



ABSTRACT

COVID-19 - High Level Committee to advise on the medium term response
- Constituted - Orders – Issued

FINANCE (OP-M) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms).No.242.

**Dated: 09.05.2020,
Saarvari, Chithirai 26,
Thiruvalluvar Aandu,2051
Read:**

- 1. G.O.(Ms)No. 238, Public (Special B) Dept., Dated 16.04.2020**
- 2. G.O.(Rt)No. 1235, Public (Special B) Dept., Dated 17.04.2020**

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ORDER:

In the Government Orders read above, the Government constituted an Expert Committee headed by Additional Chief Secretary, Finance with 21 officials / non-officials as Members to consult stakeholders, generate suggestions and to submit a report to the Government on the way forward, after 20.4.2020 and the strategies to take measures in the post lockdown period.

2. The lockdown and the social distancing measures required to be taken post lockdown, to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus are bound to have a medium term impact on the economy of Tamil Nadu including different sectors like Agriculture, Industries, Services including tourism, construction and real estate, retail trade and so on. The impact of the crisis on the finances of the Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu will be considerable. The Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India responses to the crisis will also have macro economic consequences. Hence, it is essential to deliberate on and to make recommendations on the policy measures to be undertaken by the State Government to bring the economy back to the expected growth trajectory, ensuring that the needs and requirements of the poor are addressed, the supply of essential commodities is maintained undisturbed, while limiting the longer term fiscal deterioration.

3. Therefore the Government has decided to constitute a High Level Committee of economists and experts and officials to advise the Government on the medium term policy response. The Committee may also interact and seek views from industry bodies, trade associations, stakeholders, economic and other experts in India and overseas.

4. In the reply to the general discussion on the Budget, on 20th February 2020, the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister had announced that an expert committee would be constituted to recommend measures to improve the tax: GSDP ratio of Tamil Nadu. In the present context where the COVID-19 pandemic has posed much more serious economic and fiscal challenges, the above said expert committee may be requested to examine the fiscal challenges facing Tamil Nadu and the way forward to improve the fiscal position including the tax :GSDP ratio as part of the larger brief of suggesting policy measures to improve the economic situation.

5. Accordingly, that Government hereby constitutes a High Level Committee headed by Dr. C.Rangarajan, former Governor of Reserve Bank of India, former Chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council and currently Chairman, Madras School of Economics with economists, experts & officials as Members annexed in this order.

6. The terms of reference of the High Level Committee are as follows:

- (i) Assess the overall immediate and medium term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on different sectors of Tamil Nadu's economy, including the impact of the lockdown; additional costs and implications due to social distancing and other pre-cautionary measures.
- (ii) Assess the opportunities and threats in the short and medium term.
- (iii) Measures required to help the important sectors of the economy to overcome the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.
- (iv) Identify specific reform measures to be taken by the State Government to support and promote the growth of important sectors of the economy.
- (v) Assess the impact of the crisis on State Government's fiscal situation and way forward to improve the fiscal position, including increasing the tax : GDP ratio and diversifying revenue sources and re-prioritizing expenditure.

- (vi) The issues, including fiscal issues and economy promotion measures, the State Government should take up with Government of India for necessary action.
- (vii) Identify possible sources of financing and funding for different sectors including infrastructure projects, small businesses and other enterprises.

7. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Finance Department shall be the co-ordinator of the High Level Committee constituted in para 5 of above.

8. The committee shall submit its final reports to the Government within 3 months time and also submit interim report as it may deem fit on as required by Government.

9. The High Level Committee constituted in para 5 of above shall be treated as First Class Committee for purpose of payment of TA/DA.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

**K.SHANMUGAM,
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Chairman and Members of the High Level Committee.
All Secretaries to Government, Secretariat, Chennai-9.

Copy to

Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister.
Special PA to Hon'ble Chief Minister.
Senior PPS to Chief Secretary.
Public (Special A / Special B) Department, Chennai-9.
Stock file / Spare copy.

-/ Forwarded: By Order /-


JOINT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

ANNEXURE

(G.O.Ms.No.242 , Finance (OP-M) Department, dated: 09.05.2020)

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE

S.No.	CHAIRMAN
1.	Dr. C.Rangarajan, Chairman, Madras School of Economics (former Governor, RBI).
MEMBERS	
2.	Thiru N.Narayanan, I.A.S.(Retd), former Chief Secretary.
3.	Dr. P.Duraisamy, Vice Chancellor, University of Madras, Chennai-5.
4.	Dr. N.Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University.
5.	Dr. K.R.Shanmugam, Director, Madras School of Economics.
6.	Prof. P.G.Babu, Director, Madras Institute of Development Studies.
7.	Thiru A.Vellayyan, former Chairman, Murugappa Group.
8.	Thiru N.Srinivasan, Vice Chairman & M.D., The India Cements Ltd.,
9.	Thiru Venu Srinivasan, Chairman, TVS Motors Limited
10.	Tmt. Padmaja Chunduru, Managing Director, Indian Bank
11.	Thiru P.N.Vasudevan, Managing Director and CEO, Equitas Bank.
12.	Dr. M.Govinda Rao, Member, 14 th Finance Commission / Public Finance Expert.
13.	Prof. M.Suresh Babu, IIT, Madras.
14.	Thiru Pinaki Chakraborty, Co-ordinator, UNICEF, Chennai.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS	
15.	Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9. (Co-ordinator)
16.	The Principal Secretary to Government, Industries Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600009.
17.	The Principal Secretary to Government, Agriculture Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600009.
18.	The Principal Secretary to Government, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600009.
19.	The Principal Secretary to Government, Housing & Urban Development Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.
20.	The Secretary to Government, Information & Technology Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600009.
21.	The Principal Secretary to Government, MS&ME Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600009.
22.	The Addl. Chief Secretary to Government, Tourism & Culture Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.
23.	The Principal Secretary to Government, HHT& K Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.
24.	The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Labour& Employment Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

**K.SHANMUGAM,
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.**

//True Copy//

(Signature)
9/5/2020