



HANDLOOMS, HANDICRAFTS, TEXTILES AND KHADI DEPARTMENT

HANDLOOMS AND TEXTILES

**POLICY NOTE
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**R.GANDHI
MINISTER FOR HANDLOOMS AND TEXTILES**

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2024**

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DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS

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DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS

INTRODUCTION

The Handloom sector has rich heritage, woven with our culture and has a very long tradition of craftsmanship sustained through transfer of skills from one generation to next from its origin in our country traced back to Indus Valley Civilization period of 3000 BC and the archaeological evidences excavated at Keeladi, Sivagangai District, Tamil Nadu also confirms the fact that the ancient Tamils engaged themselves in weaving as mentioned in sangam literature.

The antiquity of weaving was depicted in Tholkappiam. The findings in Purananuru, Natrinai represents women largely practiced weaving. The excavation of dyeing vats at Keeladi, Kodumanal, Uraiyyur and Arikamedu stand testimony for our rich heritage and culture in weaving.

"பருத்திப் பெண்டின் பனுவல் அன்ன"

(முறம்: 125)

The above lines in Purananaru represents ancient women also learnt the weaving techniques.

At Keeladi, the excavation brought forth the archaeological evidence matching with literature depictions relating to the occupation of weaving during Sangam age.

1. HANDLOOM SECTOR

Having understood the importance of weaving, the Government with the twin objective of protecting our State's ancient weaving heritage and culture and at the same time to provide livelihood for weavers in all cluster areas in the State have been taking various initiatives to address the challenges in this sector covering extension of support on infrastructure requirements, schemes for production and

marketing sector, welfare measures to weavers besides addressing statutory enforcement works like implementation of Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 and the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 for protection of Handloom sector.

The weaver's cooperatives are by and large confined to handloom weaving. Presently there are 1,114 Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies in the State registered under Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies Act, 1983 and Rules 1988 with 2.59 lakh members as weavers.

The Handloom Weaver's Co-operative Societies mostly exist in rural and semi-urban areas. Tamil Nadu handloom weavers work on an ordinary pit loom, pit looms with dobby and jacquard, frame loom and frame looms with dobby and jacquard. Various measures have been taken

by both Central and State Governments for the upliftment and sustainability of this sector through schemes for the handloom weavers.

As per the 4th All India Handloom Census 2019-2020, the Tamil Nadu has a strong presence in Handloom sector next to Assam and West Bengal in terms of number of handlooms. There are 1.91 lakh handlooms with 2.44 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers employed in the State against the all India position of about 27.01 lakh handlooms with 35.22 lakh weavers and affiliated workers. The share of handloom industry of our State is 8% and 7% in terms of number of handlooms and workers respectively and out of which 1.18 lakh weavers are in co-operative fold in the State with female weavers covering about 60% in total workforce.

Handloom Weaving Process



A wide range of handloom products in Tamil Nadu have been universally recognized for the excellent craftsmanship and their uniqueness. Some of the handloom products from Tamil Nadu which are best known for their beauty and versatility are Kancheepuram Silk Sarees, Thirubhuvanam Silk Sarees, Arani Silk Sarees, Bhavani Jamukkalam, Madurai Sungadi Sarees, Coimbatore Kora Cotton Sarees, Paramakudi Sarees, Salem Silk Dhoties, Erode and Karur Home Textiles, etc.,

Zone wise and Circle wise number of Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies

1. North Zone

Sl. No.	Circle	Districts covered	No.of HWCS
1	Kancheepuram	1.Kancheepuram	54
		2.Chengalpattu	20
2	Tiruvallur	3.Tiruvallur	73
3	Vellore	4.Vellore	33
		5.Ranipet	20
		6.Tiruppattur	2
4	Thiruvannamalai	7.Thiruvannamalai	24
5	Cuddalore	8.Cuddalore	30
		9.Villupuram	21
		10.Kallakurichi	2
Total			279

2. East Zone

Sl. No.	Circle	Districts covered	No.of HWCS
6	Kumbakonam	11.Thanjavur	15
		12.Perambalur	1
		13.Ariyalur	32
7	Tiruvarur	14.Nagapattinam	1

		15.Thiruvarur	3
		16.Mayiladuthurai	2
8	Trichirappalli	17.Trichirappalli	21
Total			75

3. West Zone

Sl. No.	Circle	Districts covered	No.of HWCS
9	Coimbatore	18.Coimbatore	61
		19.Nilgiris	1
10	Erode	20.Erode	190
11	Tiruppur	21.Tiruppur	47
12	Tiruchengode	22.Namakkal	71
13	Salem	23.Salem	60
		24.Dharmapuri	5
14	Karur	25.Karur	43
Total			478

4. South Zone

Sl. No.	Circle	Districts covered	No.of HWCS
15	Madurai	26.Madurai	30
		27.Theni	8
16	Dindigul	28.Dindigul	39
17	Virudhunagar	29.Virudhunagar	51
18	Paramakudi	30.Ramanathapuram	82

		31.Sivagangai	1
19	Tirunelveli	32.Tirunelveli	16
		33.Thenkasi	11
		34.Thoothukudi	9
20	Nagercoil	35.Kanniyakumari	35
Total			282

Production and Sales of Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies

During the year 2023-2024, the Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies have produced handloom cloth to the value of Rs.1091.93 crore and sold to the value of Rs.1241.99 crore.

The Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies primarily produce cloth for the open market and on Co-optex Production Plan. They are also engaged in production of cloth under Uniform Supply to School Children for School Education Department and Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme for Revenue Department.

Strength of Handloom Sector

- ❖ Production of intricate woven fabric, its versatility & wide variety
- ❖ Diverse design base
- ❖ Quick to switchover to new designs
- ❖ Availability of high skilled labour
- ❖ Traditional mode of production with low technology
- ❖ Eco friendly technology and process
- ❖ Many weaves/process are still beyond the scope of powerloom and will continue to be produced by handlooms

The handloom sector has encountered numerous challenges in recent times. Challenges such as reducing workforce, low wages and extensive manual work have become common in this business.

Problems faced by the Handloom sector in Tamil Nadu:

- ❖ Number of handloom weavers are declining sharply
- ❖ Low productivity in comparison to powerloom and mill sector
- ❖ Limited scope of technological up-gradation
- ❖ Shifting of skilled labour to other sectors
- ❖ Resistance to change among existing weavers to adopt novelties in textile and fashion trends

The Government of Tamil Nadu strives to protect the handloom weaving tradition while assuring the sustainability of the weavers through a well-established value chain linkage and has undertaken numerous projects across the whole value chains which are depicted below:

Design:- The co-optex has collaborated with design institutes to help weaving clusters with design interventions. 1000 new designs has been developed through National Institute of Fashion Technology and National Institute of Design.

Raw Material Sourcing:- The 6 Co-operative Spinning Mills providing yarn to the handloom weavers at fair prices. Besides, 15% subsidy also provided to Weavers Co-operative Society for yarn procurement under Raw Material Supply Scheme through National Handloom Development Corporation.

Weaving:- The Government has been facilitating 1,114 Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies spread over 103 clusters across the State. Mini Handloom Park are being established across the state.

Marketing:- Co-optex is marketing the handloom products through its outlets and e-Commerce portal. Apart from this, the Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies are selling their products by participating Expo and through its own showrooms across Tami Nadu.

Sales:- Co-optex has sold Rs.215 crore worth of handloom products through its 150 outlets across India. Further, the Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies have also sold Rs.969 crore worth of Handloom products through open market.

Handloom Export

The Handloom industry mainly exports fabrics, bed linen, table linen, toilet and kitchen linen, towels, curtains, cushions, tapestries, upholstery's carpets and floor coverings, etc. The Handloom products from India are being exported to USA, UK, Germany, Italy, France, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Netherland, UAE, etc.,

During 2022-2023, the overall export value of handloom products in India is Rs.1445.53 crore. The home textile constitutes over 60% of India's total handloom exports. Export value of Carpets, rugs and mats made from handlooms is Rs.189.89 crore and contributes a total share of 13% in total exports in2022-2023.

The major handloom export centres in India are Karur, Panipat, Varanasi & Kannur, where handloom products like Bed linen, Table linen, Kitchen linen, Toilet linen, Floor coverings,

embroidered textile materials, curtains etc. are produced for export markets.

In Tamil Nadu, the major handloom export centres are in Erode, Karur, Salem and Tiruchengode, producing Bedsheets, Bedspreads and Home Furnishing materials.

2. POWERLOOM SECTOR

The powerloom industry of India is among the biggest contributors to the country's textile industry and makes up the majority of the textile production. The textile industry being one of the largest contributors to India's economy makes the powerloom sector important for the country. About 58.4% of the total cloth production in India is through powerlooms. The readymade garments and home textile sector of the country are heavily dependent on the powerloom industry.

India is the sixth-largest exporter of textiles and apparel in the world. The powerloom industry

of India produces fabrics ranging from grey dyed fabrics, cotton fabrics, printed fabrics and a mix of cotton, synthetic and other fibres.

In our country, powerlooms are a predominant segment in the entire textile value chain. According to the annual report, 2018-2019 of Ministry of Textiles, there are 27.77 lakh powerlooms in the decentralized sector, out of which 1.50 lakh (5.40%) are shuttleless looms. The powerloom sector contributes 60% of the total cloth production and provides employment to nearly 44.18 lakh persons. More than 60% of fabric meant for export is also sourced from powerloom sector.

Powerloom Industry in Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu has a strong presence in Powerloom sector next to Maharashtra in terms of number of powerlooms. There are 5.68 lakh powerlooms with 10.18 lakh workers employed in

the State against the all India position of about 27.77 lakh powerlooms with 44.18 lakh workers employed. The share of Powerloom industry of our State is 20% and 23% in terms of number of powerlooms and workers respectively.

Among the different States in the south, Tamil Nadu has got the largest concentration of powerlooms and the growth of this sector has been phenomenal in the past three decades.

Powerloom clusters in Tamil Nadu are concentrated in 1) Erode 2) Coimbatore 3) Tiruppur 4) Salem 5) Namakkal 6) Karur 7) Tiruvallur 8) Madurai 9) Tirunelveli 10) Vellore 11) Cuddalore 12) Kancheepuram 13) Thiruvannamalai and 14) Virudhunagar districts. The majority of powerlooms in Tamil Nadu are plain looms and a smaller number of shuttleless looms.

Tamil Nadu has 5.68 lakh powerlooms, on one-fifth of India's total of 27.77 lakh powerlooms. In the state, there are 70,288 powerlooms operated by 237 Powerloom Weavers Co-operative Societies (PWCS).

Zone-wise Number of PWCS in Tamil Nadu

Sl. No	Circle	District	Number
West Zone			
1	Erode	Erode	56
2	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	32
3	Tiruppur	Tiruppur	25
4	Salem	Salem	18
5	Tiruchengode	Namakkal	82
North Zone			
6	Tiruvallur	Tiruvallur	20
South Zone			
7	Madurai	Madurai	1
		Theni	2
8	Tirunelveli	Thenkasi	1
Total			237

The Powerloom Weavers Cooperative Societies primarily produce cloth for the Free Uniform Supply to School Children and Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme for School Education and Revenue Departments respectively.

During the year 2023-2024, the Powerloom Weavers Co-operative Societies produced 1931 lakh metre of cloth valued at Rs.789.15 crore and sold 1938.85 lakh metre of cloth valued at Rs.809.70 crore.

Problems faced by the Powerloom sector in Tamil Nadu:

- ❖ Technological obsolescence and small size of units with fragmentation
- ❖ Lack of credit availability and poor marketability
- ❖ Low Human Resource Development skill levels and poor quality consciousness

- ❖ Globalization of the textile trade and threat of import penetration

In order to overcome the challenges of the State powerloom industry and to take up the sector to next level and to optimally realize the growing demand potential for value added fabrics, the following are the focus areas:

1. Modernisation and upgradation of ordinary / plain looms to rapier and shuttleless looms
2. Shift from usage of coarser count cotton yarn to Man Made Fiber and finer count cotton yarn
3. Shift from production of grey fabrics to high value fabrics
4. Infusion of upgraded technology loom and establishment of hi-tech powerloom parks.
5. Value addition to take place within the State

6. Facilitating on direct exports through creation of e-commerce portal
7. Common Facility Centre for existing Clusters for pre-loom and post loom process
8. Develop talent pipeline and upskill the existing workers

3. DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS

The Department of Handlooms and Textiles, which was formed from the Cooperative Department in 1956, was further bifurcated into the Department of Handlooms and the Department of Textiles on October 23, 2021 to provide a special focus on each department.

The principal goal of the Department of Handlooms is to encourage the harmonious growth of the handloom and powerloom sectors

as well as to improve the welfare of all weavers and affiliated workers.

The Commissioner of Handlooms serves as the "Functional Registrar" for Handloom and Powerloom Weavers' Cooperative Societies as well as other Cooperative Institutions in the handloom industry in the State and is empowered under the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Societies Act, 1983, and its Rules 1988.

Objectives of the Department

The redefined objectives of the department are:

- **Infrastructure Support:** To bring in technological up-gradation in handloom sector to improve design efficacy of looms with attachments to make them compatible for addressing growing design change and

product diversification requirements covering Premiumisation and Product Innovation

- To Transit handloom industry from cottage to industrial mode
- **Production and Marketing Support:**
To create e-commerce platform under Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) to capitalize niche market potential through brand promotion and adoption of effective marketing strategies for exploring wider market penetration
- The approach of the Government is to sustain the weavers of handloom industry and continue to provide livelihood to the weavers who depend on this industry
- Constant skill up-gradation to produce marketable products with product diversification and continuous design

interventions to sink with changing demands for new products which are in greater demand across the globe

- **Welfare Support:** To provide better working conditions and fair wages to weavers for skill retention in weaving sector and to bring young skilled workforce to preserve traditional hand weaving practice from becoming extinct

- **Statutory / Enforcement Support:** To create awareness among the customers about products reserved for manufacturing in handloom sector and thereby protecting this sector and our weaving heritage and culture being carried to our future generation by curbing all possible intrusions by auto-loom sector

In order to fulfil the above objectives, the Government of Tamil Nadu is contemplating to make paradigm shift in the following areas:

- Skill Development training to handloom weavers to improve the designs
- Providing adequate infrastructure facilities to give continuous employment opportunities to weavers
- Developing new designs with the collaboration of National Institute of Fashion Technology and National Institute of Design to capture new market avenues
- Conduct of continuous training and awareness programmes to encourage youngsters to pursue weaving as profession
- To foster the handloom products in a wider range, it is necessary to exhibit through Unity Mall, Museum besides in international expos

- Traditional to Contemporary, by encouraging production of contemporary designs to suit the customer preferences and demand for the authentic hand woven / handloom customers

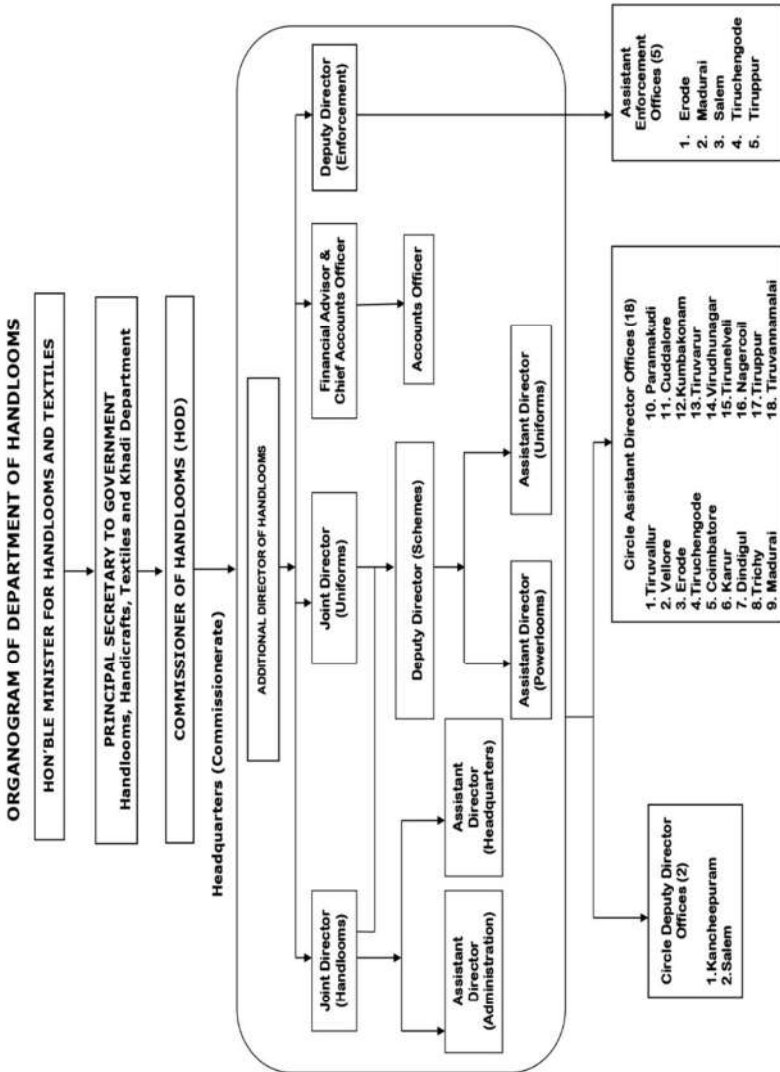
Organisation

The Department of Handlooms is functioning under the administrative control of the Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi Department, Government of Tamil Nadu. The 38 districts in the State are grouped into 20 circles with each circle covering few neighboring districts as a cluster, headed by the Deputy Directors / Assistant Directors of Handlooms.

In addition, 6 Enforcement Wings are functioning at Chennai, Salem, Tiruchengode, Erode, Tiruppur and Madurai under the administrative control of Deputy Director (Enforcement) / Assistant Enforcement Officers to

monitor the Implementation of Handlooms under Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 and to monitor the Rule, violation in Handloom products under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 for protection in Handloom sector.

The following organogram provides overview of the administrative structure of the department:



Institutions functioning under the administrative control of the department

- 1) Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society (Co-optex)
- 2) Tamil Nadu Zari Limited, Kancheepuram
- 3) Tamil Nadu Co-operative Textile Processing Limited, Erode
- 4) Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation, Chennai.
- 5) 1,114 Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies
- 6) 237 Powerloom Weavers Co-operative Societies

4. SUPPORTIVE SCHEMES FOR PRODUCTION AND MARKETING

4.1. STATE SPONSORED SCHEMES

a. Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme

The Government of Tamil Nadu have introduced the Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme during the year 1983 as one of the Flagship schemes. This scheme has been continued by the Government of Tamil Nadu with the twin objectives of providing continuous employment to around 2,664 Handloom Weavers, 11,124 Pedalloom Weavers and 41,983 Powerloom Weavers in the State and for distribution of Sarees and Dhoties to fulfil the need of the poor people living in rural and urban areas in Tamil Nadu during the Pongal festival every year.

For the year 2023-2024, the Government have issued orders for distribution of 1.77 crore sarees and 1.77 crore dhoties during Pongal 2024 and a sum of Rs.449.47 crore was sanctioned as advance for the implementation of the scheme.

Based on the requirement provided by Commissionerate of Revenue Administration, Production Target was issued to Handloom and Powerloom Weavers Co-operative Societies. Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society (Co-optex), Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation (TNTC) and Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation (TNHDC) are appointed as Nodal Agencies for this Scheme. The Department of Handlooms produced the sarees and dhoties on time and completed the dispatch to all 317 Taluks before 31.12.2023. The GPS enabled closed vehicle for movement of goods to the taluks and a web based mobile application was

also developed to monitor entire progress of supply of Sarees and Dhoties under the scheme.

b. Continuous Employment to Handloom and Pedalloom Weavers throughout the Year under Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme

In order to provide continuous employment to the Handloom Weavers engaged in Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme, Production Plan is being issued to the Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies for the period from January to June every year.

Under this scheme, during Pongal 2024, the Department has issued production plan to Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies for producing Sarees and Dhoties as given below:

Sl. No.	Variety	Number of looms engaged	Production Plan (in units)	
			Sarees	Dhoties
1	Handloom Saree	834	41450	--

2	Handloom Dhoty	1509	--	89280
3	Pedalloom Saree	9200	1336600	--
4	Pedalloom Dhoty	2683	--	432556
Total		14226	1378050	521836

c. Supply of Uniform to School Children Scheme

The Government is implementing the Supply of Uniform Scheme every year for the students who are studying in Government and Government Aided Schools. Under this scheme, students studying from 1st standard to 8th standard who are the beneficiaries of Nutritious Meal Programme are benefited. Every year 4 sets of uniforms are being provided to the students under this scheme.

During the Academic Year 2023-2024, 534.84 lakh metre of Uniform Cloth varieties at a cost of Rs.408.63 Crore have been produced and supplied to Social Welfare Department for stitching

uniforms for distribution to school children through School Education Department.

The details of production of uniform cloth are as given below.

Sl. No.	Production variety	No. of Looms	Quantity of Uniform Cloth (in lakh Metre)	Value (Rs. in Crore.)
1	Handloom	541	7.02	8.16
2	Pedalloom	7051	109.66	79.27
3	Powerloom	4841	418.16	321.20
Total		12433	534.84	408.63

During the academic year 2023-24, 41,35,479 students (Boys 20,57,931 + Girls 20,77,548) were benefitted under this scheme.

In order to continue the implementation of Supply of Uniform Scheme for the Academic Year 2024-25, the Government have issued orders to produce 475.95 lakh metre uniform cloth and released Rs.100 crore as advance to procure the yarn varieties required for the production of cloth

by following Tamil Nadu Transparency Tender Act 1998 and Rules 2000 and production commenced.

The Tentative Uniform cloth requirement for the Academic Year 2024-2025 based on previous year supply under this scheme is as follows

Uniform Cloth Production Plan - AY 2024-2025

Name of the Department	Tentative cloth requirement (in lakh metres)	Tentative Number of Students
Social Welfare Department (I to VIII Std)	475.95	36,56,925

Control Room

In order to monitor the Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme and Supply of Uniform Scheme, 24x7 Control Room has been established and all the activities from purchase of yarn to distribution of products were monitored.

Mobile App

An exclusive mobile app has also been developed to monitor all activities of Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme (<https://dsdhandlooms.org>) and Supply of Uniform Scheme (<https://uniform.dsdhandlooms.org>).

d. Free Electricity to Handloom Weavers

The Free Electricity Scheme for Handloom Weavers is being implemented since 2006-2007 with the aim of easing the financial burden of handloom weavers and providing them with better working conditions.

The Government have increased the Free Electricity supply from 200 units to 300 units bimonthly, starting from March 3, 2023 under this Scheme.

Free Electricity at a cost of Rs.25.51 crore has been provided to handloom weavers during the year 2021-2022 to 2023-2024.

In the year 2023-2024, a sum of Rs.12.48 crore was allocated and released to benefit 75,364 weavers. The scheme will continue in the financial year 2024-2025, with a budget of Rs.14.72 crore.

e. Free and Subsidized Electricity to Powerloom Weavers

The Free and Subsidized Electricity to Powerloom Weavers Scheme is being implemented since 2006-2007 with a primary objective to support the growth of the powerloom industry and benefit powerloom weavers. The Government have increased the free electricity supply from 750 units to 1000 units bimonthly, starting from March 3, 2023 further beyond 1000 units subsidized electricity were provided.

Unit	Tariff per unit	Govt. subsidy per unit	Tariff per unit payable by the weavers
	(in Rs.)		
1-500	6.50	6.50	Free
501-750	7.50	7.50	Free
751-1000	7.50	7.50	Free
1001-1500	7.50	3.35	4.15
1500 and above	7.50	2.20	5.30

Free Electricity at a cost of Rs.1241.78 crore has been provided to Powerloom Weavers during the year 2021-2022 to 2023-2024.

During the year 2023-2024, the Government have allocated Rs.496.39 crore for the scheme, benefiting 1,62,799 powerloom weavers. The scheme will continue in 2024-2025, with a budget of Rs. 563.18 crore.

f. Rebate Subsidy Scheme

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the Rebate Subsidy Scheme to promote the sales of handloom cloth and compete

with private markets. The main objective of this scheme is to help the Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies and Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society Limited (Co-optex) to improve the marketing of handloom products with the primary goal of ensuring continuous employment for weavers by making handloom products cost-competitive and enabling them to compete in the open market.

The Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies and Co-optex are permitted to allow rebate at the rate of 20% on the sale of handloom cloth throughout the year. This rebate is subject to a ceiling of 20% or Rs.100/- per unit, whichever is less for cotton varieties and 20% or Rs.200/- per unit, whichever is less for silk varieties.

To commemorate the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna, an additional 10% Special

Rebate, i.e., 30% or Rs.150 per unit, whichever is less for cotton varieties and 30% or Rs.300 per unit, whichever is less for silk varieties, is provided for a period of 139 days from 15th September to 31st January every year.

In order to settle the pending rebate subsidy claims to Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies, additional financial assistance of Rs.160.11 crore in 2021-2022, Rs.100.00 crore in 2022-2023 and Rs.50.00 crore in 2023-2024 have been allocated benefitting more than 850 Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies and Co-optex.

During the year 2023-24, the Government have allocated the Budget provision of Rs.250.00 crore and the same has been released to 852 Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies and Co-optex.

A provision of Rs. 250.00 crore has been made in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025 towards implementation of Rebate Subsidy Scheme.

g. Interest Subsidy Scheme

The Government introduced the interest subsidy scheme for working capital assistance availed by Primary Weavers' Co-operative Societies through District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCB) under NABARD Refinancing Scheme during 1956, which was discontinued in 2002 and again reintroduced in 2008.

Under this scheme, Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies are eligible for interest subvention of 6% over the interest rate charged by District Central Co-operative Banks.

During the year 2023-2024, interest subsidy of Rs.14.73 crore has been disbursed to Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies and a

provision of Rs.17.00 crore has been made in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.

In addition to the above, to extend similar support to the Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative societies which are unable to obtain cash credit support from District Central Co-operative Banks, working capital assistance of Rs.30 crore has also been sanctioned to 434 Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Societies under Handloom Support Programme.

h. Weaver Induction & Entrepreneurship Programme

The Government of Tamil Nadu has announced a program "Weaver Induction & Entrepreneurship Programme" to encourage young people to pursue weaving as a profession during the year 2023-2024.

Under the Weaver's Induction and Entrepreneurship Programme, 300 individuals were trained in 3 phases as stated below:

Phase-I October 2023 to November 2023		Phase-II November 2023 to December 2023		Phase-III December 2023 to February 2024	
Kanchipuram	20	Kumbakonam	20	Salem	20
Coimbatore	20	Nagercoil	20	Erode	20
Cuddalore	20	Paramakudi	20	Madurai	20
Dindigul	20	Tirupur	20	Tiruvannamalai	20
Erode	20	Virudhunagar	20	Vellore	20
Total	100		100		100

Weaver Mudra Loan Scheme has been extended to these trainees for purchase of looms and accessories to pursue weaving on their own.

i. Buyer Seller Meet

As announced by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles, to conduct "Buyer-Seller Meet" is contemplated at Chennai, Bengaluru, Delhi and Hyderabad to showcase the products developed by Weavers Co-operative Societies including 1000 new saree designs developed under Design Development projects by National Institute of Fashion Technology, Chennai and Bengaluru and National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

The First Buyer- Seller Meet was conducted in Chennai on 09.02.2024 and 282 potential buyers from all over Tamil Nadu have participated and executed MoU to the tune of Rs.41.00 crore with the Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies.

The 2nd Buyer- Seller Meet was conducted during the Bharat Tex event at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi from 26th -29th February, 2024. Action is being taken by the Department for exploring signing of MoU with interested vendor among domestic buyers / international buyers who attended Bharat Tex through Business Promotion Centre set up in the Commissionerate of Handlooms, Chennai.

J . Awards

1. State Level Best Weavers and Best Designers Award

The Government have been implementing the "Best Weavers Award" to encourage handloom

weavers who have significantly contributed for the development of Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies by introducing innovative and attractive new designs and producing trendy market demand on silk and cotton varieties.

The Government is also implementing the "Best Designer Award" to honour the designers who effectively develop novel and marketable designs in Cotton and Silk Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies.

The details of Cash Award given to the awardees of Best Handloom Weavers Award and Best Designer Award are as follows:

Sl. No	Details	First Prize (Rs.)	Second Prize (Rs.)	Third Prize (Rs.)	Total Prize Amount (Rs.)
1.	Best Weaver (Silk Variety)	500000	300000	200000	1000000
2.	Best Weaver (Cotton Variety)	500000	300000	200000	1000000
3.	Best Designer	25000	10000	5000	40000
Total		1025000	610000	405000	2040000

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has felicitated the 6 awardees of Best Handloom Weavers Award in Cotton and Silk categories for the year 2022-2023 on 18.04.2023 by distributing certificates and cheques to the tune of Rs.20.00 lakh.

Three best designers for the year 2022-2023 have been felicitated with Best Designer Awards by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles on 05.04.2023.

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.20.40 lakh for the implementation of this scheme during the year 2023-2024. The scheme will continue to be implemented in the year 2024-2025.

2. State Level Best Designs from Young Designers Award

The Government have introduced the "State Level Best Designs from Young Designers" by Conducting Competition, aiming to create a bond between the young generation and handlooms, to attract new customers by knowing the ever-changing needs of the modern market, and to increase sales by introducing innovative designs in handlooms. The competition is conducted among the students studying in Design Institutes / Textile Technical Colleges and Designers in Tamil Nadu.

The best 3 designs selected through the competition will be awarded first prize of Rs.1,00,000/-, second prize of Rs.75,000/- and third prize of Rs.50,000/-.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has felicitated the awardees of State Level Best Young Designers for the year 2022-2023 on 18.04.2023

by distributing certificates and cheques to the tune of Rs.2.25 lakh.

3. Talented Weavers Award

In order to encourage the weavers producing silk and cotton sarees, dhoties and handloom export varieties with attractive designs, the Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing “Talented Weavers Award” in 20 categories every year.

The selection is made by the State Level Committee based on the visual appearance, colour combination, design uniqueness, extra work involved and special features of the products.

The first prize, second prize and third prize in 20 categories are distributed to 60 talented handloom weavers as detailed below:

First Prize	Rs.10,000/-
Second Prize	Rs.6,000/-
Third Prize	Rs.4,000/-

The expenditure of this scheme amounting to Rs.4.00 lakh is met out from the Co-operative Research and Development Fund of Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union. This Scheme will be continued during the year 2024-2025.

**k. Toda Embroidery Weavers
Co-operative Production and Marketing
Society**

As a special initiative to uplift the Toda Tribes living in the Nilgiris District and to expand the market for the Toda Embroidery Products produced exclusively by the Toda Tribes, a 'Toda Embroidery Production and Marketing Society' was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles on 13.05.2023.

The raw material-fabric required for embroidery is produced and sourced from the Handloom and Powerloom Weavers Co-operative Societies in Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Karur and nearby circles.

The Toda Embroidery Society will pave the way for taking up the Toda Embroidery products to various markets, thereby provide continuous employment and increase the wage earning level of the Toda tribes.

I. Creation of 1000 New Designs through National Institute of Technology / National Institute of Designs.

In order to meet out the objective of bringing innovation in production and design for producing marketable products, the Department has entered Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) at Chennai and Bengaluru and National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad and 1000 new Designs have been developed to infuse contemporary and trendy designs in handloom varieties as apart of Design Development initiative.

4.2. CENTRAL SPONSORED SCHEMES

a. Marketing Incentive Scheme

Marketing Incentive is one among the components of National Handloom Development Programme. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to the handloom agencies for preparing conditions which are conducive for marketing of handloom products. This scheme helps the Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies to sustain themselves in the open market. The concept envisions handloom agencies to be able to adjust their prices towards increasing the cost competitiveness of the products, improve designs, and invest in infrastructure to improve production and productivity.

Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies and Apex Co-operative Societies are eligible for Marketing Incentive to the value of 10% of their average sales turnover of last 3 years,

shared by Central and State Government on 50:50 basis.

Marketing Incentive is provided for maximum of 3 years during the 5 years scheme period (2021-2022 to 2025-2026). Eligible handloom agencies and quantum of financial assistance are given below:

Eligible Handloom Agencies	Quantum of Incentive (Max. Cap)	Financial assistance
State Level organizations such as Handloom Corporations, Apex Co-operative Societies and National Level Handloom Organizations	Rs.100 lakh (Central Govt. Share)	10% of the average sales turnover of the last 3 years
Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies (PHWCS)	Rs.15.00 lakh (Central Govt. Share)	

A provision of Rs.32.00 crore has been allocated in the Budget Estimate for the year

2024-2025 towards implementation of Marketing Incentive Scheme.

b. Handloom Marketing Assistance

The objective of the handloom marketing assistance is to develop and promote the marketing channels in domestic as well as export market and bring about linkage between the two in a holistic and integrated manner.

Financial assistance will be provided to conduct the following marketing events & expos:

1.	National Handloom Expo	Rs.45 lakh
2.	Special Handloom Expo	Rs.30 lakh
3.	District Handloom Expo	Rs.6 lakh

During the year 2023-2024, the Government of India have accorded approval to conduct 2 Special Handloom Expos at Coimbatore and Salem and 2 District Handloom Expos at Paramakudi and Cuddalore. Sales to the tune of

Rs.6.56 crore were effected in 2 Special Handloom Expos and 2 District Handloom Expos as stated below.

Sl. No.	Expo	Place	Date	Sales Expedited (in Rs. lakh)
1.	Special Handloom Expos	Salem	27.10.2023 to 10.11.2023	237.44
2.		Coimbatore	28.12.2023 to 11.01.2024	344.33
3.	District Handloom Expos	Paramakudi (Ramanathapuram)	03.11.2023 to 09.11.2023	27.97
4		Cuddalore	04.01.2024 to 10.01.2024	46.73
Total				656.47

5. SUPPORTIVE SCHEMES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

5.1. STATE SPONSORED SCHEMES

a. Handloom Support Programme

Handloom products have gained immense popularity in both international and domestic markets due to their unique and exclusive designs. Handloom products are eco-friendly with zero carbon emission as well.

There is a gap in infrastructure, skill development, and product design to meet market demand and ensure fair remuneration for weavers. As part of its efforts to sustain the weaving activity in the state, the Government has introduced the Handloom Support Program, which provides financial assistance for support activities to the Handloom sector.

In this scheme, financial assistance is provided under 7 categories:

Sl. No.	Components	Share (Ratio)	
		Govt.	Bene.
1	Technological Up-gradation	90	10
2	Design Development	100	-
3	Product Diversification	100	-
4	Brand Promotion & Positioning	80	20
5	Market Expansion	75	25
6	Working Capital Assistance	100	-
7	Research & Development	100	-

Under the Technological Up-gradation component 30,227 looms and loom accessories were provided to handloom weavers at the cost of Rs.29.04 crore. Additionally, working capital assistance of Rs.30 crore has been sanctioned to 434 Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Societies.

During the year from 2018-2019 to 2023-2024, the Government have sanctioned Rs.160 crore for the implementation of Handloom

Support programme. This scheme will continue in 2024-2025 with a budget provision of Rs. 20.00 crore.

b. Supply and Installation of Electronic Panel Board

During the Legislative Assembly session for the year 2022-2023, the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles has made an announcement that 5000 electronic panel boards will be installed in powerlooms with 50% Government subsidy.

Based on the above announcement, the Government have sanctioned Rs.6.00 crore as 50% Government subsidy from the Powerloom Registration Fund to install 5000 electronic panel boards. Accordingly Electronic Panel Boards have been installed in 5000 powerlooms in areas with high concentration of powerlooms.

The electronic panel boards help to prevent cutting of yarns during production and ensure

uniformity and consistent quality in production on normal powerlooms.

c. Mini Handloom Park

To meet the demand for handloom products among consumers and businesses, the Government of Tamil Nadu introduced the "Mini Handloom Parks" Scheme in 2023-2024. The scheme aims to increase the appeal of handloom products to a wider market and improve sales, thereby uplifting the industry and benefiting its workers. By positioning handloom products as desirable to mass markets, beyond their current niche market appeal, the scheme helps to achieve this goal.

The Government of Tamil Nadu have proposed to establish 10 Mini Handloom Parks at 1) Sirumugai (Coimbatore), 2) Chennimalai (Erode), 3) Aruppukottai (Virudhunagar), 4) Jeyamkondam (Perambalur), 5) Chinnalapatti & Narikalpatti (Dindigul), 6) Orikkai (Kanchipuram),

7) Emaneswaram (Paramakudi), 8) Karur, 9) Salem and 10) Gudiyatham (Vellore) at a cost of Rs.20.00 crore. During the first phase Mini Handloom Park at Kancheepuram was inaugurated on 29.02.2024.

d. Dr.Kalaignar Karunanidhi Centenary Memorial Handloom Silk Park, Arani

To cover entire silk value chain at one place and creating 5000 employment by attracting youth towards the handloom sector, the Government of Tamil Nadu has announced to establish Dr.Kalaignar Karunanidhi Centenary Memorial Handloom Silk Park at Arani during the year 2023-2024.

In addition, the planned silk park consist of units for Silk weaving, sizing, twisting, reeling, and facilities for silk yarn dyeing and bleaching, central warehouse, Training, Research and Development, Marketing centre and an administrative block.

Dr.Kalaignar Karunanidhi Centenary Memorial Handloom Silk Park at Arani will be established in 20.53 acre of land at Periyanna Nallur village near Arani at a cost of Rs.74 crore. The estimated sales turnover would aggregate to around Rs.90 crore to Rs.100 crore per annum.

e. Computerisation of the Activities of Weavers Co-operative Societies

The activities of Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies are being computerised by development of end-to-end software at a cost of Rs.50.00 lakh through the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

During the first phase, the software for the cotton societies has been developed by the National Informatics Centre and the training of the above software has been given to the society employees through the National Informatics

Centre and action is being taken to implement in the Cotton Societies.

Software for Silk Societies is also being developed by National Informatics Centre.

Modules Under Development:

- Sales Module
- Accounts Module
- Report Generation
- User Acceptance Testing Security Audit Compliance
- Customization, Training and Technical Support

The software development for Silk Societies is expected to be completed by July 2024. It is also intended to provide training on the above software

to the society employees by the National Informatics Centre' technical experts.

f. Development of ERP software & Geo-Tagging of Handlooms and Powerlooms

During the Legislative Assembly session for the year 2022-2023, the Hon'ble Minister of Handlooms and Textiles has announced that "Geo-Tag survey (latitude and longitude co-ordinates) will be conducted for all the Handlooms and Powerlooms and to provide Geo-tagging for all the Handlooms and Powerlooms".

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.2.00 crore from the Powerloom Registration Fund for developing ERP Software to improve the standard of living of the Handloom and Powerloom weavers by providing proper online market place

for the fabrics produced by them and for undertaking Geo-Tag survey.

Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA) have been entrusted to develop Mobile Application for Geo Tagging of Handlooms, Pedal Looms and Powerlooms in Tamil Nadu/ So far 88,179 looms have been Geotagged.

Geo-tag survey will ensure the benefits of Government sponsored schemes reach the intended beneficiaries. Also the survey collects information such as the location of the loom, the name of the loom owner, the address of the loom, the types of fabric produced in the looms and the list of government subsidies received by the owner of the loom.

g. Promotion of Powerloom Sector under New Integrated Textile Policy, 2019

To create a modern, vibrant integrated and world-class textile sector including handloom, powerloom, spinning and processing, to produce cost-effective and high-quality textile garments for domestic and foreign exports, to promote the textile industry with greater emphasis on innovation, diversity and value addition, the Government provides 10% additional capital subsidy towards purchase of New Shuttleless Looms and Weaving Preparatory Machines subject to the maximum ceiling of Rs.4.00 lakh per Shuttleless Looms and Rs.30.00 lakh per Weaving Preparatory Machine.

Accordingly, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.24.52 Crore in financial year 2023-24 as 10% Additional Capital subsidy

and the same was released to the 46 eligible Companies.

5.2. CENTRAL SPONSORED SCHEMES

a. Cluster Development Programme

The Government of India is implementing National Handlooms Development Programme (NHDP) to facilitate the sustainable development of handloom weavers located in identified handloom clusters into a cohesive, self managing and competitive socio-economic unit.

Cluster Development Programme (CDP) is implemented as one of the schemes under NHDP for the welfare of handloom weavers both within and outside the Co-operative fold. The Government of India has formulated revised guidelines for the implementation of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) for

the period from 2022-2023 to 2025-2026.

The maximum amount of financial assistance provided by the Government of India to a cluster is up to Rs. 2.00 crore for 4 components.

Intervention		Financial Assistance (Rs. in Lakh)
1	Loom/accessories, lighting units, construction of individual Workshed, Construction of Common work shed, Solar lighting system for common workshed, etc.,	150.00
2	Engagement of Designer	15.00
3	Project Management Cost	15.00
4	Other interventions	20.00
Total		200.00

58 Block Level Clusters were supported upto 2021-2022 at a project cost of Rs.8863.59 lakh and 39,315 handloom weavers were benefited under this scheme.

During the year 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, the Government of India have sanctioned 18 block level handloom cluster at a project cost of Rs.21.60 crore and released the 1st instalment of Rs.7.34 crore for the benefit of 4,571 weavers:

Sl. No.	Name of the Cluster Development Programme/ District	Beneficiaries	Total Project Cost (Rs. in Lakh)
1	Emaneswaram-1 Cluster, Ramanathapuram	223	190.310
2	Bharatha Ratna M.G.R. Cluster, Salem	200	130.800
3	Sri Sowdeswari Cluster, Salem	346	116.790
4	Annai Bhavani Cluster, Erode	354	98.00
5	Killyoor Cluster, Kanyakumari	200	111.150
6	Nasianur Cluster, Erode	205	92.300
7	Kancheepuram Cluster, Kancheepuram	150	117.893

Sl. No.	Name of the Cluster Development Programme/ District	Beneficiaries	Total Project Cost (Rs. in Lakh)
8	Dindigul Cluster, Dindigul	192	76.700
9	Rasipuram Cluster, Namakkal	261	121.820
10	Kondasamudram Cluster, Vellore	274	147.970
11	Naduveerapattu Cluster, Cuddalore	367	66.830
12	Emaneshwaram-II Cluster, Ramanathapuram	224	188.210
13	T.Kunnathur Cluster, Madurai	194	78.530
14	Seripalayam Cluster, Coimbatore	418	162.252
15	Kallidaikurichi Cluster, Tirunelveli	188	90.640
16	Elavanur Cluster, Karur	165	91.050

Sl. No.	Name of the Cluster Development Programme/ District	Beneficiaries	Total Project Cost (Rs. in Lakh)
17	Kadhiamangalam Cluster, Karur	210	112.650
18	Ponnur Cluster, Tiruvannamalai	400	166.660
Total		4571	2160.555

The scheme provides appropriate intervention in pre-loom and post loom activities and also reduces the drudgery of handloom weavers by providing technologically upgraded loom accessories.

b. Unity Mall

During the Budget speech for the year 2024-2025, the Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Human Resources Management Department have announced that "An integrated complex, spanning 4 lakh sq. ft. comprising exhibition halls for display of handlooms and handicrafts produced in various

districts of Tamil Nadu and various States will be established in Chennai, at an estimated cost of Rs.227 crore”.

Accordingly, the Unity Mall will be established in the premises of Co-optex, Egmore, Chennai at a cost of Rs.227 crore.

The Unity Mall will be set up at Co-optex Complex, Egmore, Chennai with 8 Floors and 2 Basements with a total Build up Area of 4.64 lakh sq.ft. The Unity Mall will accommodate 74 One District One Product (ODOP) Shops, “Design and Incubation Centre for Creative and Cultural Crafts” Administrative Office and Show Room for Co-optex, Office for Commissionerate of Handlooms, Experience Centre and Commercial Spaces etc., The construction work of Unity Mall project is entrusted to Public Works Department.

The Unity Mall will be the shining example of economic empowerment and cultural celebration

under the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative. It aims to strengthen the relationship between artisans and consumers and showcase indigenous products from every corner of the State. The Unity Mall is committed to promoting local craftsmanship and preserving cultural heritage and it stands as a testament to India's diverse tapestry. This vibrant market place transcends geographical boundaries and offers a sweeping panorama of local products, making it an important destination for both locals and tourists.

C. Design and Incubation Centre for Creative and Cultural Crafts (DICCC)

The Textile and Clothing Industry is one of the largest industrial sectors in the world. The Textile and Clothing industry forms an integral part of mankind. The Textile industry is primarily concerned with the design, production, and distribution of yarn and clothing.

The Handloom sector of Tamil Nadu has a rich and cultural heritage with excellent craftsmanship of legacy. Handloom weaving in the State dates back to thousands of years. The sector has sustained over centuries by transferring weaving skills from one generation to the other by adapting itself to changing needs and demands of the customer, producing high quality of handloom products with intricate designs, motifs, colour palette which are popular across the globe.

In order to preserve the status of precious craft to the Art, weaving and handicraft manufacturing and to install pride in weaving and handicrafts profession, "Design and Incubation Centre for Creative and Cultural Crafts (DICCC)" is being established with state of art Information Technology and Networking Infrastructure, which will work as an international networking platform for fashion and Textile designers, traders and brands dealing in textiles and fashion institutes at

global level. The network shall associate with all stakeholders in entire textile value chain and provide a platform for them to interact and predict future textile and fashion trends and facilitate introduction of new designs and value added weaves as per the changing market demand.

d. Tamil Nadu Handloom and Handicraft Museum

In order to preserve the tradition, heritage value, portray the tradition and art of handloom weaving, to carry forward the excellence of the weaving industry & the skill of the handloom weavers and the speciality of the artisan handloom varieties in Tamil Nadu to the future generations, the Government has announced to set up a "Handloom and Handicraft Museum". It is proposed to set up in 1.83 acres of land in Urban Haat, Mahabalipuram with a total Project Cost of Rs.30.74 crore.

Detailed Project Report has been prepared by an architect consultant firm and recommended to the Ministry of Culture, Government of India seeking approval and sanction of funds of Rs.10 crore and a provision of Rs.20 crore has also been made under Handloom Support Programme of Government of Tamil Nadu for this project.

e. Perarignar Anna Handloom Silk Park Limited, Kancheepuram

Kancheepuram's Perarignar Anna Handloom Silk Park Limited (PAHSPL) was established in 2010 to create top-tier infrastructure and an integrated handloom activity that facilitates the production of silk handloom products.

The Park is established in Kilkathirpur Village, Kancheepuram District in an area of 75 acres at the total project cost of Rs.82.56 crore.

So far expenditure to the tune of Rs.49.02 crore has been incurred towards purchase of land, site development, water sourcing (bore wells), approach roads, factory buildings, consultancy fees and other preliminary and pre-operative works.

The salient features of the Perarignar Anna Handloom Silk Park are as follows:

- Expected to generate 18,000 direct / indirect employment for handloom weavers, designers, dyeing and other handloom related activities in the value chain
- Proposed investment in the Park is Rs.120 crore
- Turnover of the park is expected to be Rs.50 crore
- Out of the proposed 24 handloom weaving sheds, construction of 11 sheds have been completed

- As on date, 8 weaving sheds are operational with 523 handlooms, providing employment to 600 persons
- Installation of handlooms in 3 weaving sheds is under progress
- Common Effluent Treatment Plant is under construction
- Infrastructure facilities such as road, water, electricity, boundary wall, etc., have been completed

f. Weaver MUDRA Scheme

The Government of India have introduced the Weaver MUDRA Scheme under National Handloom Development Programme during the year 2016-2017 to provide concessional credit to the weavers through Nationalised Banks.

The quantum of margin money Assistance for the period from 2021-2022 to 2025-2026 are as follows:

- i) Individual Handloom Weaver / Weaver Entrepreneur – 20% of loan amount, subject to maximum of Rs.25,000/-
- ii) Handloom Organization –20% of loan amount, subject to maximum of Rs.2.00 lakh and maximum loan amount of Rs.20.00 lakh having atleast 100 Weavers / Workers

Since the introduction of the Weaver Mudra Scheme in 2016-2017, Tamil Nadu has been consistently occupies first place in providing Mudra loans to weavers till now.

During the year 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, a total of 27,010 MUDRA loans to the tune of Rs.132.40 crore were disbursed to the weavers.

For the year 2023-2024, a total of 10,445 MUDRA loans to the tune of Rs.59.27 crore were disbursed to the weavers.

g. Samarth Scheme

Samarth scheme is introduced by the Union Government with the objective of capacity building in the textiles sector. Government of India has approved to impart "Handloom Weaving" training for 1400 beneficiaries through 4 Training Institutes at Kanchipuram, Erode, Kumbakonam and Paramakudi, functioning under the control of the Department of Handlooms at an estimated cost of Rs.196.14 lakh.

However, the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India has now reduced the number of trainees from 1400 to 607. The Government of India have released first instalment of Rs.58.84 lakh with permission to utilize an amount of Rs.39.23 lakh.

Under this scheme, so far 505 individuals have been trained and the training for the remaining weavers is underway.

Sl. No.	Name of the Training Centre	No of Trainees		
		Revised Target	Already Trained	Under training
1.	Kanchipuram	87	43	44
2.	Erode	220	220	-
3.	Kumbakonam	150	84	58
4.	Paramakudi	150	158	-
Total		607	505	102

h. Raw Material Supply Scheme

The Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS) with partial modification and renamed as Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS) has been approved for implementation by Government of India during period from 2021-2022 to 2025-2026.

Components of Raw Material Supply Scheme:

- i) Transport Subsidy Component: Freight reimbursement limited to Rs. 15,000/- per month for transportation all types of yarn

- ii) Price Subsidy Component: 15% price subsidy will be available on cotton hank yarn, domestic Silk, Woollen, Linen and blended yarn of natural fibres with quantity restrictions

Yarn subsidy, the maximum quantity of yarn to be supplied to a weaver is as below:

Sl. No.	Yarn	Quantity
1	Cotton (upto 20s counts)	60 Kg/loom/month
2	Cotton (above 20s to 40s)	30 Kg/loom/month
3	Cotton (above 40s to 80s)	20 Kg/loom/month
4	Cotton (above 80s counts)	15 Kg/loom/month
5	Domestic Silk yarn	6 Kg/loom/month

During the year 2023-2024, 15% yarn subsidy amount Rs.47.95 crore was sanctioned for Tamil Nadu.

6. SUPPORTIVE SCHEMES FOR WELFARE

6.1. STATE SPONSORED SCHEMES

a. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers' Old Age Pension Scheme

The Government is implementing the Old Age Pension Scheme for Handloom Weavers in the Co-operative fold from the year 1997. The members enrolled under the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers Savings and Security Scheme who attained the age of 60 years is eligible for Old Age Pension.

The pension provided under this scheme is enhanced from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 1200/- with effect from 1st August 2023.

During the year 2023-2024, the Government have sanctioned Rs.40.13 crore as old age pension for the benefit of 28,108 handloom weavers.

This scheme will be continued for the year 2024-2025.

b. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers' Family Pension Scheme

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers' Family Pension Scheme for the benefit of deceased handloom weavers' family, since 1992.

On the decease of a handloom weaver before attaining the age of 60 years, the nominee is provided with Family Pension for a period of 10 years from the date of death of the weaver or upto the age of 60 years (if the deceased weaver

would have been alive), whichever is beneficial to the weaver's family.

The pension provided under this scheme is enhanced from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 1200/- with effect from 1st August 2023.

The Government have sanctioned Rs.1.86 crore during the year 2023-24 towards payment of Family Pension to families of 1,194 handloom weavers.

This scheme will be continued for the year 2024-2025.

c. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers' Savings and Security Scheme

To inculcate the habit of savings in order to protect the future of the weavers, the Government is implementing the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers' Savings and Security Scheme from the year 1975.

Under this scheme, enrolled members of the Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies contributes 8 paise per rupee of wages earned by them and the State Government provides a matching share of 8 paise per rupee. The contribution made is being deposited in the Government account and bears an interest of 6.5%.

In order to help the weavers, the Government have reduced the subscription period from 25 years to 20 years during the year 2023 and the weavers who have completed 20 years in the scheme can avail the full amount.

As on 31.03.2024, 49,045 weavers have been enrolled as members under this scheme.

During the year 2023-2024, the State Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.10.84 crore towards State Government contribution against the weavers' contribution and

Rs.26.14 crore towards 6.5% interest for the year 2022-2023 on the deposits in the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers Savings and Security Scheme.

This scheme will be continued during the year 2024-2025 for which a provision of Rs.12.00 crore towards State Government contribution and Rs.26.50 crore towards 6.5% interest has been made in the Budget Estimate.

d. Handloom Weavers Subsidized Housing Scheme

The Handloom Weavers Subsidized Housing Scheme is being implemented for Handloom Weavers living Below Poverty Line, wherein, a subsidy of Rs.4.00 lakh per beneficiary shall be provided for construction of weaver houses. The scheme shall dovetail funds from Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana 'House for All' scheme.

Under this scheme, it is proposed to construct 500 houses in rural areas and 500 houses in urban areas every year. The scheme is being implemented in rural areas by the Tamil Nadu Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and in urban areas by the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board (TNUHDB).

Subsidy provided by Union and State Governments for PM-Awas Yojana

Sl. No	Subsidy	PMAY – Rural	PMAY – Urban
		(in Rs.)	
1	Government of India Share	79,200/-	1,50,000/-
2	Government of Tamil Nadu Share	1,72,800/-	60,000/-
	Total Subsidy	2,52,000/-	2,10,000/-
3	Additional Subsidy by Government of Tamil Nadu	1,48,000/-	1,90,000/-
Total		4,00,000/-	4,00,000/-

During the year 2023-2024, the Government have sanctioned an additional subsidy amount of Rs.10.74 crore. Accordingly work order issued to 496 beneficiaries and released a grant of Rs.5.06 crore to 240 beneficiaries. As on 31.03.2024, construction of 118 houses have been completed and 346 houses are under construction by weavers availing financial support under this scheme.

In the second phase, 1790 beneficiaries have been identified and recommended to the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board and the Detailed Project Report for 309 beneficiaries has been approved by Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board.

e. Special Annual Medical Camps

During the Assembly session for the year 2023-2024, Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles announced that Special Annual Medical Camps will be conducted for Handloom Weavers in

association with Health and Family Welfare Department for the welfare of Handloom weavers.

Based on the above announcement 118 Special Annual Medical Camps for handloom weavers were conducted and 34,873 weavers were benefited.

f. Scholarships

1. Awarding Scholarships under Dr. MGR Handloom Weavers Welfare Trust

Dr.MGR Handloom Weavers Welfare Trust was formed in the year 1986 to encourage the wards of the weavers who are pursuing higher studies. Every year scholarships are provided to five Boys and five Girls students, who have secured first five places in X and XII Standard.

Scholarship ranging from Rs.1000/- to Rs.7500/- per annum is provided in 40 disciplines, based on the marks secured in X and XII standard or under graduate courses, as applicable, till they

complete the course. A total of 400 students (200 boys and 200 girls) are getting scholarship under this scheme every year.

Scholarship amount of Rs.11,21,500/- has been sanctioned to 306 Students for the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

This scheme will be continued for the year 2024-2025.

2. Scholarship to the Children of Workers in the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Textile Processing Mills

The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Textile Processing Mills is implementing the scheme of payment of scholarship to children of the workers, who have scored higher marks in X and XII standards since 2008, to encourage the workers and their children.

The scholarship amount provided under this scheme are as follows:

Rank	Scholarship Amount (in Rs)	
	X Std	XII Std
1	5,000	10,000
2	3,000	7,500
3	2,000	5,000

Scholarship amount of Rs.53,000/- has been sanctioned to 8 Students for the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

3. Stipend to Students of Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Salem

To encourage the wards of handloom weavers, priority is given to them in selection of candidates for Diploma in Handloom and Textile Technology (DHTT) in the Indian Institute of Handloom Technology (IIHT), Salem. The Government of Tamil Nadu is also providing stipend to the students of DHTT since 1977.

The stipend details are as below:

Year	Stipend per Month / Student	GOI Share (50%)	GoTN Share (50%)
	(Amount in Rs.)		
I Year	2500	1250	1250
II Year	2500	1250	1250
III Year	2500	1250	1250

Stipend is also provided to the students studying in IIHT in Gadag (Karnataka), Venkatagiri (Andhra Pradesh) and Kannur (Kerala) under Tamil Nadu Government quota.

The Government of Tamil Nadu share of stipend is provided from the Co-operative Education Fund of Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union.

Stipend amount of Rs.10,37,500/- has been sanctioned to 83 Students of IIHT, Salem by the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union for the year 2023-2024. In-addition an amount of Rs.1,25,000/- has also been released for

10 students undergoing 3 Year Diploma Course in IIHT, Gadag, Karnataka.

g. Welfare Boards

1. Tamil Nadu Handloom and Handloom Silk Weaving Workers' Welfare Board

Tamil Nadu Handloom and Handloom Silk Weaving Workers' Welfare Board was established in the year 2000-2001 to ensure the welfare of weaving community.

The Tamil Nadu Handloom and Handloom Silk Weaving Workers' Welfare Board was merged with the Manual Workers' Board with effect from 21.07.2004. Subsequently, this board has been functioning separately under the control of the Labour Welfare Department since 01.09.2006.

Financial assistance, Educational assistance, Insurance coverage for natural and accidental death and disability are being provided by this Board as per the details below:

Sl. No.	Details		Financial assistance provided per weaver members (Rs.)
1.	Accident Insurance Scheme		
	i	Accidental Death	1,25,000
	ii	Accidental Disability (Based on extent of disability)	Upto 1,00,000
	iii	Artificial limbs and Wheel chair	
2.	Natural Death Assistance		30,000
3.	Funeral Expenses Assistance		5,000
4.	Educational Assistance		
	i	Girl Children studying 10 th	1,000
	ii	10 th Passed	1,000
	iii	Girl Children studying 11 th	1,000
	iv	Girl Children studying 12 th	1,500
	v	All 12 th Passed students	1,500
	vi	Regular degree course	1,500
	vii	Regular degree course with hostel facility	1,750
	viii	Regular Post Graduate course	4,000

Sl. No.	Details		Financial assistance provided per weaver members (Rs.)
	ix	Regular Post Graduate course with hostel facility	5,000
	x	Professional Degree course	4,000
	xi	Professional Degree course with hostel facility	6,000
	xii	Professional P.G. course	6,000
	xiii	Professional P.G. course with hostel facility	8,000
	xiv	I.T.I. or polytechnic course	1,000
	xv	I.T.I. or Polytechnic course with hostel facility	1,200
5.	Marriage Assistance		
	(i)	Male	3,000
	(ii)	Female	5,000
6.	Medical Assistance		
	i)	Maternity Assistance	6,000
	ii)	Abortion	3,000
	iii)	Reimbursement of cost of spectacles	Upto 500

Sl. No.	Details	Financial assistance provided per weaver members (Rs.)
7.	Pension (per month)	1,200

As on 31.03.2024, 1,15,818 Powerloom weavers have been enrolled in this Board, out of which 2,296 workers newly enrolled in 2023-2024. During the year 2023-2024, financial assistance to the extent of Rs.30.94 crore has been released to 18,260 beneficiaries.

2. Tamil Nadu Powerloom Weaving Workers' Welfare Board

The Government of Tamil Nadu have established the "Tamil Nadu Powerloom Weaving Workers' Welfare Board" during July 2009 under Tamil Nadu Manual Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Work) Act 1982 to

implement various welfare schemes for the powerloom weaving workers.

The Welfare Board provides financial assistance such as accidental insurance benefit, insurance benefit for natural death, assistance for funeral expenses, assistance for education, marriage, maternity, purchase of spectacles and pension benefit are being provided to powerloom weaving workers.

As on 31.03.2024, 91,776 workers have been enrolled in the Board, out of which 3,467 workers newly enrolled in 2023-2024. During the year 2023-2024, financial assistance to the extent of Rs.18.02 crore has been released to 15,854 beneficiaries.

PMJJBY	18-50	198	238	436	2.00	2.00	-	-	30,292
PMSBY	18-70	20	-	20	-	2.00	2.00	1.00	41,588

The Government of Tamil Nadu have allocated Rs.75 lakh in the Budget Estimate 2024-2025 for this scheme.

b. Health Insurance Scheme for Handloom Weavers

The “Chief Ministers’ Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme” which has been implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu is now being integrated with Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).

This integrated health insurance scheme provides coverage upto Rs.5 lakh per family per annum. The State Government has taken necessary action to bring all the eligible handloom

weavers under this Integrated Health Insurance Scheme.

Under the scheme, 84,526 handloom weavers families have been enrolled.

7. SUPPORTIVE SCHEMES FOR STATUTORY AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

a. Implementation of Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985

The Act aims at protecting handlooms sector by reserving certain items for exclusive production by handlooms alone. Currently, following 11 items are reserved for exclusive production by the handlooms.

(1)	Saree	(2)	Dhoty
(3)	Towel/Gamcha and Angavastram	(4)	Lungi
(5)	Chaddar Mekhala/Phanek	(6)	Jamakkalam/Durry or Durret

(7)	Dress Material	(8)	Barrack Blanket, Kambal or Kamblies
(9)	Shawl, Loi, Muffler, Pankhi etc.	(10)	Woollen Tweed
(11)	Khes/Bedsheet/Bedcover/Counterpane/ Furnishing (including tapestry, upholstery)		

The Government of Tamil Nadu have been implementing the above Act through Department of Handlooms and formed separate enforcement machinery headed by Deputy Director (Enforcement) with headquarters at Chennai and 5 subsidiary offices at Salem, Thiruchengode, Erode, Tiruppur and Madurai under the administrative control of Assistant Enforcement Officers.

Under implementation Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act 1985 the enforcement activities carried out in Tamil Nadu during the year 2023-2024 are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the Region	Target for Inspection of Powerlooms 2023-24	No. of Powerlooms Inspected	No. of FIRs Filed 2023-24	No. of Cases Convicted (Including Previous Pending Cases)	No. of Awareness Campaigns Conducted	No. of Participants	No. of Private Sales Centres Inspected
1	Erode	15500	16190	17	11	39	1896	12
2	Madurai	11500	12932	15	9	46	1286	9
3	Salem	14792	15020	17	11	47	1889	8
4	Tiruchen-gode	16500	17415	18	16	47	2485	17
5	Tirupur	15500	16297	5	1	37	807	10
6	Chennai	2400	2421	4	0	31	894	31
TOTAL		76192	80275	76	48	247	9257	87

b. Registration of Handloom Products under Geographical Indication of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999

There are 642 products have been registered under Geographical Indication of Goods Act, 1999 across the country, of which 58 products were registered from Tamil Nadu.

1) Kancheepuram Silk Saree, 2) Bhavani Jamakkalam, 3) Madurai Sungadi Saree, 4) Salem Venpattu Dhoty, 5) Arani Silk Saree, 6) Kovai Kora Cotton Saree, 7) Thirubhuvanam Silk Saree and 8) Kandangi Saree have been registered by the Department of Handlooms under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999.

During 2023-24, the Negamam Cotton Sarees and Tirunelveli Chedi butta Sarees have been registered under the Geographical Indications Act-1999.

The Act protects the producers and consumers from unauthorized and misuse of the geographical indicated products.

The registration of goods under the Geographical Indications Act not only promotes exports of such goods but also protects their usage and sale in other countries.

c. Certification Marks to Promote Handlooms and Silk Products

The Government of India have promoted Handloom Mark, Silk Mark and India Handloom Brand to provide authenticity and exclusive identity to the handloom and silk products under the scheme.

1. Handloom Mark

To create an exclusive identity to the Handloom products and to improve its marketing in domestic as well as international markets, the "Handloom Mark" was launched by the Union Government on 28.06.2006.

As on date, 8,717 Organizations / Individuals has been registered and 3.92 crore Handloom Marks were provided.

2. Silk Mark

The “Silk Mark” is introduced by the Government of India on 17.04.2004 to promote pure and natural silk products in domestic and international market.

As on date, 1,310 Organizations / Individuals has been registered and 11.50 lakh Silk Marks were provided.

3. India Handloom Brand

“India Handloom” Brand was launched by the Government of India during the celebration of 1st National Handloom Day on 7th August 2015 to endorse the quality of handloom products in terms of raw material, processing, establishment, weaving, design and other parameters besides social and environment compliance.

As on date, 178 organizations / individuals in Tamil Nadu have registered under “India Handloom” Brand.

d. Handloom Outreach Programme

The Hon’ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles during the Legislative Assembly Session for the year 2023-2024 has made the following announcement:

“To create awareness among the students on the rich legacy and cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu Handloom products a Handloom Outreach Programme will be conducted at Universities and Colleges in Tamil Nadu”.

Accordingly, Regional Managers / Staff of Co-optex along with Primary Weaver Cooperative Societies with participation of all circle Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors have conducted awareness camps among students studying in

302 Colleges / Universities and sales of handloom varieties to the value of Rs.3.72 crore was generated.

e. Celebration of 9th National Handloom Day

9th National Handloom Day was celebrated on 07th August 2023 by the Department of Handlooms at the State and District Level by organizing various events for the benefit of Handloom Weavers across Tamil Nadu. The State level National Handloom was celebrated at Co-optex Complex, Egmore, Chennai presided by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles Department with the participation of Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration Department, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare Department, Hon'ble Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department and Hon'ble Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation.

The following events were organized for the benefit of Handloom weavers:

1. Awarding of Old Age Pension order to 20 Beneficiaries
2. Distribution of Mudra Loan order to 20 Beneficiaries
3. Awarding of enrollment letter to 20 Beneficiaries under Weavers' Induction Training Programme
4. Conduct of Fashion show to launch 1000 new design products developed by National Institute of Design and National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)
5. Launching of software for computerization for Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies (for Cotton) developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC)

6. Awarding a consolation prize of Rs.10,000/- to 22 Best Young Designers
7. Inauguration of Accessories shop at Co-optex, Egmore, Chennai
8. Inauguration of Training Centres for Embroidery, Handloom Cloth Printing, Chikankari Embroidery, Ari Embroidery

8. RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND DOCUMENTATION

a. Digitisation of Traditional Handloom Varieties of Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu State is being one of the forerunners in the country involved in producing and marketing traditional handloom products all along.

To preserve the manufacturing process of all heritage handloom products of Tamil Nadu origin the Government of Tamil Nadu have desired to

digitise 53 heritage handloom products of Tamil Nadu origin including 10 products registered under the Geographical Indication Act, 1999 initially with an estimated cost of Rs.1.00 crore and the work is in progress.

b. Weavers Grievance Redressal Cell

A separate Weavers Grievance Redressal Cell was inaugurated in the Commissionerate of Handlooms on 23.03.2022 by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles. An exclusive online Petition Processing Portal for the Weavers Grievance Redressal has been developed through the National Informatics Centre (NIC) and the same can be accessed online at <https://gdp.tn.gov.in/dhl>. Weavers can also report their grievances by contacting Toll Free Number 1800 599 7637.

Handloom and Powerloom weavers shall raise their grievances through this portal and Toll

free Number at any time from their location. The grievances of weavers are being processed and settled immediately.

c. Exclusive Website for the Department of Handlooms

The information on Government Schemes and services should be easily accessible to the weavers. Accordingly, the Schemes and Services of this Department and its Organisations are made accessible to weavers anytime anywhere, the department has launched an exclusive website <https://tnhandlooms.tn.gov.in> on 09.02.2024.

9. INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT

9.1. Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society Limited (Co-optex), Chennai

“Co-optex” is the brand name of the “Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers’ Co-operative

Society Limited” and it has become a house hold name in Tamil Nadu and it was established in the year 1935. “Co-optex” is the premier handloom apex co-operative organisation of the country, making outstanding contribution to the handloom sector and the welfare of the weaving community of Tamil Nadu.

Co-optex, the largest Apex society in the country has emerged as the leading Indian Handloom Brand representing the best-in-class products produced by 1,114 Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies involving weavers and artisans spread across the State of Tamil Nadu. The brand “Co-optex” has become the iconic name for handloom products of traditional and contemporary designs in Silk and Cotton varieties.

Over the decades, Co-optex has established its presence across the length and breadth of the country and has been endeavoring to establish its

global footprints in Germany, Spain, Italy, France, Belgium, Dubai and Netherlands. The multihued butterfly the logo of Co-optex symbolizes with quality and fair-trade practices in handlooms to its customers. This has been possible only by its large base of highly skilled weavers producing handlooms, representing the historic weaving tradition of Tamil Nadu with unmatched aesthetic quality. Today, Co-optex represents the highest tradition of handlooms of Tamil Nadu with a significant social cause by providing sustained employment to the weavers of the State.

Co-optex has always been close to the hearts of customers, bringing out innovative collections during major festival seasons like Deepavali, Pongal etc. The entire range of Handloom products marketed by Co-optex is made available through its Pan-India network of 150 showrooms located in the major towns, cities and market centers of the country. Co-optex has been proactive in meeting

the needs and aspirations of the discerning youth demanding designer products and at the same time expanding its product range of traditional silk and cotton collections enriched with innovative themes and colour palettes crafted by the designers of National Institute of Fashion Technology and National Institute of Design.

1) Objectives of Co-optex

Co-optex, a 90 years old organization has clearly defined objectives as below:

1. Providing and creating sustained employment opportunities for handloom weavers.
2. Extending market support to Weavers' Co-operative Societies and popularizing Handloom products.
3. Developing products that blend tradition and fashion to meet the changing market demand in line with the customer needs and preferences.

4. Implementing various innovative schemes to authenticate handloom production.

2) Sales and Activities

Co-optex has achieved retail sale of Rs.215 crore during 2023-2024 as against the last year 2022-2023 sale of Rs.201 crore. It is an increase by Rs.14 crore this year. This achievement in sales was the result of numerous initiatives, including continuous procurement throughout the year, the opening of New Showrooms and the modernization of existing showrooms to improve their aura and ambience, design interventions by designers, introduction of new products and provided continuous motivation and training to the marketing staff in the showrooms.

Through effective Face Book campaigns and other social media avenues, Co-optex has attracted large number of young generation

customers who are first-time buyers of handloom goods.

3) Sales through Online Portal- e-Commerce:

Co-optex operates on e-shopping Portal www.cooptex.gov.in enabling customers to purchase the products Online. Co-optex is the first Apex Weavers' Co-operative Society in India to implement e-shopping on its own portal and achieved successful business operations. Since the inception of its online sales, a sum of Rs.8.97 crore has been achieved through e-shopping business.

4) National Handloom Expo 2023

National Handloom Expo 2023 was conducted at Co-optex Exhibition Ground, Chennai from 29.03.2023 to 23.04.2023. The event featured, Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Societies from Tamil Nadu and 10 other States

have participated with over 115 stalls and Rs.3.76 crore value of goods sold during this Expo.

5) Sales Promotion Schemes to attract customers

a. Co-optex Monthly Saving Scheme

Co-optex offers a popular monthly savings scheme named the "Co-optex Monthly Saving Scheme". Customers can invest through monthly installments starting from Rs.300/-. Customer pays 11 monthly installments and Co-optex pays the 12th installment. Through this scheme, customers reap a 48% added benefit on their 11-month savings. This innovative scheme was introduced to attract new potential customers and maintain a steady cash inflow to Co-optex.

A total sale of around Rs.10.75 crore was achieved during the year 2023-2024 through this scheme.

b. Buy 2 Get 1 Free Scheme

In the year 2011-2012, Co-optex launched an innovative scheme called "Buy 2 Get 1 Free". Due to continuous support of customers, the scheme has been ongoing. During the year 2023-2024, Co-optex achieved sale of Rs.25.82 crore through this scheme.

c. Handloom Outreach Programme at Universities and Colleges in Tamil Nadu

Handloom Outreach Programme was implemented during the year 2023-2024 to create awareness among students studying in Universities and colleges in Tamil Nadu about the uniqueness, artistic finesse and tradition of handlooms produced from Tamil Nadu and to promote its sales. Through this initiative, handloom cloth worth Rs. 245.04 lakh has been sold in 142 Colleges and Universities.

6) Co-optex International

The Export wing of Co-optex in the name of “Co-optex International” is taking various steps to increase its volume of Export sales through continuous efforts. Co-optex exports its products to countries including Germany, Belgium, Spain, Italy, France, Switzerland, U.A.E., Netherland and others. Co-optex International exports Handloom goods, viz. bed linen, table linen, kitchen linen, bath linen, Kalamkari Stoles, fashion bags, Silk Sarees, etc.

Co-optex in International Fairs

During the year 2023-2024, Co-optex International participated in the following International Fairs to promote its handloom products in the Global market.

Sl. No.	Name of the Fair	Duration
1.	'Global Sourcing Expo' Melbourne, Australia	21 st to 23 rd November 2023
2.	International Apparel and Textile Show, Dubai, UAE	27 th - 29 th November 2023
3.	Heim Textile Fair, Frankfurt, Germany	9 th - 12 th January 2024
4.	BHARAT TEX 2024, New Delhi, India	26 th - 29 th February 2024

By participating in the above fairs, Co-optex received orders worth Rs.100 lakh from Germany, Spain, Belgium, Netherlands and entered into new market in UAE and also for new products like Silk Sarees, Lehanga, etc. This participation has paved the way for the receipt of future orders.

7) Performance in Government Schemes

i) Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme, Pongal 2024

Under the Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme, Pongal 2024, Co-optex is one among the three Nodal Agencies for supplying 89.84 lakh units of Sarees and 92.53 lakh units of Dhoties to the Taluk offices in Tamil Nadu.

ii) Supply of School Uniform Scheme

Co-optex is one among the three Nodal Agencies for supplying uniform cloth to School Children. For the year 2023-2024, Co-optex has supplied Boys suiting cloth of 56.01 lakh meters, Girls bottom cloth of 91.96 lakh meters and 119.31 lakh meters of Shirting Material to the Social Welfare Department.

iii) Supply of Sarees and Dhoties to Old Age Pensioners

Co-optex is the Nodal Agency for supplying Sarees and Dhoties to the beneficiaries of Old Age Pension Scheme implemented by the Revenue Department. For Deepavali 2023, Co-optex supplied 25.47 lakh units of Sarees and 9.94 lakh units of Dhoties to Old Age Pensioners. Similarly, during Pongal 2024, 24.08 lakh units of Sarees and 9.34 lakh units of Dhoties were supplied to Taluk Offices in all the Districts of Tamil Nadu.

8) Development of New Designs/Products

a. Readymade "Slim Fit" Shirts

Readymade shirts play a vital role in increasing Co-optex's sales. The prices are much cheaper compared to private textile shops, making Co-optex shirts preferred by the customers for its affordability and good quality.

Hence, in order to attract the younger generation, Co-optex introduces Readymade Shirts with slim fit made from different qualities of yarn consisting of Cotton Slub, Polyester Blend Chambery, Cotton Polyester, Cotton twill, etc are all offered at affordable prices. The introduction of slim fit shirts has gradually increased the entry of younger customer, which is expected to significantly impact Co-optex shirts' sales in the coming months.

b. Handloom Fancy Bags

To attract the customers, Co-optex introduced fancy bags produced with handloom printed and woven cloth with different designs and sizes in main showrooms throughout the country, in order to increase the customer footfall and thereby to increase the sales.

c. Udaipur Printed Bedsheets

Udaipur printed bedsheets were introduced during the year 2023 with various sizes of rich

uniqueness and trendy designs. The above varieties have attracted customers significantly because of its appealing design and good colour combinations.

d. Readymade Shalwar

Co-optex has introduced a Readymade Shalwar sets in different sizes made from pure cotton quality in attractive designs and colour combinations so as to attract the younger Generations.

9) Opening of New Co-optex Showrooms

In order to increase the sales, Co-optex has opened two new showrooms, Tirunelveli and Hosur constructed and modernized at a cost of Rs. 592 lakh. These showrooms were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 22.08.2023.

Co-optex Handloom Accessories Shop

Handloom Accessories Shop was opened at the Co-optex Handloom Mall in Egmore, Chennai and inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Handlooms and Textiles on 07.08.2023. This showroom offers exclusive Handloom Accessories such as Stoles, Dupattas, Bags, Home Textiles and Hand embroidered work of Toda made by Handloom Weavers.

Modernisation of Showrooms

During the year 2023-2024, Co-optex modernised three showrooms at a total cost of Rs.361.94 Lakh and inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles.

1. Thangam Pattu Maaligai Showroom, Salem
2. Balamurugan Showroom, Coimbatore
3. Vasantham Showroom, Erode

10) New Initiatives by Co-optex

a. Virtual Dressing Room Mirror

A Virtual Dressing Room Mirror was installed at the Co-optex Handloom Mall in Egmore, Chennai and inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Handloom and Textiles on 07.08.2023. With this mirror, the usage of trail room is reduced thereby ensuring reduced damage to the products. Women Customers have the option to try on number of sarees virtually in less time, with rich visualization on the virtual mirror. Additionally, the customer can share the images on social media pages.

b. Table Top Looms Installed at Co-optex Showrooms

20 Table Top Looms have been installed at Co-optex showrooms to provide an educational experience of handloom weaving for the younger generation, students, customers and general public. This initiative allows them to learn

First-hand the methods of handloom weaving and create samples of handloom according to their preferences.

c. Training to all Staff of Co-optex to enhance their performance

Co-optex organized training to all Marketing, Administration and Technical Staff of Co-optex to enhance their performance and skill development. This training programme were planned and conducted through Natesan Institute of Co-operative Management, Chennai to cover various aspects relevant to each department including Marketing Strategies, Administration Procedures, etc. Training sessions were conducted during March 2024 in multiple locations, i.e., Udhagamandalam, Hyderabad and Chennai in 5 batches. This training ultimately led to enhanced performance and positive results to the organization.

d. Co-optex initiated online sales through its all 150 showrooms during the year 2024

The preference for online sales among customers has been steadily increasing in recent years. This trend has been accelerated by various factors such as convenience of shopping from home, the wide selection of products available online, competitive pricing and overall improved online shopping experience.

In March 2024, Co-optex initiated online sales through all 150 of its showrooms spread across India via its website www.cooptex.gov.in aiming to increase overall sales performance. This initiative also helps Co-optex to tap into new markets beyond their physical showroom sales. About 5000 products are displayed on our website.

9.2 Tamil Nadu Zari Limited, Kancheepuram

During the year 1971, Tamil Nadu Zari Limited was established to manufacture Zari to

meet the Zari requirement of the Silk Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies and commercial production was started in the year 1974. The Company is an ISO 9001:2015 certified State Public Sector Undertaking. The Periodic Audit for the I.S.O 9001:2015 Certification of Tamil Nadu Zari Limited was completed during the month of October 2023.

The company produces and sells gold zari to meet the 60% requirement of the Silk Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies at reasonable rates. The Company is undertaking the quality checking of zari and zari made fabrics by Non-Destructive Testing method without affecting the fabric through X-ray Fluorescence Analyser installed at the testing centre at Kancheepuram.

Zari is manufactured by procuring raw material such as silver thread and gold which are required for manufacturing of Zari.

The Government of Tamil Nadu had invested Rs.34.40 lakh in the shares of the Company. The Company had paid so far Rs.309.04 lakh as dividend to the Government of Tamil Nadu upto the year 2023-2024 from the profit earned by it.

**Performance of the TN Zari Ltd
for the last three years**

YEAR	TOTAL PRODN.	PRODN VALUE	TOTAL SALES	SALES VALUE	PROFIT (Before Tax)
	in marcs	Rs. in lakh	in marcs	Rs. in lakh	
2021-2022	22,386	3490.79	24,340	4,049	177.49
2022-2023	28,995	4601.95	28,578	4,859	164.42
2023-2024	22,926	4036.69	22,028	4,124	147.00*

*(approximately)

The passive chemical used in the electroplating for improving the colour and quality of Zari were purchased from Surat. To avoid this dependency on Surat Chemical private Suppliers, a Project with Anna University, Chennai has been undertaken to develop own Electroplating Chemicals and put in place for commercial use.

The Factory and Office Building of Tamil Nadu Zari was renovated at a cost of Rs.1.49 crore with the funds sanctioned under Handloom Support Programme and inaugurated on 29.02.2024.

Action Plan for the year 2024-2025

- Zari yarn tenacity testing instrument developed by Kumaraguru College of Technology, Coimbatore will be installed at a cost of Rs.2.00 lakh
- In gilding department, auto dispenser at gold coating bath which enable uniform coating of gold in Zari will be introduced
- In final winding process to measure the length of the package of the output accurately, length sensor device will be put in place

9.3 Tamil Nadu Co-operative Textile Processing Mills Limited, Erode

Tamil Nadu Co-operative Textile Processing Mills was registered on 06.07.1973 and started functioning from 05.09.1973. The mills is undertaking various processing activities like bleaching, dyeing, mercerizing, printing, etc. The production capacity of the Mill per month is 32 lakh metre of cloth. The Mills is processing the uniform cloth supplied by Government of Tamil Nadu under Supply of Uniform Scheme and processing the uniform cloth of Government of Kerala. Moreover, the mills is undertaking processing of cloths of various institutions like Co-optex, National Textile Corporation, Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation, Coimbatore, Prison Department, Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board, Kerala State Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society, Kerala State Handloom

Development Corporation and Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies in Tamil Nadu.

Effluent Treatment Plant

In order to achieve Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD), the Mills is equipped with Effluent Treatment Plant, Reverse Osmosis System and Reject Management System with a capacity of 5 lakh litre per day.

The clothes are being processed with quality by adopting Zero Liquid Discharge System and fulfilling the norms of Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board. As per the direction of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, the mills have installed the Forced Circulation Evaporator (FCE) and Agitated Thin Film Dryer (ATFD) Machinery at the mills by replacing Solar Evaporation Plant.

During the year 2023-2024, the mills have processed 169.40 lakh metre of cloth at a

production cost of Rs.36.08 crore and thereby earned Rs.7.30 crore as tentative net profit.

SKOTCH Award

The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Textile Processing Mills Limited has streamline the entire production unit and its facilities to enable the mills to get financially booming and wiped off all accumulated loss of Rs.16.40 crore and earned net profit. For this transformation to financial growth and Social responsibility, the mills won the SKOTCH Golden Award in 2023.

Installation of Stenter Machine

Two stenter machines were previously installed in the Mills. One stenter machine is used for Heat setting of grey cloth and another stenter machine is used for finishing work of processed cloth. Due to per day finishing capacity, only 80,000 metre of cloth per day are processed, whereas through Double end processing method

1,20,000 metre of cloths per day are being processed in two Merceriser machine and in Jigger machines.

Hence, a need is arised to increase the daily processing capacity to 1,20,000 metre and a New Stenter Machine with Weft Straightner, 1600 mm Working Width has been installed at a cost of Rs.1,53,40,000/- from out of Mills own funds and new Stenter machine with Weft Straightner was installed and commissioned on 24.07.2023. On installation of New Stenter machine daily production capacity of the Mills is increased from 80,000 metre to 1,20,000 metre and increased earnings through processing charges and thereby net profit increased. The newly installed Stenter machine is an electronically operated automatic machine. By Auto Sensor in Weft Straightner attached with Stenter machine, the fabrics are processed and finally finished without bow effect.

Action Plan for the year 2024-2025

- Planned to Modernize the machine halls and platforms to the tune of Rs.60.00 lakh from own funds of the mill.
- Proposed to process 201.50 lakh metre under uniform scheme with tentative net profit of Rs.5 crore.

9.4 Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation Limited (TNHDC), Chennai.

The Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation Limited is a State Public Sector Undertaking, commenced its operation in the year 1964, with the objective of serving the weavers outside the co-operative fold by extending working capital assistance at reasonable rate of interest.

The share capital of The Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation is as follows:-

(Rs. in lakh)

A) Share Capital		
(i)	Government	267.00
(ii)	Members	162.24
Total Share Capital		429.24
B) Loan from Government of Tamil Nadu		494.15
Grand Total (A + B)		923.39

The Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation has been appointed as Nodal Agency / Implementing Agency in respect of following schemes / activities to generate additional revenue for its expenses.

- 1) Virudhunagar Mega Handloom Cluster
- 2) Trichy Mega Handloom Cluster
- 3) Conducting National / State Level Handloom Exhibitions
- 4) Marketing Incentive Scheme
- 5) Handloom Support Programme

- 6) Marketing of handloom products through e-shopping under the brand name Loomworld
- 7) Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme
- 8) Supply of School Uniform Scheme

Loomworld

The concept of 'Loomworld' was started in 2000, to provide a common Brand name and to facilitate marketing support to Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies producing genuine handloom products inclusive of Silk Sarees, Soft Silk Sarees, Cotton Sarees, Kora Cotton Sarees, Silk Dhoties, Cotton Dhoties, Cotton Lungies and Home Furnishing Products.

Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation has popularized the Loomworld concept through an e-commerce facility in the domain of www.loomworld.in launched on

30.12.2015 and handloom products are being sold through the e-shopping portal of Loomworld.

The net profit of the Corporation for the year 2022-2023 is Rs.12.16 lakh. The tentative net profit of the Corporation for the year 2023-2024 is Rs.15.96 lakh.

Action Plan for the year 2024-2025

- Planned to act as implementing agency for procuring and supplying yarn to the Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies under Raw Material Supply Scheme of Government of India.
- Planned to get orders from Indian Railways to the extent of Rs.15 crore for supply of cloths.
- Collection drive will be put in place for recovery of loans from the outstanding members.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS-2030

The “Sustainable Development Goals” established at the 2015 Conference on Sustainable Development Goals are an important part of the 17 Global Goals and 169 targets.

Sustainable Development Goals of Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi Department.

The following Sustainable Development Goals directly / indirectly linked to the Department of Handlooms to implement in Tamil Nadu.

9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.

9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries,

including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities

Steps taken by the Department for achieving Sustainable Development Goals:

Goal No.9.1:-

a) Perarignar Anna Handloom Silk Park established in Kilkathirpur Village, Kancheepuram Taluk in an area of 75 acres at the total project cost of Rs.82.56 crore, expected to generate 18,000 direct / indirect employments for handloom weavers, designers, dyeing and other handloom related activities in the value chain.

b) Dyehouses have been set up under HandloomCluster Development Programme in (1) Ramachandirapuram, Virudhunagar District, 2) P. Thottiapatti, Madurai District, 3) Karaikudi, Sivagangai District 4) Aruppukottai, Virudhunagar

District, 5) Karur, 6) Utkottai, Ariyalur District and 7) Sankarankoil, Tenkasi District.

c) 10 Mini Handloom Parks are being established at Sirumugai (Coimbatore), Chennaimalai (Erode), Aruppukottai (Virudhunagar), Jeyamkondam (Perambalur), Chinnalapatti & Narikalpatti (Dindigul), Orikkai (Kanchipuram), Emaneswaram (Paramakudi), Karur, Salem and Gudiyatham (Vellore) at a cost of Rs.20.00 crore with an aim to increase the appeal of handloom products to a wider market and improve sales, thereby uplifting the industry and benefiting its workers.

d) To cover entire silk value chain at one place and creating 5000 employment by attracting youth towards the handloom sector, the Government of Tamil Nadu has proposed to establish Dr.Kalaignar Karunanidhi Centenary Memorial Handloom Silk Park at Arani in 20.53 acre of land at Periyanna Nallur village near Arani at a cost of Rs.74 crore.

Goal No.9.b:-

a) 30,227 Handlooms / Handloom accessories worth Rs.29.04 crore have been provided from 2018-2019 to 2023-2024 under Handloom Support Programme for the technological up-gradation of handloom industry.

b) 7,066 Handlooms / Handloom accessories worth Rs.9.58 crore have been provided from 2021-2022 to 2023-2024 under Handloom Cluster Development Programme for the technological up-gradation of the industry.

c) To promote the textile industry with greater emphasis on innovation, diversity and value addition, the Government provides 10% additional capital subsidy towards purchase of New Shuttleless Looms and Weaving Preparatory Machines subject to the maximum ceiling of Rs.4.00 lakh per Shuttleless Looms and Rs.30.00 lakh per Weaving Preparatory Machine.

During 2023-2024, 10% Additional Capital Subsidy of Rs.24.52 crore was sanctioned and released to the 46 eligible Companies.

11. BUDGET ESTIMATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS FOR THE YEAR 2024-2025

The Government of Tamil Nadu have made allocation of Rs.1212.58 crore in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025 in respect of Department of Handlooms as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Budget Estimate 2024-2025 (Rs. in lakh)
1	Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme	10579.07
2	Free Electricity to Handloom Weavers	1472.00
3	Free Electricity to Powerloom Weavers	56318.00

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Budget Estimate 2024-2025 (Rs. in lakh)
4	Handloom Support Programme	2000.00
5	Digitisation & Documentation of Tamil Nadu Handloom Products	29.27
6	Interest Subsidy Scheme	1700.00
7	Rebate Subsidy Scheme	25000.00
8	Payment of Premium for Tamil Nadu Co-operative Handloom Weavers under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana Scheme	75.00
9	The Co-operative Handloom Weavers Savings and Security Scheme – Contributions	1200.00
10	Old Age Pension and Family Pension Scheme	4300.00
11	State Level Best Weavers Award	20.40
12	Award for Best Exporters	1.00

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Budget Estimate 2024-2025 (Rs. in lakh)
13	Promotion of Powerloom Sector under New Integrated Textile Policy, 2019	100.00
14	Marketing Incentive under Integrated Handloom Development Scheme	3200.00
15	Rent for Powerloom Service Centre at Erode	6.72
16	Construction of Unity Mall	11300.00
17	Administrative Expenses of Enforcement Machineries	20.72
18	Salaries and Administrative Expenses	3935.52
19	Other items	0.05
TOTAL		121257.75

DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILES

1. INTRODUCTION

In the heart of India's cultural fabric lies a thread that weaves together tradition, innovation, and economic vitality, the textile and clothing industry. Revered as the "mother industry", this ancient craft has flourished for over five centuries, nurturing rural communities and empowering women. Being the second largest employment provider next to agriculture, especially for the rural masses and womenfolk, the textile sector plays a significant role in the country's development.

The domestic textile and apparel industry contributes 2.3 % to the country's GDP, 13% to industrial production and 12% to exports. India has a 4% share of the global trade in textiles and

apparel. It is an economic force and a crucial source of livelihood. This timeless legacy, etched in every warp and weft, forms the fabric of Tamil Nadu's identity, driving its economic engine forward.

From traditional handlooms to modern mills, Tamil Nadu's textile sector is a diverse tapestry, embracing cotton, silk, synthetics, technical textiles, recycled products, and garment manufacturing. The state shines as a beacon in India's textile landscape with its strategic location, skilled workforce, supportive ecosystem, and entrepreneurial zeal.

Boasting more than 2.20 crore spindles, 5.68 lakh powerlooms, 1.91 lakh handlooms and around 15,000 garment units, Tamil Nadu leads the nation across spinning, weaving, knitting,

garmenting and more. It is not just a hub of textiles but a testament to the resilience, creativity and ingenuity that define India's textile legacy.

2. FABRICATING FUTURE – UNVEILED DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILES

Department of Textiles is pivotal in advancing the State's Technical Textile Industry. With a strategic focus on technical textiles and processing sectors, it formulates policies, implements schemes, supports stakeholders in collaboration and innovation, drives growth, fosters sustainability, and propels the textile sector towards excellence, contributing to economic prosperity and societal development.

2.1 Objectives of the Textile Department

The Department of Textiles focuses on the following objectives:

- To achieve sustainable growth across the Textile value chain, from fibre to fashion, textile machinery and accessories, using abundant resources, including land, labour and logistics
- To promote the expansion of technical textiles production capabilities
- To promote Research and Development in the Textile Value Chain, focusing on Technical Textiles
- To ensure the quality of textiles for internal consumption and export purposes
- To make the State the preferred destination for foreign investments in the textile sector
- Support the industry in adopting state-of-the-art technology that complies with environmental and social impact regulations and follows Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)

- To institutionalise the network with fashion designers, design institutes, global brands, etc., in the textile industry of Tamil Nadu
- Organise annual fashion events to forecast fashion trends in the industry and promote textile tourism
- To expand the cost-effective and environmentally sustainable textile processing infrastructure
- To focus on the growth of man-made fibre production and recycled textile products

2.2 Organisational Setup of the Textile Department

The Department of Textiles is headed by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles and functions under the administrative control of the Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles, and Khadi Department of Tamil Nadu.

The Commissioner of Textiles is the Head of the Department, assisted by various officers at the

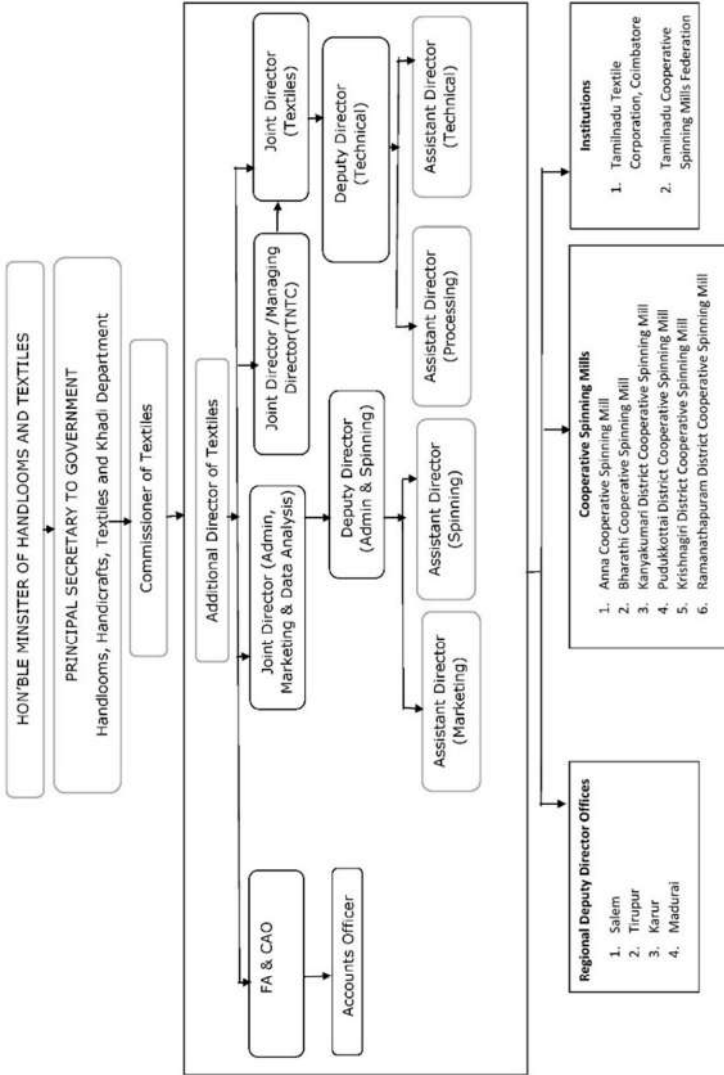
Headquarters, such as the Additional Director, Joint Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors and Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors at the four regional-level offices, Salem, Karur, Tirupur and Madurai.

The Department oversees the following Co-operative Institutions and Public Sector Undertakings:

- 1 Six Co-operative Spinning Mills at various locations viz., Aundipatti (Theni), Ettayapuram (Tuticorin), Aralvaimozhi (Kanyakumari), Uthangarai (Krishnagiri), Aranthangi (Pudukottai), and Achankulam (Ramanathapuram)
- 2 Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation Limited (TNTC), Coimbatore
- 3 Tamil Nadu Co-operative Spinning Mills Federation Limited (TANSPIN), Chennai

The following organogram provides an overview of the administrative structure of the Department:

Organization setup



3. TAMIL NADU – THE TEXTILE HUB

The Textile Industry in Tamil Nadu covers all segments of the sectoral value chain, starting from Raw Material, Manufacturing and Marketing.

The state has several Textile manufacturing clusters concentrated in the regions of Coimbatore, Tirupur, Erode, Karur, Virudhunagar, etc. These clusters specialise in different segments of the textile industry such as apparel, home textiles, yarn, and fabric and contribute significantly to the State's textile production and exports.

3.1 RAW MATERIAL

In the heartland of Tamil Nadu, the textile industry thrives on a rich and intricate raw material value chain, a tapestry woven with diverse fibres, yarns and materials. From the timeless elegance of indigenous cotton and silk to the contemporary allure of imported polyester and nylon, our textile landscape embraces a harmonious blend of tradition and innovation. With each thread

meticulously chosen and woven, Tamil Nadu's textile artisans craft creations that resonate with domestic and global interests, painting a vibrant picture of creativity and ingenuity.

3.1.1 Cotton

Cotton is the primary raw material used in the Textile Industry in Tamil Nadu. The State is sourcing around 95% of its cotton requirements from cotton-growing states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The availability of extra-long staple (ELS) high-quality cotton is crucial for the spinning sector, which forms the backbone of Tamil Nadu's textile value chain.

3.1.2 Silk

Tamil Nadu boasts a rich tradition of silk production, with districts like Kanchipuram, Dharmapuri and Salem renowned for their Silk-weaving clusters. Mulberry Silk is the

predominant variety in the State, with Silk Farming and Sericulture activities contributing to the availability of raw silk for textile production.

3.1.3 Non-Conventional Fibres

For centuries, conventional fibres such as Cotton, Silk, Wool and Synthetics have been used by the textile industry. In the ever-challenging consumer enticement, striving for innovations in fabrications is necessary. Non-conventional fibres such as banana, bamboo, hemp, flax, coir and pineapple are an alternative to the existing natural fibres. These fibres are well suited to blend with conventional fibres to make blended yarns with eco-friendly features and better comfort or protective properties. The Government of Tamil Nadu is focusing on the growth of this sector.

3.1.4 Synthetic Fibres

Synthetic fibres such as polyester, nylon, acrylic, and viscose play a vital role in Tamil Nadu's

Textile Industry, especially in Technical Textiles and blended fabrics. These fibres are sourced from domestic and imported manufacturers to meet the diverse needs of textile manufacturers in the State.

Looking ahead, the raw material textile value chain in Tamil Nadu is poised for further evolution and transformation, driven by technological advancements, sustainability imperatives and changing market dynamics. By leveraging its strengths in raw material availability, processing expertise and skilled workforce Tamil Nadu's Textile Industry can sustain its leadership position and contribute to the state's economic growth and development.

3.2 MANUFACTURING

3.2.1 Spinning Sector

The spinning mill industry in India holds a prominent position in the global textile market. With its second-largest spinning capacity of more

than 5 crore spindles, India is a global leader and the market leader in yarn trade. Spinning in India is heavily centralised in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Gujarat. These states have a long-standing history and reputation in the Textile Industry.

The global number of installed spindles increased from 22.5 crore units in 2021 to 22.7 crore units in 2022. The number of installed open-end rotors increased from 83 lakh to 95 lakh. India ranks second in global cotton yarn trade, trailing only China, with a significant market share of 25%. The country boasts over 5 crore Spindles and 8.42 lakh rotors, solidifying its position as a significant player in the textile industry.

Tamil Nadu is prominent in India's Textile landscape, leading the nation with 55% of the total Spinning Mills 43% of the installed spindles and 60% of the rotors. This underscores the State's pivotal role in the country's spindle capacity and yarn production volume.

Tamil Nadu has been at the forefront in converting cotton and other textile wastes into yarn using open-end/rotor spinning technology and producing high-quality, value-added home textile products predominantly to cater to export markets. Recycled yarn is vital in establishing the Karur Home Textile Export Hub in Tamil Nadu. The State has over 650 open-end mills to produce yarns from counts 2s to 30s from cotton waste, pre and post-consumer wastes, etc.

3.2.2 Weaving and Knitting

The decentralised powerloom sector in Tamil Nadu contributes significantly to the fabric demand for domestic consumption and exports, which is crucial to the State's Economy. Of the 27.77 lakh powerlooms in India, Tamil Nadu has 5.68 lakh powerlooms. Coimbatore, Tirupur, Erode, Namakkal, Salem and Virudhunagar are major powerloom clusters in the State.

The knitwear industry is an essential sector in Tamil Nadu that provides more employment and generates foreign exchange.

Tiruppur is one of the leading clusters in the Knitting Industry in India. Tamil Nadu's knitwear industry exports to all the sophisticated world markets, including the European Union, U.S.A., Canada and Japan. Tiruppur is a significant hub of knitwear exports, contributing 55% (Rs.30,690 crore) of the country's total knitwear exports in 2023-2024.

Knitwear Exports in India (in Rs. crore)			
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024 (Tentative)
All India	60,950	61,764	55,798
Tiruppur	33,525	34,350	30,690
Share (%)	55.0%	55.6%	55.0%

3.2.3 Processing Sector

Tamil Nadu's textile processing sector plays a multifaceted and indispensable role in elevating

the value and quality of finished textile products. Its status as a nodal centre underscores the State's unparalleled contribution to the growth and advancement of the textile industry.

The textile processing sector in Tamil Nadu demonstrates a diverse range of technological scales, spanning from traditional hand-operated methods to cutting-edge automatic machine-operated technologies. This technological spectrum is primarily concentrated in districts such as Erode, Tiruppur, Karur and Salem. Broadly, the sector can be categorised into three segments:

- Hi-tech Processing facilities in the composite Textile Mills (Hi-Tech segment)
- Non-small scale Independent power processing units (Medium to advanced Technology)
- Small Scale Processing units

3.2.4 Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs)

The Government is actively prioritising the establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) equipped with Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) facilities and other advanced technologies in textile clusters. This initiative aims to curb pollution and foster a green and clean environment.

To support this objective, the Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu have provided financial support of Rs.703.29 crore to set up 18 CETPs in Tiruppur. This investment ensures sustainable production, preserves the environment and supports employment in the knitwear and garment industry, contributing to overall economic development.

3.3 FASHION (Garment and Apparel)

The Garment and Apparel industry is an essential contributor to India's economy in terms

of export earnings and employment generation.

The global apparel market is expected to reach 1000 billion USD by 2025 with a 3% Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), up from 839 billion USD during 2019-2020. India's domestic textile and apparel market is projected to be 190 billion USD in 2025-2026 up from 106 billion USD during 2019-2020.

Tamil Nadu tops the apparel export industry, with a significant share of exports from the Tiruppur region. The apparel industry is constantly evolving, with new trends emerging each season. Here are a few of the key trends to watch in the industry in the coming year:

- Fashioning the Future with Sustainability
- Revolutionizing Fashion with Activewear
- Style and Functionality
- The growing Era of Digital First Brands

3.4 MARKETING

Tamil Nadu is the leading state in textile and apparel exports, contributing 20% to the textile exports from India. The state also contributes 55% to the total knitwear Exports from India. Textile exports play a significant role in Tamil Nadu's economy. Major items of Export from the state include apparel and home textiles.

Tamil Nadu exports its textile and apparel products to various countries worldwide, including the United States, European Union countries, the Middle East and Southeast Asian countries.

3.5 TECHNICAL TEXTILES

Technical Textiles are precisely engineered products designed with specific functionalities primarily intended for practical purposes rather than decorative ones.

Materials used in these types of products include natural fibres, Regenerated fibres,

Synthetic fibres, Mineral fibres and composites. The manufacturing process involves Weaving, Non-woven and knitting.

Despite its use in many developed and developing countries, India has yet to fully capitalise on the technical, economic and environmental benefits of technical textiles on a large scale.

Present Status of the Technical Textile Industry

Technical textiles have seen an upward trend globally in recent years due to improving economic conditions. Technological advancements, increase in end-use applications, cost-effectiveness, durability, user-friendliness and eco-friendliness of technical textiles have increased demand for technical textiles in the global market. Indutech, Mobiltech, Packtech, Buildtech and Hometech

together represent two-thirds of the global market value in Technical Textiles.

The global technical textile market size has grown significantly in recent years. It is expected to grow from \$ 212 billion in 2022 to \$ 274 billion by 2027 at a Compound Annual Growth Rate of 5.2%.

Indian technical textiles market is the fifth largest in the world and stood at \$ 21.95 billion in 2021-2022, with production accounting for \$ 19.49 billion and imports accounting for \$ 2.46 billion. In the past five years, the Indian technical textiles market has grown at the rate of 8 to 10 percent per annum. Some of the key factors that will drive the growth of the technical textiles industry in India are:

- Rising Consumer Awareness
- Scope for Import substitution
- Growing End-user Industries

- Technology Adoption
- Government Support
- Huge Demand Supply Gap

Ecosystem in Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu is one of India's major Textile Hubs. Its importance in the Technical Textiles Industry is complex. It stems from its robust infrastructure, skilled workforce, rich textile tradition and an environment that fosters innovation and industrial progress.

Opportunities

Here are a few salient features that demonstrate Tamil Nadu's opportunities in the technical textiles industry.

- Strong Textile Manufacturing Base
- Infrastructure and Industrial Ecosystem
- Emerging consumer sector

- Substantial disparity between demand and supply

Key Challenges

Some key challenges have to be addressed to spur the growth of the State's Technical Textile Industry.

- Lack of awareness
- Inadequate Market Linkages
- The scarcity of special raw materials for high-performance textiles
- Efficient manufacturing methodology
- Investors' innate reluctance to explore novel domains

Way ahead

The Technical Textiles sector offers enormous opportunities for manufacturers to cater to the growing domestic market and compete globally. To grow in this sector, apart from fiscal incentives and

policy support the following measures will be undertaken to facilitate the growth of the Tamil Nadu Technical Textile Industry:

- Acquiring technical knowhow
- Forming International Partnerships
- Support to Research and Development
- Training and Education
- Implementation of Standards
- Mechanism to increase consumption
- Mandatory usage of technical textile items in specific industries

4. FOSTERING GROWTH - MARKETING SUPPORT

4.1 "TAMIL NADU PAVILION" at International Textile Fairs

The Textile sector in Tamil Nadu contributes more than Rs.50,000 crore to exports. To market our textile goods globally, it is essential to publicise our state's textile products by exhibiting them at International Textile Trade Fairs. With a broader

outlook, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises need support to enter the export market and explore new markets abroad.

To promote the international marketing of the textile varieties produced in Tamil Nadu and brand Tamil Nadu's textile and apparel sector as the most sustainable destination for textile and fashion sourcing, the Government of Tamil Nadu sets up an exclusive "Tamil Nadu Pavilion" with 20 exhibitors from the state at Two International Textile Fairs every year.

To participate and set up stalls at the Fair under the Tamil Nadu Pavilion, the Government is providing the following financial Assistance:

Sl. No.	Details	Maximum Assistance/ exhibitor (Rs.in lakh)
1	Stall Rent (50% Subject to a maximum of Rs.2.00 lakh)	2.00

2	Airfare assistance towards participation (50% in Economy class fare Subject to a maximum of Rs.25.00 lakh per fair)	1.25
Total		3.25

This financial support benefits entrepreneurs from Tamil Nadu who possess exceptional products, innovative ideas and dedication to advancing the textile Industry.

The Tamil Nadu Pavilion will identify new avenues for augmenting textile exports and enhancing the Foreign Exchange (Forex) in Tamil Nadu. The surge in export volume will ensure more employment opportunities in the Textile Industry.

Further, the Pavilion at International Textile Fairs helps to understand the latest fashions and trends in the International Textile and Apparel Industry.

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.1.60 crore during the year 2023-2024.

4.1.1 Global Sourcing Expo Melbourne, Australia

Global Sourcing Expo is one of the major Textile Fairs held from 21 to 23 November 2023 in Melbourne, Australia. There were 836 exhibitors from 16 countries, including 202 from India.

An Exclusive "Tamil Nadu Pavilion" was set up at the above Fair, with 20 exhibitors from Tamil Nadu. The exhibitors include manufacturers of apparel and garments, home textiles and fabrics.

Around 300 Trade visitors visited the Tamil Nadu Pavilion during the fair and the volume of business dealings was also substantial.

4.1.2 Bharat Tex 2024, New Delhi

Bharat Tex 2024, one of the most significant textile events at the global level was conducted by the consortium of Export Promotion Councils at the Pragati Maidan in New Delhi from 26 to 29 February 2024.

The Fair had 3000 Exhibitors spread across 2,00,000 square metre, covering all segments of the Textile Value Chain.

An Exclusive Tamil Nadu Pavilion, measuring 106 square metre, was set up at the Fair. The Pavilion displayed the state's sustainable manufacturing practices and textile advantages that attract International buyers to Tamil Nadu, and Textile and Handloom Clusters of Tamil Nadu. A live Handloom Demonstration was also set up for visitors.

There were also 51 Exhibitor stalls set up along with the Tamil Nadu Pavilion. The exhibitors

included apparel and garments, home textiles, technical textiles, handloom varieties, yarn, fabrics and value added products.

The Tamil Nadu Pavilion and the Exhibitors received around 2600 footfalls during the fair, including many international buyers from the United Kingdom, Japan and Australia. Business discussions were held between the international buyers and the exhibitors, including Co-optex.

4.2 An Exclusive Website for the Department of Textiles

As per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles during the Legislative Assembly Session for the year 2022-2023, the Department of Textiles has recently unveiled a dedicated website on March 15, 2024, accessible at www.tntextiles.tn.gov.in. This platform has been meticulously crafted to cater to the requirements of textile enthusiasts and industry stakeholders.

The website is designed attractively and is a comprehensive repository of vital information about Government schemes, policies and announcements relevant to the textile sector. It endeavours to serve as a reliable source of knowledge, aiding stakeholders in navigating the industry's dynamic landscape.

With a primary focus on fostering business growth, the website aims to facilitate seamless access to invaluable resources for textile entrepreneurs. By offering insights into the latest developments in the textile value chain, from fibre to fabric production, it seeks to empower industry players with the knowledge required to make informed decisions and drive innovation.

Moreover, the platform aims to promote collaboration and synergy among stakeholders by providing a platform for sharing ideas, best practices, and market intelligence. Through its

user-friendly interface and intuitive navigation, the website becomes the go-to destination for individuals seeking to stay abreast of industry trends, explore investment opportunities and enhance their business activities in the textile sector.

4.3 Textile Promotion Cell

As per the announcement of the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles, a Textile Promotion Cell has been established at the Commissionerate of Textiles in Chennai.

The objectives of the Cell are as below:

- Promoting Government initiatives and schemes to foster the growth of the Textile sector
- Provide essential assistance and facilitation to textile entrepreneurs

- Facilitate networking between research institutes and entrepreneurs
- Encourage technology transformation and commercialisation of research findings

In the preceding year, the Textile Promotion Cell has assisted approximately 35 textile entrepreneurs by providing necessary inputs and facilitation to support their endeavors.

5. INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY ADVANCEMENT

5.1 Mini Textile Parks

To fortify Tamil Nadu's stature as a premier textile destination in India and bolster employment opportunities, the Government initiated the "Mini Textile Parks" Scheme in 2015.

The Scheme encourages entrepreneurs to set up Mini Textile Parks by extending financial assistance up to 50% of the eligible project cost

subject to a maximum of Rs.2.50 crore per project. The eligibility for availing of the benefit is to possess a minimum area of 2 acres of land and establish a minimum of 3 Textile manufacturing units.

In response to ongoing feedback from textile entrepreneurs, the Government further amended the same on June 24, 2022 so that factory buildings for production were included in eligible components for subsidy. Detailed guidelines were subsequently issued on December 14, 2022.

These proactive measures have spurred significant interest among textile entrepreneurs in establishing Mini Textile Parks in the State, reflecting the success of the Government's efforts to foster a conducive environment for industry growth and employment generation.

As of now, the following 9 Mini Textile parks have been approved in various districts and

Rs.5.00 crore has been sanctioned as the first instalment for implementing the Scheme.

1. M/s.Tirupathi Mini Textile Park,
Tiruvallur
2. M/s. Bharath Mini Textile Park Ltd,
Dharmapuri
3. M/s. VMD Textile Park Pvt Ltd, Karur
4. M/s. Karthikeya Weaving Park Pvt
Ltd, Tirupur
5. M/s. Shri Pranav Textile Park Pvt Ltd,
Karur
6. M/s. Nachi Textile Export Pvt Ltd, Karur
7. M/s. VGVS Tex Park LLP, Erode
8. M/s. Oasis Tex Paark Pvt Ltd, Karur
9. M/s. Le Globe Textile Park Private Ltd, Karur

This scheme will enable entrepreneurs to establish infrastructure facilities in a cluster, grow the textile industry by attracting private

investments, and create fresh employment opportunities for around 200 people in each park. Further, each park is expected to generate revenue of Rs.50.00 lakh to Rs.150.00 lakh per annum for the Government.

5.2. PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Parks(PM-MITRA Scheme)

The PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Parks (PM-MITRA) Scheme aims to bolster the Indian Textile Industry by enhancing operational scale, cutting logistics costs through consolidating the entire value chain in one location, attracting investments, creating jobs and boosting export potential. With a budget outlay of Rs.4445 crore, including Rs.30 crore for administrative expenses, the scheme spans over seven years up to 2027-2028.

Under this scheme, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) will be established as a legal entity (with the State Government holding 51% equity

share and the Union Government holding 49%) to execute the PM MITRA Park Project.

PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park (PM MITRA) was inaugurated on 22nd March 2023 in Chennai, graced by the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and the Hon'ble Union Minister for Textiles. The Park is situated in E.Kumaralingapuram Village, Virudhunagar District, on 1052 acre of land.

5.3 Iconic Project - Textile City

During the 2022-2023 assembly session, the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles announced that a feasibility study and a Detailed Project Report (DPR) would be conducted for the establishment of a Textile City near Chennai. Accordingly, action has been initiated to establish a Textile City near Chennai.

5.3.1 Key Features of the Proposed Textile City

Mega Marketing Hub: As a mega marketing hub, Textile City will offer comprehensive avenues for Business-to-Business (B2B) and Business-to-Customer (B2C) marketing across the entire Textile Value Chain.

Ecosystem Integration: The City aims to foster a harmonious ecosystem by seamlessly integrating the entire Textile Value Chain through backward and forward linkages.

Platform for Collaboration: It will serve as a dynamic platform for interaction among stakeholders across the textile value chain, enabling the sector to identify emerging trends and collaborate effectively to meet market demands.

Synergy and Innovation: By promoting synergy and collaboration, the City will encourage

innovation and cost-effective value addition across different industry segments.

Global Trading Hub: Positioned strategically, the Textile City will enhance Tamil Nadu's reputation as one of the largest and most convenient textile trading hubs at national and international levels.

Professional Consultation and Transparency: To ensure the success of this transformative initiative, a professional consultant has already been appointed to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study and has prepared a detailed project report.

Identifying suitable land for setting up a Textile City is underway.

5.4 Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP)

Considering the growth in the Textile Industry and to create world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up Textile Units in one place, the Union Government launched the "Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP)" in 2005.

The scheme is being operated on a Public-Private Partnership basis, with the Union Government providing 40% of the Project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.40.00 crore. The State Government grants 9% of the project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.9.00 crore. The scheme has been discontinued by the Government of India on 31.3.2020.

The following four parks have been completed and are currently operational:

- 1) Hi-Tech Weaving Park, Palladam, Tiruppur District

- 2) Integrated Textile Park, Karur District
- 3) Madurai Integrated Textile Park, Vadipatti, Madurai District
- 4) Hi-Tech Weaving Park, Kumarapalayam, Namakkal District

The work of the remaining 3 textile parks is in progress.

- 1) GILT Integrated Textile Park, Chengapalli, Tiruppur
- 2) SIMA Textile Processing Park, Cuddalore
- 3) Pallavada Technical Textile Park, Erode

5.5 Salem Yarn Coloring Park

During the Budget Speech for 2023-2024, the Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Human Resource Management announced that an Integrated Textile Park will be established at Salem on 100 acres of land with an estimated project cost of Rs.880.00 crore. Accordingly, the land has been

identified in Jagir Ammapalayam, and the land transfer to SPV is in progress.

5.6 Six Percent Interest Subvention scheme to the Spinning Sector

The Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Human Resource Management has made an announcement, among others, during the Budget speech for the year 2024-2025 for the Department of Textiles as detailed below:

“Investment in modern technologies in the spinning sector is imperative to make Tamil Nadu the leading State in this field. In pursuit of this goal, the Government will introduce a special scheme for technological upgradation by providing interest subvention at 6 percent, at an estimated cost of Rs.500 crore, over the next ten years”.

The Government have announced that Rs.500.00 crore would be sanctioned over the next ten years to dispose of a 6 percent Interest subsidy to the interest of the loan being obtained from the

Bank by the Spinning industries for technological upgradation of vintage Spinning machines that are more than 15 years old. This would thereby increase the production of yarn and improve its quality in the spinning sector in Tamil Nadu.

5.7 Special Cotton Mission

Acknowledging the importance of sustainable cotton cultivation, the Government has constituted a committee to formulate a Sustainable Cotton Cultivation Mission in Tamil Nadu. Engaging with vital stakeholders like Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Southern India Mills Association-Cotton Development and Research Association (SIMA-CDRA), the Agriculture Department, Farmer Producers Organization (FPO) and farmers discussions have covered various challenges and solutions, including cultivation models, mechanisation and hybrid seed varieties. Currently, roles for line departments,

implementation strategies, and modalities for executing the Comprehensive Cotton Mission Programme are being delineated in cooperation with the Agriculture Department.

Indeed, this effort will boost cotton production and foster the expansion of cotton-based Textile Industries in Tamil Nadu. By addressing key challenges and implementing sustainable practices, the Comprehensive Cotton Mission Programme will lay a robust foundation for the growth and prosperity of the cotton sector in the region.

6. SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE

6.1. Disposal of Waste Salt at the Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP)

The accumulation of approximately 1,00,000 MT of mixed waste salt within Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) premises poses significant

health and environmental hazards, necessitating immediate attention.

The absence of suitable technology to mitigate concurrent mixed salt generation in Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) results in ongoing salt accumulation. Hence, immediate intervention with an advanced, cost-effective waste treatment system is essential.

To address the issue mentioned above, the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles has made the following announcement to dispose of the mixed waste salts in the Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) in Tiruppur as part of the demand for the year 2022-2023:

"Facilitation of Research and Development activities to dispose of the waste salt generated after processing and recovery of water piled up in the Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) of

the Textile Processing Industry in Tamil Nadu without any environmental impact".

The objectives of the announcement are as follows:

1. To stop further accumulation of mixed waste salt in concurrent Reject Management System (RMS)
2. To process the already accumulated salts into usable by-products
3. To develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the cost-effective establishment and running of CETPs to reduce the cost of effluent treatment

A Scientific Committee has been formed to finalise the Technology provider to eliminate concurrent reject and accumulated mixed hazardous salts in CETPs. The Committee has conducted several deliberations and has finalised the appropriate Technology to eliminate Mixed

Salts. Additionally, the Committee will prescribe SOPs for establishing new CETPs and for the cost-effective operation and maintenance of existing ones.

Subsequently, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with the Technology Provider M/s. Incompressible Fluid Control System Pvt Ltd., (ICFCS) to dispose of the accumulated mixed waste salts at Mannarai CETP in Tiruppur in a Build-Own-Operate (BOO) or Build Own Operate Transfer (BOOT) model on an Industrial Pilot basis.

7. TEXTILE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

7.1 Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet-2024

Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet (GIM)-2024 was conducted on January 7th and 8th, 2024 at Chennai Trade Centre. TNGIM aimed to assemble business leaders, investors, policymakers, academia and international

organisations to explore collaborative opportunities and partnerships and attract significant foreign and domestic investment that will further enhance the state's economic prospects.

The Government had fixed an investment attraction target worth of Rs.5,000 crore for the Textile Sector. During the event, Memorandums of Understanding were signed between the Government of Tamil Nadu and 67 Textile Entrepreneurs for an investment worth Rs.5,041.57 crore.

7.2 Conference on Technical Textiles

As per the Announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles in the Assembly during the demand for Handlooms and Textiles for the year 2023-2024, the second edition of the Technical Textile Conference in association with the Ministry of Textiles,

Government of India, and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was organised by the Department of Textiles, Government of Tamil Nadu in Coimbatore on 17.11.2023 and 18.11.2023.

Government Officials, representatives from trade bodies, textile manufacturing associations, technical textile manufacturing organisations, the Centres of Excellences, textile research institutions and academia attended the conference.

Technical sessions highlighted the latest trends, developments, innovations, and opportunities in the technical textile industry. Experts in the technical textile field participated and shared their insights at the conference.

7.3. National Workshop on Technical Textiles

The Department of Textiles, Government of Tamil Nadu, organised a two-day workshop in Coimbatore on 02.02.2024 and 03.02.2024, with South India Textile Research Association (SITRA), PSG College of Technology and other Centres of

Excellence across India and Entrepreneurs to share the technologies identified in Centres of Excellence in technical textiles in India and deliberate on innovative products and technologies used for Technical Textiles.

During the workshop, the Centres of Excellence conducted technical sessions on various segments of technical textiles, such as Meditech, Indutech, Geotech, Agrotech, Protech, Sporttech, Nonwovens, and Composites. There were also sessions on general issues such as BIS certification and waste recycling.

More than 120 entrepreneurs across the State participated in the workshop.

7.4 Technical Advisory Committee

The Technical Advisory Committee was formed by the Government of Tamil Nadu under the esteemed leadership of the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles.

Its primary objective is to monitor the techno-economic landscape of the textile industry and provide recommendations to enhance the State Textile industry and its policy framework.

The Committee aims to fortify the textile industry. It is composed of representatives from various sectors including textile federations, research and educational institutes, and pioneer industries.

The inaugural meeting presided over by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles was held on 22.06.2023 in Coimbatore. In the meeting, discussions centred on current textile trends, industry challenges, and requisite Government interventions were held.

Formulating a comprehensive textile policy is currently underway, drawing from insights shared by industry representatives. It is poised to address pertinent issues and propel the industry forward.

8. HUMAN RESOURCE INITIATIVES

8.1 Skill Development for Textile Workers

The Government of Tamil Nadu has proposed to impart training to 8950 persons in spinning, weaving, knitting, apparel, and technical textiles through the South India Textile Research Association (SITRA) in coordination with Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC). The Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) has sanctioned 5 Training Centres, namely KG Denim Limited, Coimbatore, Asian Fabrics Limited, Karur, LS Mills, Theni, Dyers Association of Tiruppur and Surya Spinning Mills, Namakkal.

In the first phase, 19 trainees were trained on shuttleless looms at KG Denim Limited, Coimbatore.

In the second phase, 20 workers were trained in LS Mills, Theni in Ring Frames.

8.2 Retirement Benefits to the retired employees and workers of the Krishnagiri District Co-operative Spinning Mills

The Government of Tamil Nadu have sanctioned Rs.5.47 crore for payment of pending gratuity to the retired employees and workers of the Krishnagiri District Co-operative Spinning Mills. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles distributed the pending gratuity to 109 workers and 35 employees at the Krishnagiri District Co-operative Spinning Mills on 09.03.2024.

9. Co-operative Spinning Mills

9.1 PILLARS OF PROGRESS - ORGANISATIONS WORKING UNDER THE DEPARTMENT

At present, Six Co-operative Spinning Mills, with an objective of uninterrupted Supply of yarn to the Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies are functioning under the Department of Textiles,

with a production capacity of 14200 Metric Tonnes per annum.

The mills have been modernised with Rs.142.40 crore to provide quality yarn at reasonable prices. The spindle capacity of the mills is as follows:

S. No.	Name of the Mill	Installed Spindles
1	Anna	24192
2	Bharathi	18144
3	Kanyakumari	22800
4	Pudukottai	20976
5	Krishnagiri	20160
6	Ramanathapuram	12096
Total		118368

These mills supply hank yarn to the Handloom Weaver's Co-operative Societies and cone yarn to Powerloom Weaver's Co-operative Societies for the government's flagship schemes,

viz. Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme and Supply of School Uniform Scheme. The Yarn Supply details are given below:

Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties-Pongal 2024 (including Continuous Employment Scheme)			
S. No.	Name of the Mill	Supplied Quantity (in M.T)	Value of yarn Supplied (Rs in Cr.)
1	Anna	698.03	21.647
2	Bharathi	443.49	13.815
3	Kanyakumari	629.49	19.701
4	Pudukottai	639.73	19.956
5	Krishnagiri	310.16	9.698
6	Ramanathapuram	388.71	12.018
Total		3109.61	96.835

Supply of School Uniform Scheme AY-2023-2024			
S. No	Name of the Mill	Supplied Quantity (in M.T)	Value of yarn Supplied (Rs inCr.)
1	Anna	629.16	20.08
2	Bharathi	479.28	15.30

3	Kanyakumari	613.26	19.58
4	Pudukottai	562.44	17.95
5	Krishnagiri	526.80	16.82
6	Ramanathapuram	330.12	10.54
Total		3141.06	100.27

Supply to Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies through National Handloom Development Corporation			
S. No	Name of the Mill	Supplied Quantity(in M.T.)	Value of yarn Supplied (Rs in Cr)
1	Anna	351.78	9.93
2	Bharathi	216.82	6.15
3	Kanyakumari	291.51	8.07
4	Pudukottai	399.97	11.24
5	Krishnagiri	242.39	8.79
6	Ramanathapuram	181.39	5.37
Total		1683.86	49.55

9.1.1 Technology upgradation for Quality improvement

As per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles during 2022-2023, Six Co-operative Spinning Mills have

been modernised at a total cost of Rs.31.26 crore with 10 Auto-coners, 12096 Spindles of Compact Spinning System and 6 Yarn Conditioning Machines.

This will result in higher production, reduced workforce costs, and improved quality.

9.1.2 Infrastructure development for uninterrupted Power supply to the Cooperative Spinning Mills

As per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles during 2022-2023, Dedicated Power Feeders of 11 KVA power for uninterrupted supply of Power have been sanctioned for Bharathi, Kanyakumari and Pudukkottai Co-operative Spinning Mills at a cost of Rs.1.75 crore, of which the installations were completed at Bharathi and Kanyakumari Cooperative Spinning Mills and the dedicated feeders started functioning on 11.10.2023. Pudukkottai Co-operative Spinning Mills has also

commenced work to install a Dedicated Power Feeder for an uninterrupted supply of Power.

9.2 Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation, Coimbatore

Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation Limited was established in 1969 under the Companies Act 1956 at Coimbatore as its headquarters.

Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation operates an autoloom complex at Kurichi in Coimbatore District with 12 Airjet Looms. The Corporation produces Polyester Cotton suiting and shirting varieties. Further, the Corporation undertakes the production and supply of Shirting, Casement, and Drill cloth under the Supply of School Uniform Scheme and Dhoties under the Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Scheme.

Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation also acts as a nodal agency for procuring and supplying school uniform cloths and cost-free sarees and dhoties. Further, the Organisation also supplies suiting and shirting to the State Transport Corporation, Tamil

Nadu Electricity Board, Tamil Nadu Police Department, Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Municipal Corporations, and other Public Sector Undertakings.

The Corporation's financial performance during the past two years is below.

Year	Production (In lakh metre)	Production Value (Rs. in lakh)	Sales (in lakh metre)	Sales Value (Rs. in lakh)	Net Profit/ loss (Rs. in lakh)
2022- 2023	29.16	1836.77	46.95	3453.04	(+) 43.09
2023- 2024	27.80	1524.03	58.55	5077.62	(+) 60.03 (Tentative)

9.3 Tamil Nadu Co-operative Spinning Mills Federation Limited (TANSPIN), Chennai

The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Spinning Mills Federation Limited (TANSPIN) was established in December 1994 to regulate the procedure of Cotton purchase for Co-operative Spinning Mills. The main objective of the federation is to purchase good quality cotton at reasonable rates from the

Co-operative societies, Federations, Cotton Corporations of India, etc., functioning in India and supply the same to all Co-operative Spinning Mills of Tamil Nadu. For this purpose, the Government of Tamil Nadu has invested a share capital of Rs.25.00 crore and a Cotton Revolving Fund of Rs.2.07 crore in TANSPIN.

TANSPIN paid a sum of Rs.11.49 crore as a loan for 6 Co-op Spinning Mills for the purchase of cotton. The federation has earned a tentative profit of Rs.117.00 lakh during 2023-2024.

10. WAY FORWARD FOR TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Tamil Nadu's textile sector has been a mainstay of the state's economy, generating employment, export revenue and industrial growth. With a lengthy history spanning several decades, the industry has experienced growth and change, overcoming obstacles and grasping chances. It is necessary to evaluate the industry's

existing situation, identify essential areas that need development and set a path for long-term expansion and competitiveness.

10.1 Infrastructure Development

Infrastructure development plays a pivotal role in the growth and competitiveness of the textile industry in Tamil Nadu. To develop the textile infrastructure in the rural areas, 10 Mini Textile Parks will be established during the year 2024-2025.

10.2 Market Diversification and Export Promotion

Market diversification and export promotion are essential strategies for the sustainable growth and competitiveness of the Tamil Nadu textile industry. Accordingly, an exclusive Tamil Nadu Pavilion with 20 exhibitor stalls will be set up at two international Textile fairs during the year 2024-2025.

10.3 Waste Management

Viable technology for processing Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) waste salt into usable by-products, such as industrial utility chemicals, will be identified and implemented. Accordingly, necessary initiatives are being taken by the Department to set up an industrial-scale pilot plant at M/s. Mannarai CETP, Tiruppur in association with M/s. Incompressible Fluid Control System Pvt Ltd., (ICFCS) in a Build-Own-Operate (BOO) or Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) model.

10.4 Skill Development Programmes

Skill development and training programs are crucial in enhancing the workforce's capabilities in the Tamil Nadu textile industry. Skill development programs will be conducted for upskilling textile workers belonging to the entire textile value chain through reputed textile institutions.

The Government is making all earnest efforts to make Tamil Nadu a focal point for Textile Industries in India.

11. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS – INNOVATE A BETTER TOMORROW

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has determined 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to address economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection, which are considered critical to the well-being of individuals and societies.

The Government have constituted a High Powered Committee and Working Groups to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in Tamil Nadu.

The textile sector's sustainable development goal (Goal 9 Industry Innovation and Infrastructure) focuses on innovation initiatives in industrialisation and infrastructure facilities.

The following scheme is being mapped for the Department of Textiles to achieve the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals related to the textile sector.

11.1 Mini Textile Park

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the Mini Textile Park scheme to facilitate entrepreneurs for establishment of infrastructure facilities in a cluster and to enable the growth of the Textile industry by attracting private investment and fresh employment generation.

Under the scheme, financial assistance of 50% on the eligible project cost is provided subject to a maximum of Rs.2.50 crore for the Park. The eligibility criteria for setting up a Mini Textile Park is to possess a minimum of 2 acres of land and to set up a minimum of 3 manufacturing units. Currently, 9 Mini Textile Parks have been approved

by the Government of Tamil Nadu and a sum of Rs.5.00 crore has also been sanctioned in the first phase.

12. BUDGET ESTIMATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILES FOR THE YEAR 2024-2025

In the Budget Estimate for 2024-2025, the Government of Tamil Nadu has allocated Rs.1146.29 lakh for the Department of Textiles, as outlined below:

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Budget Estimate 2024-2025 (Rs. In lakh)
1	Assistance to Cooperative Spinning Mills	0.01
2	Establishment of Hi-Tech Weaving Parks under Textiles Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme	0.01
3	State Textile Advisory Committee-Office Expenses	4.00
4	State Textile Advisory Committee-Hospitality/Entertainment Expenditure	6.00

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Budget Estimate 2024-2025 (Rs. In lakh)
5	State Textile Advisory Committee – Office Expenses – TA/DA to Non-Official Members	0.01
6	Capital Subsidy for purchase of Wider Width Fabric Machine under New Integrated Textile Policy, 2019	0.01
7	Assistance for conducting Energy Audit / Water Audit / Environmental Compliance under New Integrated Textile Policy, 2019	0.01
8	Interest Subvention for Modernization of Spindles in existing Spinning Mills under New Integrated Textile Policy, 2019	0.01
9	Zero Liquid Discharge System at Tiruppur	0.01
10	Administrative Expenses (including Pay and Allowances of Staff)	1136.15
11	Setting up of Mini Textile Park	0.01
12	Establishment of Hi-Tech Weaving Parks under Textile Centres infrastructure development Scheme	0.01
13	Share Capital Assistance to Cooperative Spinning Mills	0.01

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Budget Estimate 2024-2025 (Rs. In lakh)
14	Loans to Co-operative Institutions	0.01
15	Ways and Means Advance to Non-functional Co-operative Spinning Mills	0.01
16	Loans to Co-operative Spinning Mills	0.01
17	Ways and Means Advance to functional Co-operative Spinning Mills	0.01
Total		1146.29

R.GANDHI
MINISTER FOR HANDLOOMS AND TEXTILES