline and expedite the implementation of NREGS scheme:

1. A separate Rural Schedule of Rates was approved exclusively for this scheme in the G.O.Ms. No. 77, RD & PR (CGS-1) Department dated 14.07.2006, thereby removing a major hurdle in getting the statutory minimum wage of **Rs.80** per day for seven hours of prescribed work. Rural schedule of rates have been prepared liberally when compared to PWD rates in such a way that a worker under NREGS can get the prescribed PWD rate of wage even by doing **37.5%** less work of PWD. The Rural Schedule of rates under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme for the year 2007-08 was ordered in G.O.No.101 RD & PR (CGS-I) Department dated 13.06.2007 and for the year **2008-09**, it was ordered in G.O. No. 110 RD & PR (CGS-1) dated 27.6.2008.
2. A minimum of **30%** registration has been insisted upon in each Village Panchayat. The average percentage of registration in the Phase-I & Phase II districts is more than **65%**. In the Phase-III districts, the average registration has crossed **40%**, which indicates that there is widespread awareness about the scheme.
3. The existing formats of Job Cards and Nominal Muster Rolls have been revised to make these documents more transparent, informative and difficult to manipulate in the process of scheme implementation.
4. Since the scheme requires intensive touring, the Government have sanctioned additional fuel of **50** litres per month for each of the vehicles in the Panchayat Unions. The Government have also sanctioned additional fuel of **75** litres for the vehicles of the Assistant Executive Engineers (RD) vide G.O.Ms.No.27 RD&PR (CGS-I) Department, dated 20.02.2008.
5. Makkal Nala Paniyalars (MNPs) have also been made responsible for the implementation of the scheme at the field level.

6. Additional ministerial, technical and computer staff have been sanctioned at District, Division, Block and Village levels in order to ensure proper implementation and close supervision of the scheme. Due to the extension of this scheme to the remaining 20 districts of Tamil Nadu with effect from 1.4.2008, the Government have sanctioned additional administrative staff, additional fuel for block vehicles for 20 Phase - III National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme districts vide G.O. Ms. No. 27, RD & PR (CGS-1) Department, dated 20.2.2008.
7. Only **100%** labour intensive works have been taken up in order to prevent the entry of contractors who are strictly banned as per the NREG Act.
8. Only bigger works not less than **Rs.3** lakhs in value have been taken up in order to ensure that i) adequate number of workers get sustained employment at a work site for at least 30 days, ii) the assets created are visible, durable and genuinely beneficial to the community, iii) resources are not wasted by being spread too thinly, iv) the works are monitored closely and leakages are minimized.
9. In order to ensure greater transparency and fair play, it has been ordered to disburse the wages to the workers in the presence of at least four members of the following committee:
 - a) President of the Village Panchayat.
 - b) Vice-President of the Village Panchayat
 - c) Ward Member of the area where the work is executed
 - d) An SC/ST Ward Member, if none of the persons in Sl.Nos. a,b and c belongs to SC/ST Community.
 - e) Two animators of graded Self Help Groups and
 - f) A representative of the Panchayat Level federation of SHGs.

10. In order to ensure a total transparency in the implementation of the Scheme, the Government ordered for the conduct of Social Audit of the Scheme in all Village Panchayats of NREGS districts during the conduct of Grama Sabha meetings on **26th January, 1st May, 15th August and 2nd October** of every year. Simultaneously, the conduct of Social Audit of the Scheme is taken up during the Grama Sabha meetings in the year **2008-09** and **2009-10** also. The Government is now advising the Grama Sabhas to elect a six member Social Audit Committee. The above Committee members and also the SHG Members will all be trained by the Community Resource Persons already available in the Districts.
- **Periyar Ninaivu Samathuvapuram** -To promote social justice and Thanthai Periyar's message of social equality, Government of Tamil Nadu established Samathuvapurams since 1997-98 where all communities can live with the spirit of unity and brotherhood. Accordingly, 145 Samathuvapuram were established in the State. Government again decided to revive the Scheme in order to propagate the message of living with unity and brotherhood. The statue of Thanthai Periyar will be installed at the entrance of all 95 new Samathuvapurams as well as the 145 Samathuvapurams already constructed. In the first phase, 29 Samathuvapuram are established during 2008-09 at the rate of one Samthuvapuram in each district (except Nilgiris and Chennai). Each Samathuvapuram has 100 houses, Roads, Street lights, Drinking water supply and Public Distribution System shop, wherein required. The entire cost of the Samathuvapuram will be met by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The lands for each of the Samathuvapurams have been procured, estimates finalised and tendering done for Samathuvapuram houses and all houses are nearing completion. Roads, Street lights, Drinking water and P.D.Shop are completed. 12 Samathuvapurams are already inaugurated upto 30.09.09.

- **Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)** -Due to rise in the building materials, the cost of construction of new houses under Indira Awaas Yojana Scheme (IAY) has increased substantially. The Central Government have in its Budget Report for **2008-09**, raised the unit cost for each house from **Rs.25,000/-** to **Rs.35,000/-**-Likewise, considering rise in the RCC roofing cost, the State Government have also ordered to raise the RCC Roofing cost from **Rs.12,000/-** to **Rs.20,000/-** per house from **2008-09** onwards. The allocation for RCC roofing is an additionality to the State share of the Scheme.

Table-12
IAY - New Houses (Rs in crores)

Year	Allocation (Including RCC Roofing cost)	Expenditure	% of expenditure	Taken up	Completed	% of physical completion
2006-07	189.79	189.79	100	50,380	50,380	100
2007-08	255.38	255.38	100	68,523	68,523	100
2008-09	379.33 Natural 6.58 Calamities	379.33 4.73	100 72	68,509 1,186	68,509 292	100 25
2009-10 (as on 30.09.09)	741.46	381.700	51	1,34,014	13,169	10

Table-13
IAY - Kutchra Houses (Rs in crores)

Year	Allocation	Expenditure	% of expenditure	Taken up	Completed	% of physical completion
2006-07	14.47	14.47	100	11,077	11,077	100
2007-08	19.23	19.23	100	15,384	15,384	100
2008-09	26.92	26.92	100	17,951	17,951	100
2009-10 (as on 30.09.09)	52.60	27.95	53	35,068	15,212	43

- Panchayat Union School Renovation Scheme** -Under this Scheme which was started in **2007-08** by the State Government, **22,000** Panchayat Union elementary schools and **4,500** Panchayat Union middle schools that have been remained without maintenance for so many years, were taken up for renovation. During 2007-08, **9,547** Schools were taken up for repairs/renovation at an estimated cost of **Rs.104.25** crores. Further, during **2008-09**, **4,432** Schools have been taken up for renovation at an estimated cost of **Rs.69.30** crores. Also, **495** Panchayat Union Elementary and Middle Schools located in Town Panchayats and Third Grade Municipalities have also been taken up for renovation along with construction of **248** toilets under this Scheme at an estimated cost of **Rs.14.34** crores. **4,317** School buildings taken up during **2009-10** for renovation at an estimated cost of **Rs.67.56** crores. Also, **446** Elementary Middle Schools located in Town Panchayat and III Grade Municipalities have also been taken up for renovation along with construction of **166** toilets under this scheme at the estimated cost of **Rs.10.62** crores.

Table-14
Panchayat Union School Renovation Programme

(Rs in crores)

Year	Allocation	Expenditure	% of expenditure	Taken up	Completed	% of physical completion
2006-07 & 2007-08	104.25	95.88	92	9,547	9,547	100
2008-09	69.30	52.70	76	4,432	3,935	89
2009-10	67.56	2.50	4	4,214	277	7

- Namakku Naame Thittam** -The Government have ordered the revival of the Namakku Naame Thittam from **2007-08** onwards. The main aim of the Scheme is to involve the Community in Development programmes from the planning stage, the implementation powers and maintenance of assets. The Government have allocated **Rs.50** crores during **2008-09**. The Scheme is being implemented both in rural and urban areas.

Table-15
Namakku Naame Thittam (Rs in crores)

Year	Alloca- tion	Public contribution	Expen- diture	% of expen- diture	Taken up	Comp- leted	% of physical completion
2007-08	50.00	24.01	58.86	100	1,892	1,872	98
2008-09	50.00	30.86	59.16	100	2,662	2,309	86
2009-10	50.00	19.56	5.59	10	1,181	185	16

- Rural Infrastructure Scheme** - Since the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has been extended to all the districts from 01.04.2008 onwards, the Central Government has discontinued the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY). Consequent to this, there is no proper scheme at present to create basic infrastructure facilities like Cement concrete Roads and Buildings. Further, it has become essential to stabilize and consolidate the assets created under NREGS. Hence, a new Scheme called Rural Infrastructure Scheme has been introduced during **2008-09** with an allocation of **Rs.350** crores. This amount has been earmarked from SFC grant to Village Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats in the ratio 4:2:1. The entire allocation of Rs.350 crores has been released to districts to take up **33,455** works and so far **33,360** works have been completed under the Scheme. An amount of **Rs.380** crores allocated for the year **2009-10** out of **Rs.380** crores an amount of **Rs.228** crores have been released so far **27,807** works have been taken up and **2,514** works have been completed.

Table-16
Rural Infrastructure Scheme-Workwise Progress-2008-09

Name of the works	Taken up	Completed
Cement Roads No / Km	20,446 / 1,595.311	20,437/ 1,594.75
B.T.Roads No / Km	1,854 / 529.95	1,822 / 515.95
Cremation Shed	308	308
Street Lights	2,534	2,534
Buildings works	843	824
Other works	7,470	7,435
Total	33,455	33,360

- Roads-** After 13.5.2006, road works with a total length of **20,617.48 km** have been taken up at the cost of **Rs.2,865.107 crores** under Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana, NABARD Rural Infrastructural Development Funds XII, XIII, XIV, and Twelfth Finance Commission Grants. This includes an amount of **Rs.859 crores** for a length of **3,032 kms** sanctioned under Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana Phase-VII during **2008-09**.

Table-17
Road Works - Scheme wise Progress

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme	Cost (In crores)	No of Roads taken Up		Completed	
			No	K.M.	No	K.M.
1.	PMGSY-Phase-V	182.05	364	792.41	348	736.56
2.	PMGSY-Phase-VI	466.00	818	2,082.54	267	378.065
3.	PMGSY-Phase-VII	859.00	1,591	3,032.00	8	11.23
4.	NABARD- XII	124.81	854	1,486.30	854	1,486.30
5.	NABARD- XIII	439.67	1,404	3,643.05	1,344	3,446.82
6.	NABARD- XIV	379.1772	1,075	2,691.76	732	1,769.12
7.	XII Finance Commission (2006-07)	103.60	1,462	1,897.35	1,462	1,897.35
8.	XII Finance Commission (2007-08)	103.60	1,460	1,801.16	1,460	1,801.16
9.	XII Finance Commission (2008-09)	103.60	1,096	1,464.81	1,091	1,453.06
10.	XII Finance Commission (2009-10)	103.60	1,185	1,726.098		

- **Cement**-Cement is an important item in the implementation of Rural Development schemes. Due to the scarcity of cement, the implementation of Rural Development Schemes was adversely affected and during **2007-08**, it was decided to procure cement from private firms through TANCEM. The cement which was selling at **Rs.250** to **Rs.260** per bag in the open market was agreed to be supplied at the rate of **Rs.220** per bag for the Rural Development works by the private firms. The cement is being received for Rural Development works accordingly at this price during **2008-09** also.
- **Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme**
The allotment under **MLACDS** has been enhanced from **Rs.1.50** crores to **Rs.1.70** crores from **2009-10** onwards.

Table-18

Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme Fund
(Rs in crores)

Year	Alloca- tion	Expen- diture	% of expen- diture	No of Works Taken up	Compl- eted	% of physical completion
2006-07	282	269	95	59,753	59,746	99.99
2007-08	282	281	99	25,917	25,834	99
2008-09	352.50	303.39	86	28,710	26,315	91
2009-10	399.50	10.42	2.6	10,905	1,156	10

- **296** Village Panchayats only got Nirmal Gram Puraskar Award in **2006-07**, due to successful implementation of **Total Sanitation Campaign** during **2007-08**, **1,474** Village Panchayats and **5** block Panchayats (Thiruvattar, Munchirai, Killiyur, and Thuckalay blocks in Kanniyakumari District and Thathiengarpet block in Trichy District) have got Nirmal Gram Puraskar Award. Tamil Nadu stands second among all the States in winning highest number of Nirmal Gram Puraskar Awards.
- As per Government of India (Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation) website, Tamil Nadu stands first at All India level, in cumulative utilization of funds under **MPLADS** with **99.85** % funds utilization since 1993.

Table-19
Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme Fund
(Rs in crores)

Year	Alloca- tion	Expen- diture	% of expen- diture	No of Works Taken up	Compl- eted	% of physical completion
2006-07	114	110	96	4,208	4,206	99.80
2007-08	114	113	99	3,880	3,840	99
2008-09	114	100	87	4,261	3,780	89
2009-10	114	2	2	1,796	187	10

- Backward Regions Grant Fund**-The erstwhile RSVY Scheme which was implemented in 5 backward Districts of Tamil Nadu funding through Union Planning Commission was transferred to the Ministry of Panchayat Raj at Government of India level with effect from **2006-07**. Subsequently the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, GOI have modified the Scheme of RSVY as Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) and the Scheme has been designed to redress the regional imbalances in development. The Main focus of the Scheme is to strengthen and provide professional support to local bodies and to improve their performance and delivery of critical functions assigned to them besides redressing regional imbalances in development.

Accordingly, the District Plans for the 6 BRGF Districts (erstwhile 5 RSVY Districts of Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Tiruvannamalai, Dindigul and Sivaganga & in addition, Villupuram District) were prepared and approved by the respective District Planning Committees. The Plans were placed before the High powered Committee at the State level and recommended to Government of India for sanction. The Government of India have sanctioned and released funds for the 6 District Plans of **2007-08** in the financial year **2008-09** as below:

Table-20
BRGF- Fund Released details

Sl.No	District	Amount (Rs.in crores)
1	Nagapattinam	13.55
2	Sivagangai	13.96
3	Villupuram	19.55
4	Tiruvannamalai	17.34
5	Dindigul	16.83
6	Cuddalore	15.98
	Total	97.21

III. Establishment and Welfare of the Staff:

- Rural Development Department was the first department to identify and issue orders to fill up all the vacancies in the department from the cadre of Assistant Director to Makal Nala Paniyalarkal. **Orders have been issued to fill up 17,819 vacancies.** Out of these **17,418 vacancies have been filled up** so far. Action is being taken to fill up the balance **401 vacancies** through Tamil Public Service Commission / Employment exchange.
- **In order to strengthen the Technical wing of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department** - The Government requested Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC) to recruit **223 Assistant Engineers (RD)** for the year 2006-07. So far, TNPSC has sent the list covering **218 Engineers** for postings. Out of these, **184 Assistant Engineers (RD)** have joined in the districts so far. Further, for the year 2007-08 out of 264 Assistant Engineers (RD) sought for from TNPSC, list of 252 Assistant Engineers was offered and so far 230 have joined the department.

Table-21
Posts filled up after 31.5.2006

Sl.No.	Name of the Post	Nos
1	Overseers	1,109
2	Junior Drafting Officers	95
3	Road Inspectors	575
4	Assistant Engineers	408
5	Junior Engineers (a) Tsunami Implementation Unit (b) National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme	62 53
6	Assistant Executive Engineers (a) Tsunami Implementation Unit (b) Rural Development & Pt Raj Sub Division (c) National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme	34 91 32
	Total	2,459

- **Time scale to Panchayat Assistants:** The Government have sanctioned, vide G.O.Ms.No.175 RD & PR (E5) Dept., dated 5.12.2006, time scale of pay of Rs.625-10-725-20-925 to Part-time Panchayat Clerks and Rs.1300-20-1500-25-2000 to full-time Panchayat Assistants.
- **Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) as independent pay drawing Officer** - The Government vide G.O.Ms.No.141 RD and PR Department, dated 9.8.2007 have taken a major policy decision to make the BDO (VP) as 'independent pay drawing officer', as in the case of BDO (BP), to enable them to draw salary for the staff working under his control and incur contingency expenses as required. Thus, financial autonomy has been conferred upon the Block Development Officers (Village Panchayat) to enable them to act independently as Head of Office with their staff in the Block Development Offices.
- **Deputy BDO upgradation** - In tune with the announcement of the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration, all the 2,544 posts of Extension Officer in the department have been upgraded to the level of Dy. BDO as per G.O. (MS) No.138 RD&PR Department, dated 28.8.2008.

- **Absorption of Makkal Nala Paniyalargal in the vacancies arises in the posts of Office Assistant, Night Watchman and equivalent posts** Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration has announced in the Budget session held on 16.04.2008 that the eligible **Makkal Nala Paniyalargal** will be absorbed in 50% of vacancies arising in the posts of Office Assistant, Night Watchman and equivalent posts. Accordingly, orders have been issued in G.O.Ms. No. 179 RD & PR Dept. dt. 27.11.2008. In this regard action is being taken by the District Collectors. So far, 187 Office Assistants and 31 Night Watchman posts have been filled up from MNP.
- **Creation of new Driver posts for the vehicles of PU Chairpersons –** The Government have sanctioned 385 posts of Jeep Drivers for the vehicles of Panchayat Union Chairpersons. (in G.O. No. 67 RD & PR (E5) Dept. dt.12.05.2008) Out of 385 posts of Drivers, so far 383 Driver Posts are filled up through Employment Exchange and promotion by transfer from the category of RC/ OA / Night watchman.
- **Enhancement of Adhoc Bonus –** Government have issued orders to enhance adhoc bonus for 2007-08 from Rs 300/- to Rs 1,000/- to OHT / Power Pump operators, Sanitary workers and MNPs working in the Village Panchayats as per G.O.No. 2(2D) RD&PR Department dated 12.01.2009.
- **Time Scale of Pay to Makkal Nala Paniyalargal -** The Makkal Nala Paniyalargal, who were drawing a consolidated pay of Rs.950+50 Conveyance Allowance per month, have been brought to Special Time Scale of Pay of Rs. 2500-5000+Grade Pay of Rs. 500/- with effect from 01.06.2009 as per G.O.Ms.No. 234 Finance (PC) Department dated 01.06.09. About 12,719 Makkal Nala Paniyalargal have benefited through this welfare step of the Government.
- **Restructuring of District Rural Development Agencies –**The State Government have, vide G.O.Ms.No.53, RD & PR (CGS-2) Department dated 19.06.2009, issued orders restructuring District Rural Development Agencies in accordance with Government of India guidelines issued under

DRDA Administration Scheme. The restructuring of the DRDAs was long overdue since the staffing pattern before the restructuring reflected the needs of yesteryear schemes, which were no longer in vogue. Further, there was a non-uniform pattern in the posts of APOs and subordinate staff in various DRDAs across the State and difficulties were constantly experienced in getting deputationists to the DRDAs from the various Departments. The posts of APO (R), APO (EAS), APO (DWCRA), APO (Industries), APO (Animal Husbandry), APO (Cooperation) and APO (Monitoring) were abolished and among others, the posts of APO (Wage employment), APO (Infrastructure), APO (Self employment) and APO (Housing and Sanitation) were created.

- **Re-designation of AEE (RD-PMGSY) and AEE (RD-Water Supply) as AEE (RD-Roads and Bridges)** - In order to strengthen technical supervision of roads and bridges and the technical support system in the offices of Executive Engineer (RD) and Superintending Engineer (RD), the Government, vide G.O.Ms.No.67, RD & PR (SGS3) Department dated 20.07.2009, have re-designated the posts of AEE (RD-PMGSY) and AEE (RD-Water Supply) as AEE (RD-Roads and Bridges).
- **Upgradation of posts of Panchayat Assistants Gr.II as Panchayat Assistant:**

Government have ordered upgradation of all the posts of Panchayat Assistants Grade II as Panchayat Assistant with a revised scale of pay of Rs.2500-5000 with Grade Pay of Rs.500/-, vide G.O.Ms.No.91 RD & PR (E5) Dept., dated 12.8.2009. About 11,000 Panchayat Assistants Grade II have benefited.

IV. GENERAL:

- **New Vehicles** - During **2007-08**, under Part II scheme, **121** new jeeps were given to Block Development Officers, Assistant Executive Engineers, and Assistant Directors (Panchayats) and Assistant Directors (Audit). Now, under Scheme component of Pooled Assigned Revenue, **385** Vehicles have been provided to Panchayat Union Chairpersons and also, **409**

vehicles have been allocated to BDOs and AEEs of newly created sub divisions in Districts. Further, under Part II Scheme, funds of Rs **112.50** lakhs have been utilised for the purchase of **24** vehicles.

- **During 2007-08, under Part II – Scheme, 416** copiers and **385** Fax machines were procured for the Panchayat Union Offices and the Offices of the Assistant Directors (Audit).
- **During 2008-09, under Part II – Scheme,** 3 computers each and accessories have been supplied to P.D. Wings in the Collectorates of **29** districts at the cost of **Rs.43.50** lakhs. Further, **29** fax machines have been installed at the offices of Assistant Director (Panchayats) at the cost of **Rs.4.64** lakhs.

DURING 2009-10, UNDER PART II SCHEME:

- A sum of **Rs.1.20** lakhs has been sanctioned for the purchase of Additional Desktop Computers and Accessories for Personal Assistant Development and 2 Assistant Directors of Ariyalur District. Computers have been supplied and installed.
- Government have sanctioned a sum of **Rs.9.86** lakhs for the purchase of Xerox machines for 16 Personal Assistants (Development) and 1 Assistant Director (Panchayats). Xerox machines have been installed.
- A sum of **Rs.2.53** lakhs has been sanctioned for the purchase of Fax Machines for 15 Personal Assistants (Dev) and 1 Assistant Director (Panchayats). Fax machines have been installed.
- A sum of **Rs.19.40** lakhs has been sanctioned for the purchase of 90 Laser Printers for Personal Assistant (Dev), Assistant Director (Panchayats) and Assistant Director (Audit) of all Districts. Accordingly, Laser Printers have been supplied to the Officers concerned.
- A sum of **Rs.6.63** lakhs has been sanctioned for the purchase of steel bureau for Additional Directors, Assistant Directors, Superintendents in the Directorate of RD & Pt.Raj.

- A sum of **Rs.85.00** lakhs has been sanctioned for the purchase of 16 Vehicles for Subordinate officials and one VIP Vehicle in lieu of a condemned Vehicle in R.D&P.R Dept.
- A sum of **Rs.0.85** lakhs has been sanctioned for the provision of new telephone connections with accessories to 3 Additional Directors in the Directorate of R.D & Pt.Raj. Accordingly, new telephone connections have been given to 3 Additional Directors.
- **Modernization of Conference Hall and Meeting Rooms:** Government have sanctioned a sum of **Rs.50.00** lakhs under Part II Scheme of **2007-8** for the Renovation of Conference Halls, Meeting rooms and provision of invertors in the Directorate of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj.
- **Modernization of Training Institutions** – If the Regional Institutes of Rural Developments have to impart quality training, their infrastructure has to be improved. Therefore the Government sanctioned a sum of **Rs.250** lakhs under Part II Scheme **2007-08** to the five RIRDs for improvement to the class room, kitchen and hostel.
- The Government also sanctioned **Rs.1.25** lakhs for purchase of Fax machines for the RIRDs.
- The Government also sanctioned a sum of **Rs.25** lakhs under Part II Scheme **2008-09** to the five RIRDs at **Rs.5** lakhs each for replacement of training / hostel accessories (furniture, beds and utensils etc).

**TAMILNADU CORPORATION FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN**

1. Restructuring and Strengthening of TNCDW:

In order to bring about synergy in implementing schemes meant for SHGs, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd. was brought under the administrative control of Rural development and Panchayat Raj department from July 2006. The Board of TNCDW was reconstituted and broad based to include experts from different fields. Three posts of Additional Directors have been created in the State office to facilitate better monitoring. In order to strengthen the monitoring mechanism at the district level, 60 Assistant Project Officers were recruited from the open market. The Government have issued orders vide G.O. (Ms) No.106, Rural development and Panchayat Raj department, dated 20.06.2007 to involve Block staff like Block Development officer (Village Panchayat), Deputy BDOs, Extension officer (Adi-draavidar welfare) and Rural welfare officers for monitoring and supervising Mahalir Thittam programmes.

- During 2008-09 the Government also issued orders vide G.O. (Ms) No.188, Rural development and Panchayat Raj department, dated 22.12.2008 to entrust the work relating to Mahalir Thittam and SGSY to the Deputy Block Development officer (Small Savings & Public Relations) from Deputy Block Development Officer (Audit) to give more focus on implementation of SHG programme at Block level.

2. Mahalir Thittam:

Under Mahalir Thittam 4,05,651 SHGs have been formed as on 30.09.2009 with 64.62 lakh women members and total savings of Rs.2364.46 crores. This includes 92,619 new SHGs formed since July 2006 with membership of 14,35,502 women.

During 2009-10 the focus is on the poorest of the poor and poor women who are not members of any SHG with special focus on

- Formation of new SHGs was taken up only among the NREGS women workers who are not covered in the SHGs at present in NREGS districts.

- Village Panchayats with inadequate coverage of SHGs
- The formation of new SHGs in Urban areas was taken up in Urban Slums only.
- During 2009-10 18,233 new SHGs have been formed so far following the above mentioned norms.

3. Credit Linkage:

As on 30.09.2009, the total amount of Bank loans disbursed to SHGs since 1989 is Rs.6221.16 crores, out of which Rs.4455.92 crores has been disbursed since June 2006.

During 2009-10 the Government given special focus on adequate credit flow to the SHGs so as to reduce rural indebtedness.

- The Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration held a meeting on 12.04.08 with the heads of all the Banks and it was decided to provide Rs. 1600 Crores credit to SHGs during the year 2008-09. It was also decided to provide substantially enhanced credit while linking individual SHGs. Rs. 2400 Crores credit to SHGs during the year 2008-09.
- At the initiative of the Government, the State Level Bankers Committee in its meeting on 25.03.2008 advised Banks to adopt the following quantum excluding the subsidy portion while sanctioning credit linkage to SHGs.

First linkage	:	Rs. 50,000/- per SHG
Second linkage	:	Rs.1, 00,000/- per SHG
Third linkage	:	Rs.1, 50,000/- per SHG
Fourth and Subsequent linkages	:	Higher amounts as per requirement of SHGs

- This is the first time in the history of the State that credit linkage target for financing SHGs was approved at the State level and systematically followed up.

- During 2008-09, Rs.2174.57 crores has been given as credit to SHGs by Banks as against the cumulative figure of Rs.3163.39 crores from inception of the SHG movement till 2007-08.
- During 2009-10, Rs.883.20 crores has been given as credit to SHGs by Banks, as of 30.09.2009.

4. Revolving Fund to SHGs:

Revolving Fund subsidy was being provided only to SHGs in rural areas which restricted the access of urban SHGs to Bank credit. The government announced a scheme to provide RF subsidy to urban groups in 2006-07. Rs.74.45 crores has been provided as RF subsidy to 74,453 urban groups in 3 years.

- Normally Revolving Fund was sanctioned to 25000 to 30000 SHGs in a year. But in 2008-09, the government decided to provide RF subsidy to all the eligible 1.50 lakh SHGs in the State which have not availed RF subsidy.
- The Government sanctioned Rs.150 crores to provide RF to all eligible SHGs and 1,48,094 SHGs have been given RF subsidy along with Bank credit as on 30.09.2009.
- During the year 2009-10 the Government sanctioned Rs.70 crores to provide RF to 70,000 eligible and so far 14,464 SHGs have been given RF subsidy along with Bank credit so far as of 30.09.2009.

5. Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana:

The SGSY programme has been transferred to TNCDW from 01.04.2008 to bring about convergence and avoid duplication in Schemes meant for SHGs.

Under SGSY programme, during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 Rs.93.59 crore was provided as Revolving fund subsidy to 93,587 SHGs and for promoting economic activities, Rs.139.13 crore subsidy was provided to 14,274 SHGs.

- During the year 2009-10 Rs.128 crores was sanctioned under this scheme, of which Rs.55 crore has been earmarked for releasing R.F. subsidy to 55,000 SHGs and Rs.60.52 crore has been earmarked for economic assistance subsidy to 6000 SHGs. Out of this Rs.11.52 crores has been disbursed as R.F subsidy to 11,525 SHGs and Rs.23.17 crores has been disbursed for economic assistance subsidy to 2228 SHGs upto 30.09.2009.

6. Training Cost:

- In the year 2006-07, the per diem payable to SHG members attending the training was increased to Rs.45/- per day from Rs.7.50/- per day.
- Similarly the per diem payable to the trainees attending Animator and Representative Training was also increased to Rs.45 per day from Rs.20.00

7. NGO affiliation:

The affiliation norms and the agreement conditions for Non-governmental organizations who are the implementing partners under Mahalir Thittam have been revised and made performance based and linked to outputs.

- NGOs have been evaluated as per the new norms and agreement has been entered with 466 NGOs from the year 2008-09.

8. Strengthening Panchayat Level Federations:

From 2006-07, the government has taken various initiatives to strengthen the PLFs.

- 6912 well functioning PLFs have been provided seed money of Rs.10,000/- each.
- PLF certification has been made mandatory for processing NGO claims for new group formation, monitoring and training.

- Well functioning PLFs are affiliated under Mahalir Thittam on par with NGOs for formation of new SHGs, monitoring etc.
- During 2008-09, the government decided to restructure all PLFs and took the following steps.
- Vide G.O. Ms. No. 125 R.D.P.R., Dated: 21.07.2008 the Government ordered the restructuring of the PLFs with the objective of making them more inclusive, transparent and participatory and to improve Governance and Sustainability.
- In order to accord legal status to the PLFs and to facilitate them to access bank credit the Government has ordered to register all PLFs under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975.
- The Government have also vide G.O. Ms. No.111 dated 17.11.2008 exempted the PLFs from the purview of Section 25 and 42 of Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975. This exemption has provided an institutional framework for PLFs to take up income generation activities and benefit from them.
- An action Plan to restructure all the PLFs in the State in the next three years has been drawn up. So far 1671 PLFs have been restructured.

9. Manimegalai Awards:

To encourage well-functioning SHGs and PLFs, the Government have announced Manimegalai awards at State and District levels. Awards are presented to 5 best PLFs and 10 best SHGs at the State level. One PLF selected as best at the district level and 3 SHGs found to be the best at the district level are given Manimegalai awards and the best SHG at the Block level is given a certificate.

- The awards were presented for the year 2006-07, 2007-08 and for the year 2008-09 they will be presented during 2009.

10. Cultural Competitions:

To strengthen unity and team spirit, cultural competitions are organized among SHG members at Block and District levels. Rs.1.60 crores is sanctioned annually from the year 2007-08 onwards. These competitions have drawn overwhelming response from SHG members.

11. ID Cards:

To help SHGs gain recognition and also easy access to government offices and Banks, ID cards are proposed to be issued to all Mahalir Thittam SHGs in a phased manner.

- SHG ID cards have been distributed in 4 pilot Blocks.
- Printing of SHG ID cards work is under progress in 15 districts.

12. Youth Skill Training:

By providing relevant skill training, unemployed youth can be productively engaged in the industrial sector which is seeing an unprecedented boom in the State. With this objective in mind, the Government sanctioned Youth Skill Training programme in the year 2006-07.

- During 2008-09 the allocation for the programme was enhanced to 20 crores to train 25000 youth.
- TNCDW has imparted skill training to 40,123 youth through reputed industrial houses and institutions like NOKIA, TVS, IL&FS etc,.
- During 2009-10, 25000 youth are to be trained and as of 31.10.09, 7,250 youth are under going the training programmes.

**TAMIL NADU
VAZHNDHU KAATTUVOM PROJECT**

Vazhndhu Kaattuvom Project is an empowerment and poverty alleviation Programme, being implemented with World Bank assistance with an outlay of Rs.717 crores for a period of 6 years. The Project covers 2,515 Village Panchayats in 70 backward Blocks in 15 districts. Though the project was launched in November 2005, effective implementation has commenced only from July 2006.

The project is being implemented in 4 phases. In the first phase the project is under implementation in 578 Village Panchayats in 15 Blocks from October 2006. In the second phase the project is being implemented in 585 Village Panchayats in 15 Blocks from April 2007 and in the third phase the project is being implemented in 635 Village Panchayats in 20 Blocks from November 2008. The fourth phase has commenced from February 2009 and covers 717 Village Panchayats in 20 Blocks, where initial activities are underway.

1. Staffing:

Adequate project staff at State, district and cluster levels are in place after necessary induction training. 14 State Specialists, 18 District Project Managers, 105 Assistant Project Managers and 920 Project Facilitation Team members are in position.

In order to motivate the staff, an innovative performance appraisal and performance based incentive system has been introduced for the project staff. This has helped in drastically bringing down the attrition among project staff and has motivated them to improve their performance.

2. Participatory Identification of Poor:

In Vazhndhu Kaattuvom Project, the target population is identified by the community themselves through the process of Participatory Identification of Poor (PIP). This exercise has been completed in 2,166 Village Panchayats. So far **4.41 lakh** families have been identified as target families through PIP.

3. Formation of Village Poverty Reduction Committees & Social Audit Committees:

After identifying the target poor, Community Organisations like Village Poverty Reduction Committees (VPRCs) and Social Audit Committees (SACs)

are formed. The project funds are directly transferred to the VPRCs which implement the project activities at the village level.

VPRCs and SACs have been constituted in 1,941 Village Panchayats. In addition 126 Tribal VPRCs have also been constituted. An amount of **Rs.175 crores** has been released to the VPRCs so far.

4. Formation of new SHGs:

Under this project, SHGs are formed out of the left out poor and are linked to Banks after adequate capacity building.

8,832 SHGs have been formed among women and youth.4,944 SHGs have been formed among the disabled. In total, **13,776** new SHGs have been formed in the project area.

Of the new SHGs formed, 6,921 SHGs (71 % of the eligible new SHGs) have been provided Revolving fund and Bank Linkage.

An amount of **Rs. 36.61 crores** has been disbursed as Bank loan to these SHGs. The SHGs formed under the project are closely monitored by SHG trainers developed from the community. 4,386 such community SHG trainers have been developed by the Project and are providing close handholding support to the SHGs.

5. Special interventions for the Disabled and Vulnerable:

The project provides rehabilitation and livelihood assistance for the Disabled and Vulnerable, apart from helping them to get their entitlements.

3,051 disabled (89% of the total identified) have been assisted to get National ID cards through project intervention.

42,461 disabled and vulnerable persons have been given financial assistance to start livelihood activities.

3,291 SHGs of the disabled have been linked to Banks and have received Bank loans to the tune of Rs.11.50 crores. This is the first time that SHGs of the disabled have received substantial loans from Banks.

The project has assisted 1,889 severely disabled persons to receive maintenance grant and 12,946 aged persons to get old age pension. 6,181 disabled persons have received aids and appliances costing Rs.1.81 crores.

6. Youth Development:

The Project is making special efforts to involve youth constructively in developmental activities and also to improve their employability by imparting skill training.

27,078 youths have been imparted skill training through reputed institutions and Corporates and **21,656** youths are gainfully employed after training. In addition 18,288 youths are undergoing skill training. The project has tie ups with reputed Corporates like Nokia, Foxconn, MRF, Ashok Leyland, Intimate Fashions for providing skill training and employment for youths.

Youth sub-committees have been formed in 1,978 Village Panchayats and 20 % of the funds released to VPRCs is earmarked for youth development. VPRCs have started many useful activities involving youths using this fund. The activities include tuition centres, career counseling centres, village information centres, gymnasium, etc.

7. Restructuring of Panchayat Level Federations:

In Vazhdhu Kaattuvom Project, Panchayat Level Federations of SHGs (PLF) are being restructured as per the government policy to make them inclusive, participatory and democratic. After restructuring, the PLFs are registered under Tamilnadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 and a revolving fund which will be used as a corpus for livelihood promotion is released to the PLFs. PLF restructuring has been completed in 1,074 Village Panchayats. An amount of Rs.37.40 crores has been released as livelihood corpus to 658 Village Panchayats.

Livelihood Promotion:

To promote the livelihoods of the poor, apart from individual and small group activities undertaken through bank linkages, the project supports formation of economic activity federations around major livelihood activities.

56 Economic Activity Federations with a cumulative membership of 2,682 persons have been formed. Dairy, Garment units, Floriculture, Brick making, and Piggery are some of the activities taken up by the federations. **Rs.2.22 crores** have been released to these federations from Project funds till Sep, 2009.

9. Community Professional Learning and Training Centers (CPLTC):

CPLTCs provide a platform for community members to share their learning and experience and are meant to facilitate community to community learning. The project provides initial seed money to set up CPLTCs. Six CPLTCs have been formed in Namakkal, Thiruvannamalai, Thirunelveli, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Vellore districts. The members of these CPLTCs who are called Community Professionals are providing useful services for the IIIrd and IVth phase Blocks as well as weak VPRCs.

10. Community Managed Health Insurance Scheme:

A community managed health insurance scheme has been launched by Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration on 25.11.2008 and has been taken up on pilot basis in Kandamangalam Block of Villupuram district. A federation of the VPRCs performs the role of third party administrator in the scheme. Following the success of this pilot venture, the insurance scheme has been expanded to Ellapuram Block in Thiruvallur and Chengam Block in Thiruvannamalai district. 13,829 poor families are covered under this health insurance scheme.

11. Financial Progress:

The expenditure incurred under Vazhdhu Kaattuvom Project upto September 2009 is **Rs. 236.28 crores**.

TSUNAMI REHABILITATION SCHEMES

I. Tsunami Emergency Assistance Project with the financial assistance of Asian Development Bank (TEAP)

This Project was started on 06.04.2005. The expenditure till 13.05.2006 was only Rs.4.95 crores. At present an amount of Rs.290.62 cores has been spent under this project, against an allocation of Rs.309.66 crores. The project has been implemented in all the 12 rural coastal districts in the State, covering 257 coastal Village Panchayats and 1602 coastal habitations.

An amount of Rs.608.72 crores has been spent by all the departments through out Tamil Nadu and out of this, Rs.290.62 crores have been spent by the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department alone, which is about 48% of the total expenditure.

A) Livelihood Component :

Under livelihood component, 100% targets have been achieved in respect of disbursement of Revolving Fund and Economic Assistance to Self Help Groups and grant to disabled persons. The detail is given below :-

Component	Physical		Financial (Rs.in lakhs)	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Revolving Fund	33,549	33,549	8,880.10	8,880.10
Economic Assistance	2,472	2,472	3,155.99	3,155.99
Grant for disabled	34,634	34,634	3,463.40	3,463.40

It is difficult for physically challenged persons to get bank loans. So, an amount of Rs.10,000/- has been sanctioned as subsidy to each of the physically challenged persons in the coastal districts to take up some income generating activities to supplement the income and to enable them to lead an honorable life. So far an amount of Rs. 34.63 crores has been given to 34,634 physically challenged persons as grant.

B) Skill Development and infrastructure facilities

For providing skill development training and infrastructure facilities to different categories of people in Coastal Districts such as members of SHGs, fishermen, artisans and weavers, 7 community infrastructure

schemes are implemented at an estimated cost of about Rs.26.38 crores as follows :-

1. The construction of **SHG Complex near Valluvarkottam** in Chennai city, has been taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.15.00 crores. The work is in progress and expected to be completed before 31st March 2010.
2. Under Sea Safety Training Programme, training has been given to 36,890 fishermen and 31,959 women and children of their families, so as to create awareness on sea safety requirements and sea safety methods at an estimated cost of Rs.112.87 lakhs.
3. In seven coastal districts, an amount of Rs.2.96 crores has been released to 93 Fishermen Societies towards working capital assistance and a matching loan has been arranged by the South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS) through bank loans. This has helped these societies to manage their working capital needs without going to private money lenders. Through this, about 5000 members of Fishermen Societies have been benefited directly and about 20,000 Fishermen have been benefited indirectly.

4. **Construction of Direct Paddy Procurement Centres at a cost of Rs.1.62 crores in Thanjavur and Nagapattinam Districts :-**

All the 11 works in Nagapattinam District and all the 4 works in Thanjavur district have been completed and handed over to Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation.

5. **Installation of 9 Bulk Milk Coolers and 37 Milk Parlours**, training the SHG members to manage the Parlours in 11 Coastal Districts and formation and renewal of 160 Dairy Co-operative Societies at an expenditure of Rs.4.06 crores, have been done. 3,645 members were given training on clean milk production and milch animal management. 400 persons were given training on marketing milk and milk products. 37 Milk parlours have been operationalised. Installation works of 9 Bulk Milk Coolers have been completed and all are functioning.

6. **Under Handloom Export Promotion scheme**, at a cost of Rs.61.09 lakhs, in Kanniyakumari district, upgradation of 250 Handlooms has been completed and 250 handloom weavers have been trained on upgraded looms. Upgradation of 8 work sheds has also been completed.
7. Works for establishment of a **Craft Village**, for the benefit of about 1000 rural artisans at a cost of Rs.67.49 lakhs in Villupuram District have been completed.

C) Roads and Drainage:

610 road works, to a length of about 698.46 km, have been undertaken in the Coastal Panchayats at an expenditure of about Rs. 94.00 crores and all the works have been completed.

D) Renovation of Village Panchayat Buildings:

Action had been taken to renovate the village panchayat buildings, with provision of meeting halls and furniture at an estimated cost of Rs.5.62 crores. 196 works have been undertaken and all the works have been completed.

II. Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package (RGRP)

a) Construction of NGO backed out houses and provision of basic amenities

Under Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation package 2,687 houses that were backed out by the NGOs were taken up in Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Villupuram, Nagapattinam, and Thoothukudi Districts at a cost of Rs 65.81 crores. So far 2,047 houses have been completed and the remaining houses are nearing completion.

The basic amenities such as Cement Concrete roads, Street lights, public buildings, House service connections etc., are being provided to these sites at a cost of Rs 10.00 crores.

b) Provision of basic amenities in the NGO constructed housing sites

The basic amenities for the NGO constructed housing sites at a cost of Rs 57.34 crores are provided under Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation

Package. Under this component 133 CC roads at a cost of Rs 40.59 crores, 5,435 toilets with septic tanks at a cost of Rs 5.43 crores, land filling work at Rs 2.76 crores, street lights and house service connections at a cost of Rs.5.47 crores were provided. All the above works were completed.

c) Reconstruction of vulnerable houses and provision of basic amenities as per AGAMT norms

Reconstruction of 18,302 vulnerable houses were taken up in the 11 coastal districts within 0- 200 Metres from HTL. Houses taken up under IAY and other Government funded schemes which are 10 years old as on 1.1.2006 and lying within 1000 Metres from HTL were also taken up under Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package. The expenditure for these works have been estimated as Rs. 499.22 crores . So far, 2702 houses have been completed and the remaining houses are under progress and in various stages of construction.

In the vulnerable housing sites provision of basic amenities under AGAMT norms such as C.C road, BT road, supply of drinking water, street lights, public buildings, renovation of ponds, formation of burial grounds and construction of cremation shed, anganwadi centres and kitchen sheds were taken up. Totally 3261 works were taken up at the estimated cost of Rs.69.42 crores. So far 2881 works have been completed and the remaining works are under progress.

III. Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project - Vulnerability Reduction of Coastal Communities (ETRP-VRCC Programme) funded by World Bank

Government of TamilNadu formulated the Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project (ETRP) with the financial and technical assistance from the World Bank to revive the livelihood and to reconstruct the damaged houses in the tsunami affected areas of the State. The NGOs came forward to take up the reconstruction of houses directly damaged by the tsunami. As a result there have been substantial savings in the credit facilities availed from the World Bank.

The Government evolved a project for reconstruction of houses along the coastal stretch of 200 metres to 1000 metres from HTL, which are identified as vulnerable to the future disasters like tsunami, and thus establish resilient coastal communities. The agreement for ETRP-VRCC Project has been signed by the GOTN with the World Bank on 13.08.2009.

Under this ETRP - VRCC (Vulnerability reduction of coastal communities) project, the following construction activities will be carried out by this department.

- (a) Reconstruction of about 17,000 houses identified as vulnerable in the coastal areas lying between 200 metres to 1,000 metres from HTL.
- (b) Construction of evacuation routes to provide easy escape in times of emergencies. Signages to access the safer shelters will also be incorporated along these evacuation routes.

NGOs have been entrusted with the task of revalidation of beneficiaries selected by the Revenue Department in 11 districts. The construction activities will be taken up shortly.

