



ABSTRACT

NITI Aayog – Convergence, Integration and Focused attention to Backward Districts – Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar Districts identified as backward Districts in this State - Constitution of the Committee and nomination of Nodal Officers for the State and for the Districts - Orders – Issued.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL INITIATIVES (SP.1) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.104

Dated: 27.12.2017

**Heyvilambi - Margazhi - 12
Thiruvalluvar Aandu 2048.**

Read:

1. From the Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, D.O.No.87558/CEO/NITI/2017, dated 14.11.2017 and 24.11.2017
2. Government Letter No.5652/SP.1/2017, Dated 05.12.2017.

ORDER:

NITI Aayog, New Delhi has stated that though the Indian economy is poised on a high growth trajectory, there are pockets of underdevelopment in the country that impose a major governance challenge. There is an urgent need to raise the level of socio-economic development of these backward areas to bring about balanced and inclusive growth in the country.

2. In this context, the Government of India proposes to work with the States to launch a special initiative to rapidly transform 115 backward Districts by addressing their specific developmental needs. NITI Aayog has identified 30 most backward districts with a maximum of five districts in a State on the basis of a composite index. In addition to these 30 districts, different Ministries have identified a pool of 50 districts on the basis of this index where they would be converging their efforts for improvement in the outcome.

3. The GOI identified 2 districts viz., Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar in Tamil Nadu as backward districts requiring focused attention.

4. The NITI Aayog has further stated that the strategy envisaged under this initiative is to ensure effective convergence between various Central and State Government programmes, establishment of an efficient feedback mechanism and to provide a platform for replicating best practices from other districts. For overall supervision of the programme at the Central Government level, an Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECS) is being set up which will be empowered to modify

the guidelines of schemes within the approved outlays and other parameters, in order to make them more effective. Further, Flexi Funds available under various schemes can be deployed innovatively to fill the critical gaps observed in the field.

5. It also stated that the States are expected to be the main drivers of this programme and the role of Government of India would be largely facilitative. The District Collector will be the fulcrum of this programme, leading the transformation process from the front. Since the strategy would include setting targets for various indicators to be achieved year wise upto 2022, a District Action Plan would need to be prepared for each identified district spelling out the blue print for achieving the targets.

6. The GOI has designated its Additional Secretary/ Joint Secretary/ or equivalent cadre officer as Nodal Officer for each of the 115 backward districts to coordinate with the State Government and together as a team would guide the District Administration in fulfilling the objectives of this programme. Among them, the nodal officers nominated for Virudhunagar and Ramanathapuram districts are as detailed below:

Sl.No.	Name & Designation	Districts
1.	Thiru. Praveen Kumar, IAS., Additional Secretary to Government, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, New Delhi.	Virudhunagar District
2.	Thiru.S.Gopalakrishnan, IAS., Joint Secretary to Government, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, New Delhi.	Ramanathapuram District

7. The NITI Aayog has been entrusted with the task of coordinating and monitoring their special initiative. Therefore it requested the Government, for smooth running of the programme,

(i) to form a Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary to Government.

(ii) to designate one of the Secretary level officers of this State as the Nodal Officer for day-to-day interaction with them.

(iii) to designate a Secretary level officer for each of the identified districts in our State to act as a bridge between the Centre and the District.

8. The Government, after careful consideration, constitute a committee with the following composition to be chaired by the Chief Secretary to Government.

1.	Chief Secretary to Government	Chairperson
2.	Principal Secretary/ Secretary to Government Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department	Member Convenor
3.	Principal Secretary/ Secretary to Government Agriculture Department	Member
4.	ACS/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department	Member
5.	Principal Secretary/ Secretary to Government School Education Department	Member
6.	Principal Secretary/ Secretary to Government Health and Family Welfare Department	Member
7.	Principal Secretary/ Secretary to Government Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department	Member
8.	Principal Secretary/ Secretary to Government Public Works Department	Member
9.	Principal Secretary/ Secretary to Government Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department	Member
10.	Secretary to Government (Expenditure) Finance Department	Member
11.	Any other Principal Secretary/Secretary to Government	Will be co-opted as and when necessary

9. Further, the Government nominate the Member Secretary, State Planning Commission as Nodal Officer for the State for day to day interaction with the NITI Aayog, Government of India. The Government also nominate the following officers as Nodal Officers for each of the identified districts in the State to act as a bridge between the Centre and the District as detailed below:

1.	Tmt.P.Amudha I.A.S., Commissioner of Food Safety & Drug Administration, Chennai – 600 006.	Ramanathapuram District.
2.	Dr. Santhosh Babu, IAS., Chairman & Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation, Chennai – 600 002.	Virudhunagar District.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

T.V.SOMANATHAN
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Chief Secretary to Government, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
The Principal Secretary, Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
The Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.

- The ACS/Principal Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
- The Principal Secretary, School Education Department, Secretariat, Chennai -9.
- The Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
- The Principal Secretary, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
- The Principal Secretary, Public Works Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
- The Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
- The Secretary to Government (Expenditure), Finance Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
- The Member Secretary, State Planning Commission, Chepauk, Chennai-5.
- Tmt.P.Amudha I.A.S., Commissioner of Food Safety and Drug Administration, Chennai 600 006.
- Dr. Santhosh Babu, IAS., Chairman and Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation, Chennai – 600 002.
- The Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, New Delhi 110 001.
- Thiru.Praveen Kumar, Additional Secretary to Government, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, New Delhi.
- Thiru.S.Gopalakrishnan, Joint Secretary to Government, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, New Delhi.
- Thiru. Rakesh Ranjan, DDG-Evaluation, NITI Aayog, New Delhi.
- The Collector, Ramanathapuram District.
- The Collector, Virudhunagar District.
- The ACS/Principal Secretary/Secretary to Government, All Departments, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
- The Senior Private Secretary to Chief Secretary to Government, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
- The Senior Private Secretary to Principal Secretary to Government, Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.
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SECTION OFFICER 28/12/17

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