

# **Environment Climate Change and Forests Department Announcement for the Year 2022-2023**

## **Environment and Climate Change**

### **1. Pasumai Pallikoodam Thittam (Green Schools Scheme)**

With Climate Change becoming a reality, young children need to be prepared for climate change adaptation and mitigation. The green revolution should begin with the younger generation. 25 Green Schools shall be selected to implement the green vision of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. These schools shall undertake various green measures like energy efficiency by using solar lighting and use of solar pumps, setting up of solar borewell, adapting rain water harvesting, composting, creating vegetable garden, medicinal garden and planting of fruit trees, reducing water use, recycling of waste water, creating a plastic free environment etc. All the

electricity requirements for the School will be met by Solar Power.

These schools shall be the torchbearers of the green school initiative which will inspire all other schools to follow the green footprints. The schools shall also be ranked on a green index to create a repository of information on green initiatives. An amount of Rs.5 crores shall be allocated by the Government of Tamil Nadu towards this initiative, in which Rs.20 lakhs will be allocated to each school.

## **2. District Climate Change Mission Units in Tamil Nadu**

Combating and mitigating the impact of climate change is a major concern for a coastal State like Tamil Nadu. During the Budget Speech for the year 2021-2022, this Government announced the launch of Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission under the Hon'ble Chief Minister to focus on climate change adaptation and mitigation activities with a total outlay of Rs.500 crores. Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission is a first of its kind at the sub-national level.

To strengthen the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission at the District level, District Climate Change Mission Unit will be formed in all the Districts. The District Collector will be Chairman of the District Climate Change Mission Unit and the District Forest Officer will be the Convener and also the Climate Change Officer for the District. An amount of Rs.3.80 crores shall be allocated with funding from EMAT and the Government of Tamil Nadu.

### **3. Launch of “Meendum Manjappai”**

To further strengthen the Meendum Manjappai Campaign launched by the Hon’ble Chief Minister to create awareness about the harmful impact of Single Use Plastic in Tamil Nadu, a special ‘Meendum Manjappai Express’ train shall be launched at a cost of Rs.13 crores with the aim to take the campaign to the grassroots level. The Meendum Manjappai Express train will have an in-house Mobile Exhibition, information about eco alternatives and digital tools to spread the message. The train shall be run in partnership with IRCTC (Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation) and will host school and college students, Self Help Group members, Panchayat leaders and general public.

## **4. GREEN RATING OF INDUSTRIES BY TNPCB IN TAMIL NADU.**

Tamil Nadu has emerged as the second largest economy in India with enhanced industrial activity the State has planned to assess the industrial sector's environment sustainability features through a green rating mechanism. An index-based assessment shall be brought in place for achieving desired green goals. The index mechanism shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Industries, Government of Tamil Nadu and other stakeholders. National and International practices shall be studied and a mechanism shall be brought in place after wide ranging consultation with industries. The aim of the green benchmarking is to incentivise willing industries to move towards green and clean technologies, creating an ethos of green development. The initiative shall be implemented through a consulting mechanism at a cost of Rs.2.5 crores.

## **5. New District Environmental Laboratories shall be set up at Oragadam in Kancheepuram District and in Nagapattinam District**

In order to strengthen the pollution control measures and to enhance the efficiency in the response mechanism of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, two new District Environmental Laboratories shall be set up at Kancheepuram and Nagapattinam Districts at a cost of approximately Rs.6 crores. This will place Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board in the league of well-equipped pollution authorities ready to take on the new challenges arising in the field of pollution control.

## **6. Carbon-Neutral Koyambedu Market Complex**

Government will take effective steps to achieve carbon neutrality for the Koyambedu wholesale market complex which is one of Asia's largest market Complexes. The Complex is spread over an area of 295 acres with more than 3900 shops selling vegetables, fruits, flowers and food grains. Government will explore the possibility of using renewable energy sources, creating green spaces, use of sustainable materials, ways to reduce carbon footprints and ensuring that environmental responsibility is brought in the entire functioning of the market complex.

The project shall be launched in collaboration with Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) at an estimated cost of Rs.25 Crores.

## **7. “Manjappai Awards” for Schools, Colleges and Commercial Establishments**

Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to institute Manjappai Awards for schools colleges and commercial establishments in Tamil Nadu to encourage them to create plastic free campuses. Three best colleges, three best schools and three best commercial establishments shall be selected for the same on a defined criterion. The best college, the best school and the best commercial establishment will win an award of Rs.10 Lakhs each, an award of Rs.5.00 lakhs each shall be given to those securing the second position and Rs.3.00 lakhs each to those securing the third position. A total of Rs.54.00 lakhs will be allocated for the same.