



**HANDLOOMS, HANDICRAFTS,
TEXTILES AND KHADI DEPARTMENT**

**KHADI, VILLAGE INDUSTRIES AND
HANDICRAFTS**

POLICY NOTE

2014 – 2015

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T.P.POONACHI

MINISTER FOR KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES

Government of Tamilnadu
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SERICULTURE

1. Historical perspective

Sericulture is both an art and science of raising silkworms for silk production. Silk as a weavable fibre was first discovered by the Chinese empress Xi Ling Shi during 2640 B.C. and its culture and weaving was a guarded secret for more than 2,500 years by the Chinese. Silk was a profitable trade commodity in China. Being a rural and agro based industry, the production and weaving of silk are largely carried out by relatively poor sections of the society and this aspect of Sericulture has made it popular and sustainable in countries like China and India. The major activities of Sericulture comprises of food-plant cultivation to feed the silkworms which spin silk cocoons and reeling the cocoons for unwinding the silk filament for value added benefits such as processing and weaving.

2. Important features of Sericulture Sector

Sericulture sector has high employment potential. It is estimated that Sericulture can generate employment at the rate of 11 man days per kilogram of raw silk production (in on-farm and off-farm activities) throughout the year. It also provides vibrancy to village economies and 57% of the gross value of silk fabrics flows back to the cocoon growers (Farmers). Sericulture is a low gestation and high return sector for the farmers and they can get regular income almost on monthly basis. One crop of silkworms can be reared and cocoons are produced within 25 to 27 days and the farmers can directly sell them at the Government cocoon markets and get the money on the same day without any delay. There are no middle men. Sericulture is a women friendly activity. Women constitute 60% of those employed in downstream activities of Sericulture.

3. Silk

3.1 Silk is a natural fibre. Silk is called as 'Queen of Textiles' due to its elegant and attractive nature. There are 4 types of natural silk namely Mulberry, Tasar, Eri and Muga, which have different host plants. India has the unique distinction of producing all the 4 types of silk. Mulberry Silk is the mostly reared commercial variety for its reelable silk cocoons. 700-1500 meters of single, continuous, natural fibre can be reeled out from a single silk cocoon. Mulberry silk is obtained through indoor rearing of silkworms which are fed with mulberry leaves. Tamilnadu produces mainly mulberry silk. In mulberry silk, there are two kinds i.e., White silk and light yellow coloured silk. The white silk (Ven pattu) taken from the bivoltine silk-cocoons, having international standards, could be used in powerlooms.

3.2 India is the second largest producer of mulberry raw silk next to China and highest



Silkworms, Cocoons & Moths

consumer of silk fabrics in the world. However, there is a gap between the demand & production and considerable quantum of silk is being imported, which costs foreign exchange in turn. Currently, the demand for raw silk in India is about 30,000 metric tonnes per annum, of which 23,000 metric tonnes are produced in the country and the rest is imported mainly from China. The demand of raw silk in Tamil Nadu is about 3,000 metric tonnes, of which 1,200 metric tonnes are produced in the State and the rest is mostly obtained from neighbouring Karnataka State and from China.

3.3 With significant contribution of Tamilnadu, India produces quality silk and silk fabrics & exports to other nations to the tune of Rs.2,300 crores per annum and it is on upward trend year by year, earning substantial foreign exchange.

4. Department of Sericulture

4.1 Prior to re-organization of State on linguistic basis in 1956, Sericulture was practised in limited

pockets of Talavady and Hosur. After the reorganization, the development of improved silkworm cross-breeds and the resultant higher cocoon yield led to the spread of sericulture to other districts. Encouraged by the impact of “Intensive Sericulture Development Programme” and its potential to generate employment and periodic returns to the farming community, the Government of Tamil Nadu formed a separate Department of Sericulture with Headquarters at Salem with effect from April 1979.

4.2 The Department of Sericulture undertakes the following activities for the promotion of Sericulture in Tamil Nadu:-

- Encouraging the farmers to raise high yielding mulberry varieties.
- Imparting training in mulberry cultivation, silkworm egg production, silkworm rearing, silk reeling, silk twisting and computer aided textile designing.

- Ensuring the supply of quality and disease free silkworm seeds.
- Transfer of technology for increased cocoon productivity.
- Providing subsidy assistance for mulberry cultivation, establishment of chawkie (young silkworm) rearing centres, installation of drip irrigation, procurement of silkworm rearing equipments and for the construction of separate rearing houses.
- Providing assistance to establish silk reeling and twisting units in the private / Co-operative sector.
- Providing marketing facilities for cocoons and silk yarn.
- Implementation of health insurance scheme for Sericulturists and workers.
- Implementation of crop insurance scheme for Sericulture farmers.
- Providing financial assistance for the up-gradation of looms to reduce drudgery

and increase productivity of the silk handloom weavers.

4.3 For implementing various Sericultural development schemes in the State, the following staff strength has been sanctioned by the Government :-

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Staff
1	Director	1
2	Joint Director	4
3	Deputy Director	9
4	Assistant Director	27
5	Inspector of Sericulture	67
6	Assistant Inspector of Sericulture	179
7	Junior Inspector of Sericulture	856
8	Others	338
	Total	1,481

4.4 The Department of Sericulture is functioning under the overall control of Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi Department, Chennai, under Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries. The Directorate of Sericulture formulates and implements schemes

towards development of Sericulture sector in the State of Tamil Nadu, through subordinate offices, such as Regional and extension Assistant Director Offices. There are 5 Regional offices at Erode, Dharmapuri, Madurai, Vellore and Trichy. There are 19 offices of Assistant Directors (Sericulture) looking after extension activities. There is an office of Deputy Director (Seed) at Hosur to look after seed sector.

4.5 Except in Chennai, Sericulture is practised in all the 31 districts of Tamilnadu. It is extensively practised in the districts of Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Salem, Erode, Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Vellore, Namakkal, Dindigul, Tirunelveli & Theni. It is practised on moderate scale in Thiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Tiruchirapalli, Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Nilgiris, Virudhunagar and Kanyakumari. Sericulture is prevalent in the rest of the districts on a limited scale.

5. Infrastructure Facilities

The following infrastructure facilities/units are available for the promotion and development of Sericulture in the State:-

5.1 Technical Service Centres

There are 105 Technical Service Centres functioning in the State, to serve the Sericulture farmers in all technical aspects of mulberry cultivation and silkworm rearing. Each Technical Service Centre is headed by an Inspector of Sericulture or Assistant Inspector of Sericulture. Every Technical Service Centre is having 3 or more sub-ranges looked after by Junior Inspectors of Sericulture. The District wise details of Technical Service Centres are given below:-

Region	Districts	Sl. No.	Assistant Director	No. of Technical Service Centres
Dharmapuri	Krishnagiri	1	Hosur	7
		2	Denkanikottai	6
		3	Krishnagiri	4
	Dharmapuri	4	Dharmapuri	4
		5	Pennagaram	6
Erode	Salem	6	Salem	7
	Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Erode	7	Coimbatore	4
		8	Udumalpet	5
		9	Erode	7
	10	Talavady	3	
The Nilgiris	11	Coonoor	1	

Region	Districts	Sl. No.	Assistant Director	No. of Technical Service Centres
Vellore	Vellore, Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu	12	Vaniyambadi	8
	Thiruvannamalai, (& Hills of Vellore District)	13	Thiruvannamalai	6
	Villupuram, Cuddalore	14	Villupuram	4
Trichy	Trichy, Pudukottai, Ariyalur, Thanjavur, Perambalur, Nagapattinam	15	Trichy	8
	Namakkal, Karur	16	Namakkal	7
Madurai	Dindigul, Sivagangai	17	Dindigul	6
	Theni, Madurai, Ramnad	18	Theni	5
	Thirunelveli, Virudhunagar, Tuticorin, Kanyakumari	19	Tenkasi	7
			Total	105

5.2 Basic Silkworm Seed Production

The production of commercial silkworm seeds (eggs) for supply to the Farmers is effected out of the parental quality seed material, by following three different stages of multiplication known as the P3 (P stands for PARENTAL), P2 & P1 stages, denoting the three successive generations of seed production. They are separately reared in isolated Government Farms, identified for this purpose.

The following 19 Seed Farms are functioning under the Department of Sericulture for the production and maintenance of different races of local and bivoltine silkworms:-

Seed Farms

District	Assistant Director	Sl. No	Name of the Seed Farm	Role	Total Extent (Acres)
Krishnagiri	Avalapalli	1	Berigai	P3	3.67
		2	Avalapalli	P3	11.38
		3	Hosur	P2	44.72
		4	Kalukondapalli	P3	5.65
		5	Thally	P3	3.50
		6	Uddanapalli	P2	26.24
		7	Ulimangalam	P2	9.80

District	Assistant Director	Sl. No	Name of the Seed Farm	Role	Total Extent (Acres)
Krishnagiri	Uddanapalli	8	Melagiri	P1	10.20
	Kollatti	9	Kollatti	P1	868.55
Salem	Salem	10	Yercaud	P2	5.96
Erode	Talavady	11	Hassanur	P2	9.00
	Madhahally	12	Madhahally	P1	785.29
Thiruvannamalai	Thiruvannamalai	13	Athanavoor	P1	5.73
Namakkal	Namakkal	14	Kolli Hills	P1	13.10
Theni	Theni	15	Mayiladumparai	P2	10.00
Thirunelveli	Tenkasi	16	Shencottah	P1	42.24
The Nilgiris	Coonoor	17	Coonoor	P3	25.25
		18	Masinagudi	P2	8.35
		19	Masakkal	P2	18.95

5.3 Grainages

The silkworm egg production centers are called as Grainages. The silkworm eggs required for the State are produced in 11 State Government Grainages and 3 Central Government owned National Silkworm Seed Organization (NSSO) Grainages. The Government Grainages at Krishnagiri, Hosur and Coimbatore are producing Bivoltine silkworm eggs also.

Grainages

District	Assistant Director	Sl. No	Name of the Grainage	State Govt./ NSSO *	Production Capacity (Lakhs)
Krishnagiri	Hosur (Grainage)	1	Hosur	State	14.50
		*	Hosur	NSSO	14.00
	Krishnagiri (Grainage)	2	Krishnagiri	State	9.50
Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	3	Sogathur	State	3.00
		*	Dharmapuri	NSSO	8.00
	Pennagaram	4	Pennagaram	State	3.00
Coimbatore	Coimbatore	5	Coimbatore	State	4.00
Erode	Erode	6	Erode	State	8.00
Erode	Talavady	7	Talavady	State	4.00
		8	Vaniyambadi	State	3.00
Vellore	Vaniyambadi	*	Tirupattur	NSSO	8.00
		9	Trichy	State	4.00
Dindigul	Dindigul	10	Dindigul	State	3.00
Thirunelveli	Tenkasi	11	Courtallam	State	4.00

About 6 private Grainages are also licensed to produce silkworm eggs during heavy demand seasons.

5.4 Government Silk Farms

There are 6 Government Hybrid Silk Farms (GHSF), 6 Demonstration cum Training Centres (DCTC), 5 Model Mulberry Plantations (MMP),

10 Farmers Training Centres (FTC) and 4 Chawkie Silk Farms (CSF) functioning in the State. Mulberry saplings production, chawkie worms supply, farmers training activities are carried out in these farms. There are also five (5) P3 Seed Farms, eight (8) P2 Seed Farms and six (6) P1 Seed Farms, producing seed cocoons.

Government Silk Farms

District (Location wise)	Assistant Director (Administrative Control)	SL. No.	Name of the Farm		Extent (Acres)
Krishnagiri	TNSTI, Hosur	1	Hosur	DCTC	2.18
	Krishnagiri	2	Uthangarai	GHSF	3.72
Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	3	Sitheri	GHSF	5.79
		4	Sogathur	FTC	5.84
Salem	Pennagaram	5	Papparapatty	CSF	1.81
		6	Nathakarai	FTC	14.50
		7	Maniyarkundam	GHSF	50.00
Villupuram	Salem	8	Pudur	GHSF	6.04
		9	Vellimalai	GHSF	6.56
Erode	Talavady	10	Talavady	FTC	18.01
		11	Ramapuram	CSF	3.58
Thiruppur	Udumalpet	12	Myvadi	FTC	20.10
Kancheepuram	Vaniyambadi	13	Vitthanthangal	FTC	8.05
Vellore	Vaniyambadi	14	Minnur	FTC	18.70
Thiruvanna malai	Thiruvanna malai	15	Nadanur	CSF	1.88
		16	Puliyoor	CSF	7.99
Cuddalore	Villupuram	17	Neyveli	FTC	20.00

District (Location wise)	Assistant Director (Administrative Control)	SL. No.	Name of the Farm		Extent (Acres)
Trichy	Trichy	18	Uppiliapuram	DCTC	2.60
		19	Kalingampatty	MMP	5.00
		20	Karukkamadai	MMP	2.11
		21	Pachamalai	GHSF	8.45
		22	Manikandam	FTC	10.00
Thanjavur		23	Nanjikottai	FTC	4.65
Dindigul	Dindigul	24	C.K.Pudur	MMP	4.93
Sivagangai		25	Kundrakudi	MMP	6.20
		26	O.Pudur	DCTC	10.00
Ramnad	Theni	27	Pandiyur	DCTC	4.36
Thirunelveli	Tenkasi	28	Thirunelveli	DCTC	1.88
Virudhunagar		29	Srivilliputhur	FTC	10.15
		30	Sevalur	MMP	12.00
Kanyakumari		31	Nagercoil/ Konam	DCTC	3.10

5.5 Chawkie Rearing Centres (CRCs)

The centres, wherein young silkworms are reared and supplied to Sericulturists, are called as Chawkie Rearing Centre. "Chawkie rearing" means rearing of young silkworms. Chawkie rearing is taken up with due care in hygienic separate chawkie rearing sheds. It would take 10 days from incubation of layings to rearing of silkworms upto second moult (coming out from old skin to increase the body size

due to morphological development) stage, which is the stage ready for distribution to farmers.

The layings obtained from grainages are incubated at 25°C and 80% humidity. Brushing of newly hatched silkworms is done into rearing trays followed up with feeding of finely chopped good quality mulberry leaves at proper intervals, maintaining the optimum level of temperature (27-28° C) and humidity (80-90%). It is also ensured that there is proper spacing, cleaning and care taken during moulting. Optimal usage of bed disinfectants is also undertaken.

The distribution of chawkie silkworms, instead of usual silkworm layings to the farmers facilitates assured and increased cocoon production, thereby increasing revenue to farmers, who can rear more crops as life cycle of chawkie to cocoon takes only 16 to 18 days against 25 to 27 days required for rearing usual silkworms layings to cocoons. This has become a possibility since the young silkworms are

reared in separate chawkie rearing centres maintaining the optimum level of temperature and humidity with proper hygiene. At present 32% of the layings are distributed as chawkie silkworms, which is the highest at the national level. To maintain this lead, various efforts are underway.

For the purpose of rearing chawkie silkworms and distributing the same to the farmers, there are 4 exclusive Chawkie Silk Farms and 18 Government Silk Farms under Government sector.

Chawkie Rearing Centres

Sl. No.	District (Location wise)	Assistant Director (Administrative control)	Name of the Govt. Chawkie Rearing Centre	Role
1	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri	Uthangarai	GHSF
2	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	Sogathur	FTC
3	Dharmapuri	Pennagaram	Papparapatty	CSF
4	Erode	Talavady	Ramapuram	CSF
5	Salem	Salem	Nathakarai	FTC
6	Vellore	Vaniyambadi	Minnur	FTC
7	Kancheepuram	Vaniyambadi	Vitthanthangal	FTC
8	Vellore	Thiruvannamalai	Puliyoor	CSF
9	Vellore	Thiruvannamalai	Nadanur	CSF
10	Cuddalore	Villupuram	Neyveli	FTC
11	Trichy	Trichy	Uppiliapuram	DCTC
12	Trichy	Trichy	Manikandam	FTC
13	Trichy	Trichy	Kalingampatty	MMP
14	Trichy	Trichy	Karukkamadai	MMP

Sl. No.	District (Location wise)	Assistant Director (Administrative control)	Name of the Govt. Chawkie Rearing Centre	Role
15	Thanjavur	Trichy	Nanjikottai	FTC
16	Dindigul	Dindigul	C.K.Pudur	MMP
17	Sivagangai	Dindigul	O.Pudur	DCTC
18	Ramnad	Theni	Pandiyur	DCTC
19	Thirunelveli	Tenkasi	Thirunelveli @ V.M.Chatram	DCTC
20	Virudhunagar	Tenkasi	Sevalur	MMP
21	Virudhunagar	Tenkasi	Srivilliputhur	FTC
22	Kanyakumari	Tenkasi	Nagercoil @ Konam	DCTC

Apart from these, 22 macro-level Chawkie Rearing Centres under private sector are also functioning in the State. In view of the increasing demand for the chawkie worms, 10 micro-level Chawkie Rearing Centres were established in private sector, under National Agricultural Development Programme (NADP) assistance.

100 micro-level Chawkie Rearing Centres under private sector were established during the year 2012-2013. These have been further strengthened as specialized units for dissemination of latest technologies in Sericulture to the Sericulturists.



Silk Moth – Egg Laying



Chawkie (Young) Silkworm Rearing

5.6 Government Cocoon Markets

In the 3 seed cocoon markets at Hosur, Denkanikottai and Coimbatore, local and bivoltine seed cocoons are traded. Seed cocoons are sold by the seed rearers. Seed cocoons are procured and used for production of commercial silkworm layings, by the Graineurs.

In addition to these, 19 commercial cocoon markets are functioning in the State for the transaction of reeling cocoons brought by farmers. Floor price for reeling cocoon is fixed by the committee consisting of marketing officer and other stakeholders based on the quality of cocoons. Private reelers and Government units are allowed to procure the cocoons in open auction.

Government Cocoon Markets

District	Assistant Director	Sl. No.	Name of the Cocoon Markets	
Krishnagiri	Avalapalli	1	Hosur	Seed
	Hosur	2	Hosur	Reeling
	Denkanikottai	3	Denkanikottai	Seed
	Krishnagiri	4	Krishnagiri	Reeling

District	Assistant Director	Sl. No.	Name of the Cocoon Markets	
Dharmapuri	Pennagaram	5	Pennagaram, Palacodu	Reeling
	Dharmapuri	6	Dharmapuri	Reeling
Salem	Salem	7	Salem	Reeling
Coimbatore	Coimbatore	8	Coimbatore	Seed
		9	Coimbatore	Reeling
Erode	Talavady	10	Talavady	Reeling
	Erode	11	Erode	Reeling
Thiruppur	Udumalpet	12	Udumalpet	Reeling
Vellore	Vaniyambadi	13	Vaniyambadi	Reeling
Trichy	Trichy	14	Trichy	Reeling
Pudukottai	Trichy	15	Pudukottai	Reeling
Dindigul	Dindigul	16	Dindigul	Reeling
		17	Palani @ C.K.Pudur	Reeling
Sivagangai		18	Sivagangai	Reeling
Theni	Theni	19	Theni	Reeling
Thirunelveli	Tenkasi	20	Nannagaram	Reeling
Virudhunagar		21	Srivilliputhur	Reeling
Kanyakumari		22	Nagercoil	Reeling

5.7 Government Silk Reeling / Twisting Units

To support the post cocoon activities, Department is operating 8 Silk Reeling Units and 3 Silk Twisting Units as model units for new entrepreneurs to learn the trade.



Cocoon Market at Dharmapuri



Multi-End Reeling Unit at Dharmapuri

Government Silk Reeling & Twisting Units

District (Locationwise)	Assistant Director (Administrative control)	Sl. No.	Name of the Unit	
Krishnagiri	Hosur	1	Hosur	Reeling
		2	Hosur	Twisting
Salem	Salem	3	Salem	Reeling
Salem	Salem	4	Salem	Twisting
Erode	Talavady	5	Talavady	Reeling
Vellore	Vaniyambadi	6	Vaniyambadi	Reeling
Tirunelveli	Tenkasi	7	Nannagaram	Reeling
		8	Nannagaram	Twisting
Kanyakumari	Tenkasi	9	Konam	Reeling
Sivagangai	Dindigul	10	Sivagangai	Reeling
Pudukottai	Trichy	11	Pudukottai	Reeling

5.8 Tamil Nadu Sericulture Training Institute, Hosur

To impart refresher training to the field level functionaries in the department, newly recruited Junior Inspectors and to train new farmers and reelers, a Sericulture Training Institute is functioning at Hosur, with all facilities.

This Institute also publishes 'Pattu Malar', a monthly magazine of the Department of Sericulture, which helps to disseminate the latest information and

recent developments in Sericulture sector to the Sericulturists.

5.9 Government Anna Silk Exchange, Kancheepuram

A Silk Exchange is functioning from 1991 to provide competitive marketing opportunities for raw silk produced by the reelers in the State, at Kancheepuram. All the silk lots brought to this Exchange for marketing, are tested for quality and based on the quality, the floor price is fixed. The Tamilnadu Silk Producers Cooperative Federation Limited (TANSILK), Master Weavers and Twisters participate in the open auction and purchase the raw silk. The Silk Exchange makes spot payment through Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) to the reelers for the raw silk transacted at this centre. Anna Silk Exchange provides a platform for direct transaction between the raw silk producers and the consumers and has successfully eliminated the role of middlemen.



Silk Twisting Unit at Salem



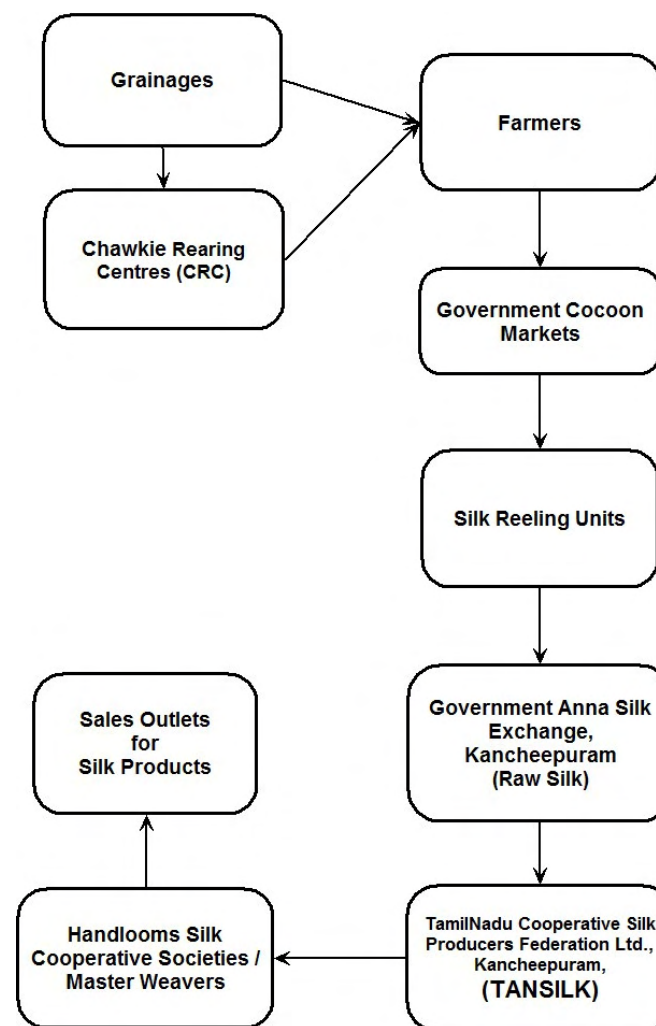
Silk auction at Anna Silk Exchange, Kancheepuram

5.10 TANSILK, Kancheepuram

“Tamilnadu Silk Producers Co-operative Federation Limited” (TANSILK), an apex body of silk co-operative societies, is functioning since the year 1978, with headquarters at Kancheepuram. This federation procures bulk quantity of raw silk from the Anna Silk Exchange, Kancheepuram. It has branches at Arani, Coimbatore, Erode, Kancheepuram, Kumbakonam and Salem. Silk Reelers, Twisters & Weavers’ Co-operative Societies are its members.

TANSILK supplies twisted silk at fair price to Silk Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies, Tamilnadu Khadi and Village Industries Board and the certified institutions like Sarvodaya Sanghs. The twisted silk purchased from here, is woven into silk sarees, dhoties and other materials and sold through Tamilnadu Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society (Co-optex), Handloom Co-operative Societies’ showrooms and private outlets.

6. Flow Chart of Sericulture Activities



7. Mulberry Cultivation In Tamil Nadu

About 6,000 acres have been brought under mulberry additionally during the year 2013-2014, against the target of 5,000 acres.

During the year 2014-2015, additionally 5,000 acres are proposed to be brought under mulberry cultivation.

8. Bivoltine / Cross Breed Silk production

The filament length of a cross breed cocoon is 700-800 meters. The cross breed cocoons have high renditta, lower cocoon-shell weight, lower cocoon-shell ratio and lower fibre quality. Hence, the raw silk produced from the cross breed cocoons is of comparatively lesser quality. Due to this, it is not used in powerlooms. In order to overcome these limitations, the bivoltine hybrids have been evolved. The filament length of the bivoltine cocoon is 1,000 to 1,500 meters. Bivoltine silk can be used for powerloom, since its tenacity and elongation are better than the yellow silk. The silk imported from China is bivoltine silk. Central Silk Board is giving

thrust to encourage production of bivoltine silk, so as to reduce the dependency on Chinese silk.

1,120.16 metric tonnes of raw silk was produced during the year 2013-2014. Out of this, 710.63 metric tonnes were of bivoltine silk and remaining 409.53 metric tonnes were of cross breed silk. **Tamil Nadu is one of the leading States in India**, in terms of bivoltine silk production.

9. Crop Insurance

Silkworm is a cold blooded species, which is more susceptible for diseases due to microbes and climatic vagaries. It has predators, and some pests may attack silkworms for food and other reasons, which may lead to crop-loss. To avoid this and with a view to encourage farmers to take up silkworm rearing, a scheme has been introduced, to provide Crop Insurance to Sericulture Farmers. 90% of premium is being provided to Sericulturists under this scheme. About Rs.350/- is paid as premium per 150

layings reared, benefiting 10,000 farmers. The Insurance Company will provide compensation to Sericulturists in case of crop-loss, based on the age of silkworm at the time of the loss.

10. Health Insurance

The scheme “Health insurance cover for Sericulture Farmers and Workers” is implemented to provide social security measures to Sericulturists and their family members. Through this, the families of the beneficiaries can avail medical treatment in empanelled hospitals. Annual coverage limit per family is Rs.20,000/-, which includes outpatient and inpatient treatment. Premium under this scheme is Rs.1000/- per Sericulturist. A sum of Rs.50/- is borne by the beneficiary and the balance 95% is borne by the Government.

11. Achievements

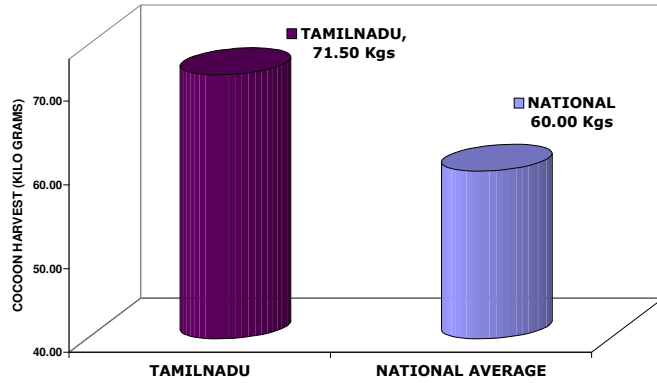
Tamil Nadu stands 1st in the Country in the following aspects:-

- Average Cocoon Productivity per 100 silkworm layings is 71.50 Kg.
- 32% of layings are distributed as chawkie worms to the farmers.
- Cluster Promotion Programme.
- 63.45% of total production is Bivoltine silk and Tamil Nadu continues to be one of the leading States in Bivoltine silk production.

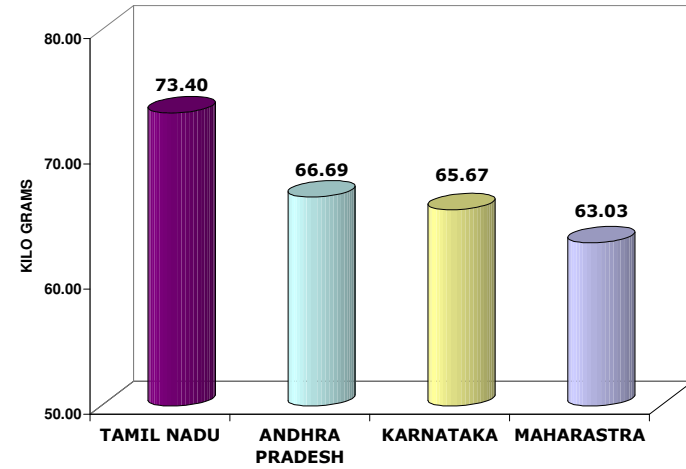
12. Financial Allocation

During the year 2013-2014, Sericulture development schemes were sanctioned to the tune of Rs. 3,129.36 Lakhs as detailed below:-

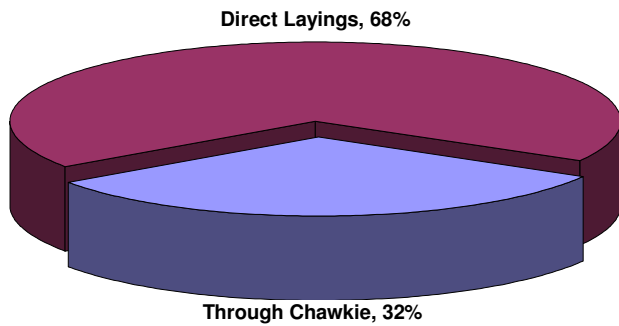
Source of funds	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
Central Silk Board's share	1,337.84
State Government share	839.44
Beneficiaries' share	952.08
Total	3,129.36



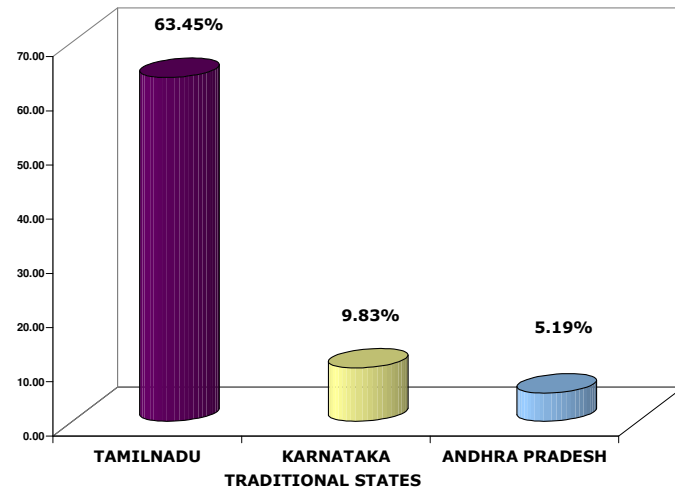
COCOON PRODUCTIVITY PER 100 LAYINGS



COCOON YIELD PER 100 LAYINGS IN CLUSTER AREAS



CHAWKIE (YOUNG) WORM DISTRIBUTION



BIVOLTINE SILK PRODUCTION PERCENTAGE (OUT OF TOTAL SILK PRODUCTION)

Apart from the above, additional schemes for the year 2013-2014 have also been approved by the Central Silk Board, as below:-

Source of funds	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
Central Silk Board's share	304.80
State Government share	422.13
Beneficiaries' share	377.58
Total	1,104.51

13. Schemes for the year 2014-2015 under Catalytic Development Programme

Department will continue to implement Catalytic Development Programme during 2014-2015. The major components under Catalytic Development Programme and sharing pattern amongst Government of India, State Government and beneficiaries are illustrated below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme / Component	CDP : 2014-2015 : APPROVED BY CSB				
		Unit	Unit Cost (Rupees)	Fund sharing (Rupees)		
				CSB	State	Beneficiary
I Packages for Seed Sector						
1	Support for upgrading existing Seed /Grainage Units under Mulberry Sector	No. of Units	3,50,000 Lump sum	1,75,000 (50%)	1,75,000 (50%)	
II Packages for Cocoon Sector						
1	Support for Mulberry Plantation Development:	Acres	14,000	7,000 (50%)	3,500 (25%)	3,500 (25%)
2	Supply of Quality Disinfectants	Farmers	5,000.00	2,500 (50%)	1,250 (25%)	1,250 (25%)
3	Drip Irrigation	Acres	30,000	15,000 (50%)	15,000 (50%)	
4	Rearing Appliances	Nos	70,000	35,000 (50%)	17,500 (25%)	17,500 (25%)
5 a)	Rearing Shed Level-1 (above 1500 sq.ft.)	Nos	2,75,000	27,500 (10%)	55,000 (20%)	1,92,500 (70%)
b)	Rearing Shed Level-2 (1000 - 1500 sq.ft.)	Nos	1,75,000	35,000 (20%)	52,500 (30%)	87,500 (50%)
c)	Rearing Shed Level-3 (700 - 1000 Sq.ft.)	Nos	90,000	31,500 (35%)	31,500 (35%)	27,000 (30%)
6	PRIVATE Chawkie Rearing Centres	Nos.	6,00,000	2,10,000 (35%)	2,10,000 (35%)	1,80,000 (30%)
7	Assistance for Sericulture Poly Clinic	Nos.	3,00,000	1,50,000 (50%)	75,000 (25%)	75,000 (25%)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme / Component	CDP : 2014-2015 : APPROVED BY CSB				
		Unit	Unit Cost (Rupees)	Fund sharing (Rupees)		
				CSB	State	Beneficiary
III Package for Post Cocoon Sector						
i) Silk Reeling & Spinning Components						
1	Support for establishment of Certified Multi-end Reeling Machines (10 ends per Basin) PRIVATE REELERS	10 Basins	14,05,000	7,02,500 (50%)	5,62,000 (40%)	1,40,500 (10%)
2	Incentive for production of Bivoltine Silk Gradable silk	Kg	100	50 (50%)	50 (50%)	
3	Assistance for Twisting Units	400 Spindles	7,86,000	5,89,500 (75%)		1,96,500 (25%)
ii) Silk Weaving Components						
1	Loom Up gradation	Nos.	15,000	7,500 (50%)	3,750 (25%)	3,750 (25%)
2	Computer Aided Textile Designing (CATD)	Nos.	3,96,000	1,98,000 (50%)	99,000 (25%)	99,000 (25%)
IV Support Services Sector						
1	Beneficiary Empowerment Programme					
a)	Training to Farmers at TNSTI, Hosur	Nos.	5,000	2,500 (50%)	2,500 (50%)	
b)	Training to Silk Reelers	Nos.	5,000	2,500 (50%)	2,500 (50%)	

2	Health Insurance Coverage for Sericulturists / Workers	Families	1,000	760	190	50
3	Crop Insurance Support (For all Sectors)	1 Laying	5	2.50 (50%)	2.00 (40%)	0.50 (10%)

13.1 Innovative Schemes

The Catalytic Development Programme with specific schemes & pre-defined unit-costs approved by the Central Silk Board (Ministry of Textiles, Government of India) is being implemented through out the country. Now, during XII Five Year Plan period, Central Silk Board has also permitted schemes under flexi-fund. Schemes formulated by the State Governments to cater to their State specific requirements, which have not been included in regular Catalytic Development Programme can be taken up to improve the quality of product, strengthen extension activities, enhance efficiency in delivery and services to the Sericulturists.

The following innovative schemes have been approved for TamilNadu during 2013-2014.

13.1(a) Assistance for Transportation for Bivoltine Hybrid Layings and Chawkie Silkworms

At present around 32% of the total layings distributed to the farmers are supplied as Chawkie. 22 private Macro Chawkie Rearing Centres and 110 Micro Chawkie Rearing Centres established during the previous years are engaged in the distribution of chawkie worms to the farmers. Majority of these centres supply only Bivoltine Hybrid layings to the farmers. The work load of the farmers is very much reduced by the Chawkie Rearing Centres. The Chawkie charges levied to the farmers is between Rs.1,000 and Rs.2,000 per 100 layings, excluding layings cost. Thus, Farmers are paying chawkie charges upto the extent of Rs.2,000 per 100 layings to the Chawkie Rearing Centres. If some financial assistance is provided to the Chawkie Rearing Centres, they will charge less amount from the

farmers, while supplying chawkie worms. It will also help in increasing the chawkie rearing concept among farmers and ultimately increase quality of silk and income at the hands of Farmers.

With the above objectives, a sum of Rs.100/- is being provided as layings transportation charges and Rs.500/- is being provided towards chawkie transportation charges. Thus, a sum of Rs.600/- is being provided as incentive for 100 layings. It is expected that around 30 Lakhs layings will be supplied through the Chawkie Rearing Centres every year. Out of the total requirement of Rs.180.00 Lakhs for this scheme, Central Silk Board has sanctioned Rs.54.00 Lakhs as its 30% share and State Government have sanctioned Rs.126.00 Lakhs as its 70% share under this scheme.

Sl. No	Item	Layings (Lakhs)	Assistance @ (Rupees)	(Rs. in Lakhs)		
				CSB Share @ 30%	State share @ 70%	Total Amount
1	Assistance for transportation of Bivoltine Hybrid layings	30.00	100	9.00	21.00	30.00
2	Assistance for transportation of Bivoltine Hybrid Chawkie Silkworms and incentive for service charges		500	45.00	105.00	150.00
	Total	30.00	600	54.00	126.00	180.00

13.1(b) Assistance for Renovation of Roof of Thatched Silkworm Rearing Sheds

The Catalytic Development Programme is under implementation in the State since IX Five Year Plan period. About 8,300 silkworm rearing sheds have been constructed by availing assistance under the Catalytic Development Programme up to XI Five Year Plan period. Only after introduction of Catalytic Development Programme, Sericulture Farmers were able to construct pucca rearing sheds.

It is only after the construction of separate silkworm rearing sheds, farmers were able to produce quality and quantity cocoons. During the earlier Plan Periods, the assistance provided for silkworm rearing sheds was very less. The maximum assistance provided for Level-I shed was Rs.25,000/- only. The farmers had constructed economical sheds for conducting silkworm rearing. However, the assistance provided for Level-I shed has now been increased to Rs. 82,500/-.

Traditional farmers in the areas of Erode, Gobichettipalayam, Coimbatore, Udumalpet, Dindigul and other parts are continuously requesting to provide assistance for renovation of thatched roof of their rearing sheds constructed during the previous years as these roofs are severely damaged and hence could not be used for silkworm rearing.

The farmers will be able to continue silkworm rearing in these renovated rearing sheds and

produce cocoons with superior quality and quantity, if such assistance is provided.

Assistance will be provided to 470 farmers who are doing sericulture activities continuously without any break. The details of assistance to be provided to farmers are as follows:-

Sl. No	Unit	Nos	Unit cost Rs.	Rs. in Lakhs			
				CSB share 30%	State share 35 %	Beneficiaries share 35 %	Total Cost
1	Level – I	170	75,000	38.250	44.625	44.625	127.500
2	Level – II	230	50,000	34.500	40.250	40.250	115.000
3	Level – III	70	35,000	7.350	8.575	8.575	24.500
	Total	470		80.100	93.450	93.450	267.000

The total requirement of funds is Rs.267.00 Lakhs, out of which 30% Central Silk Board share of Rs.80.10 Lakhs has already been sanctioned. The State Government have also sanctioned Rs.93.45 Lakhs as State share.

13.1(c) Developing three Community Based Organizations in the State

Cluster Promotion Programme for the promotion of Bivoltine silk production is under implementation in 28 clusters in Tamilnadu State. In order to promote 'Group Concept' among Sericulturists, it is proposed to develop 3 community based organization (@ one community based organization in one cluster) in the State, on experimental basis.

The objective of developing the Community Based Organization is to resolve major gaps in Sericulture Industry like dissemination of new findings and technology, popularisation of bivoltine silk, training, extension, synchronizing the various activities of Sericulture to produce quality cocoons and credit facilitation. It is expected that this Community Based Organization system would supplement the Government system in the above activities, at field level.

In each Community Based Organization, it is proposed to form 10 Sericulture Cluster Groups. A minimum of 20 Sericulturists will constitute Sericulture Cluster Group. One member of the Sericulture Cluster Group will be motivated to function as 'Village Level Service Provider'. Each Community Based Organization with 10 Sericulture Cluster Groups will have a Cluster Level Association having 10 members representing 10 Sericulture Cluster Groups. Therefore, it is proposed to establish 3 Community Based Organizations with 30 Sericulture Cluster Groups (each having 20 sericulturists) under 3 Cluster Level Associations.

The Central Silk Board has approved and sanctioned Rs.61.69 Lakhs for 3 years under Catalytic Development Programme and already released the first year share of Rs.30.24 Lakhs, for the development of 3 Community Based Organizations in the State in the first phase. The State Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs.22.296 Lakhs as its matching share.

13.2 Additional Schemes

Based on the proposal of the Director of Sericulture, the following additional scheme have also been approved by Central Silk Board.

13.2(a) Revolving Fund to Grainages

Out of 11 Grainages in the State, 8 grainages at Hosur, Krishnagiri, Vaniyambadi, Coimbatore, Trichy, Tenkasi, Dharmapuri and Erode are functional at present.

As working capital plays an important role in the functioning of the Grainages (for procurement of Seed Cocoons and transportation) revolving fund support is very essential for the eight Grainages. A sum of Rs.40.00 Lakhs is proposed as Revolving Fund, for all the 8 Grainages @ Rs.5.00 Lakhs per Grainage. The Central Silk Board has released its 50% share of Rs.20.00 Lakhs under Catalytic Development Programme. The State Government have also sanctioned Rs.20.00 Lakhs as its 50% share.

Sl. No.	Name of the Grainage	Layings production entrusted	Rs. in Lakhs		
			Central Silk Board share@ 50%	State share @ 50%	Total
1.	Hosur	ICB & BVH	2.50	2.50	5.00
2.	Krishnagiri	BVH	2.50	2.50	5.00
3.	Vaniyambadi	ICB	2.50	2.50	5.00
4.	Coimbatore	BVH	2.50	2.50	5.00
5.	Trichy	ICB	2.50	2.50	5.00
6.	Tenkasi	ICB	2.50	2.50	5.00
7.	Dharmapuri	ICB	2.50	2.50	5.00
8.	Erode	ICB	2.50	2.50	5.00
		Total	20.00	20.00	40.00
(ICB: Improved Cross Breed & BVH: Bivoltine Hybrid)					

13.2(b) Repair to Multi-end Reeling units established during 10th Five Year Plan Period

As per XII Five year plan guidelines, Central Silk Board has introduced a scheme to assist the Multi-end silk reeling units already established during IX and X five year Plans for the procurement of equipments like Boiler and Generator and also for reconditioning of the equipments available in the units.

This assistance is extended to 9 Multi-end Silk Reeling Units, to increase the efficiency and productivity of these units. The Central Silk Board

has sanctioned the scheme under Catalytic Development Programme as follows:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme / Component	Unit Cost (Rupees)	Units	Fund sharing [Rs. in Lakhs]			TOTAL Cost
				CSB (50%)	State (25%)	Beneficiary (25%)	
a)	Boiler (100 Kg Capacity)	1,76,500	8 Nos	7.060	3.530	3.530	14.120
b)	Generator (5 KVA Capacity)	86,254	8 Nos	3.450	1.725	1.725	6.900
c)	Reconditioning of Equipments	1,00,000	9 Nos	4.500	2.250	2.250	9.000
Total				15.010	7.505	7.505	30.020

13.2(c) Providing Incentive for Production of Bivoltine Silk

To promote consumption of more quantity of locally produced gradable bivoltine silk and to save precious Foreign Exchange by replacing imported Chinese Silk, the Government have initiated number of steps to strengthen the hands of the reelers / twisters. Necessary training is being imparted to reeling workers deputed by the entrepreneurs. To establish certified multi-end reeling machines with 10 basins 90% of cost is provided by Government as

subsidy. Similarly, to establish silk twisting units 75% of the cost is provided as subsidy.

To strengthen the reeling units, Rs.100/- is being provided as incentive, per kilogram of Bivoltine Silk produced and marketed in Government Anna Silk Exchange, Kancheepuram, to the concerned reeler. In addition to that, Rs.50/- per kilogram of bivoltine silk is being provided to the reelers, from 2013-2014 for production of gradable silk, i.e., above 2A grade, which is suitable for powerloom weaving.

13.3 Convergence of Sericulture activities with MGNREGA

In order to dovetail various schemes, Department of Sericulture is working continuously with various other Government Departments, such as Rural Development & Agricultural Department. Based on the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Department got approval of establishing 50 Farm-Ponds in various Government silk farms by utilizing funds of 'Mahatma Gandhi National Rural

Employment Guarantee Scheme' (MGNREGA) for rain water harvesting during 2013-2014.

Likewise, in order to improve 'Green Cover' it is essential to take up tree plantation activities in the Government Silk farms. During the year 2014-2015, by converging activities under MGNREGA, it is programmed to plant 43,500 mulberry trees and 4,000 other trees in 37 Government Silk Farms. By promoting development activities under MGNREGA in Government Silk Farms, it is also planned to produce 30.00 lakhs mulberry saplings for distribution to the farmers during the year 2014-2015.

13.4 Western Ghats Development Programme

Sericulture is taken up in Coimbatore, Dindigul, Theni, Virudhunagar, Thirunelveli & Kanyakumari districts under Western Ghats Development Programme.

During the year 2014-2015, it is proposed to upgrade and strengthen the existing Government units, which are functioning as pilot centres in the

above Western Ghats belt districts. The works will be finalised and recommended by the District Committees headed by District Collectors of concerned Districts.

13.5 Hill Area Development Programme

Sericulture is taken up in the Nilgiris district under Hill Area Development Programme. During the year 2014-2015, it is proposed to support the farmers to take up sericulture and to upgrade and strengthen the existing Government units, which are functioning as pilot centres in the Nilgiris district. The works will be finalised and recommended by the District Collector / Project Director, HADP, Udagamandalam.

14. Strategy for further promotion of Sericulture activities in Tamil Nadu

14.1 Pre-Cocoon Sector

- (a) Conducting awareness programme at Technical Service Centres to motivate new Farmers to take up Sericulture.

- (b) Ensure supply of quality, high yielding mulberry varieties to Farmers.
- (c) Imparting training on mulberry cultivation and silkworm rearing.
- (d) Assured supply of disease free silkworm eggs to Farmers.
- (e) Providing technical and subsidy assistance to the Sericulture Farmers.
- (f) Providing market facilities to the farmers for transacting cocoons produced by them.
- (g) Providing crop and health insurance coverage for social security of Sericulture Farmers.
- (h) Strengthening of infrastructural facilities of the units, viz., Basic Seed Farms, Chawkie Rearing Centres and Cocoon Markets.

14.2 Post-Cocoon Sector

In order to strengthen the post cocoon sector in Tamilnadu, the following multi-pronged strategy is being adopted:

- (a) Establishment of new reeling units.

- (b) Strengthening the infrastructure at existing units.
- (c) Providing assistance for installation of new twisting units.
- (d) Assistance for Loom up-gradation.
- (e) Providing assistance and training for Computer Aided Textile Designing (CATD).
- (f) Provision of increased incentive to bivoltine silk produced in automatic and multi-end reeling units.
- (g) Training to reeling entrepreneurs and workers.
- (h) Revival of closed silk reeling units in Government, Co-operative and Private sectors.
- (i) Replacing the conventional cottage basin silk reeling machineries with the improved multi-end reeling machineries in the Government as well as private silk reeling units.

15. Budget Provision for the year 2014-2015

The fund allocations made to the Department of Sericulture in Budget Estimate 2014-2015 for Plan and Non-Plan schemes, is given as below:-

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme	Outlay for 2014-2015 (Rs. in Lakhs)
I	PLAN SCHEMES	
	a) 1) Development Programmes under Sericulture Development and Price Stabilization Fund (SD&PSF)	100.00
	2) Sericulture Development and Price Stabilization Fund (Inter-account transfer)	160.88
		260.88
	b) New Schemes	1,319.96
c)	Western Ghats Development Programme	0.01
d)	Hill Area Development Programme	0.01
	PLAN SCHEMES Total	1,580.86
II	NON – PLAN SCHEMES	
	Maintenance of Government units, Salary, Wages, etc.,	5,080.06
Grand Total (PLAN + Non-PLAN)		6,660.92

THE TAMILNADU HANDICRAFTS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD

The Tamilnadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited, popularly known as “Poompuhar” was incorporated as a Public Limited Company on 26.07.1973 and commenced its business from 01.08.1973 to upgrade the standard of living of artisans of Tamilnadu. The main objectives of the Corporation are detailed below:-

- To provide marketing services for the artisans of Tamilnadu.
- To upgrade the skills of artisans by imparting appropriate training.
- To improve the productivity of artisans.
- To improve the quality of handicrafts produced.
- To minimize the drudgery involved in the production process.
- To minimize / eliminate occupational hazards.
- To encourage innovation in designing.
- To provide socio-economic security for crafts.

2. Sales

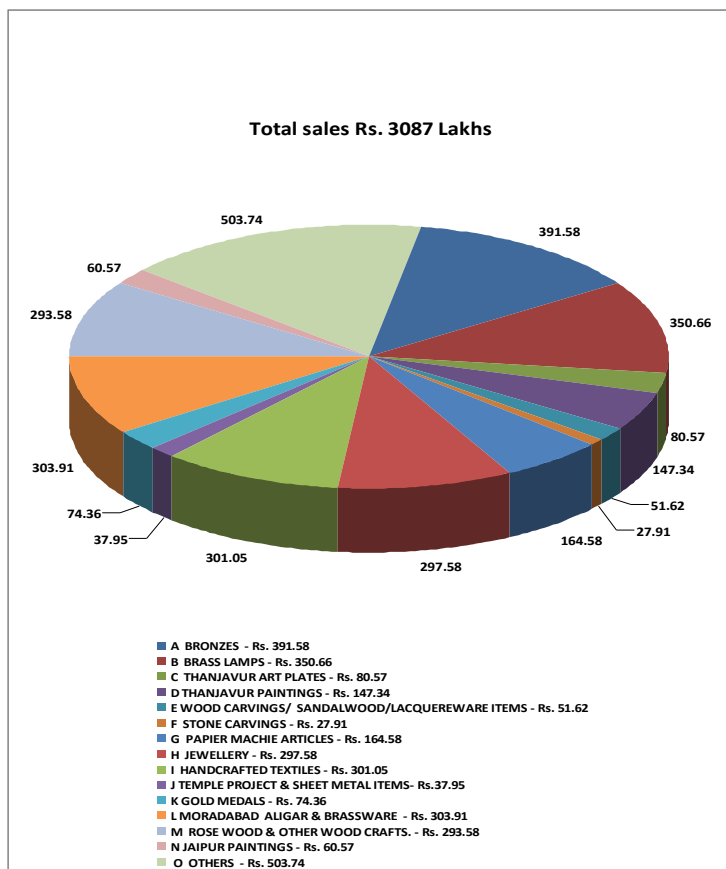
The Corporation provides marketing assistance to craft persons by selling their products through its 14 showrooms (11 within Tamilnadu and 3 in other States at Bengaluru, Kolkata and New Delhi). It also conducts sales exhibitions at different places of the country and also abroad throughout the year.

2.1 Sales Turnover

At the time of the formation, the annual turnover of the Corporation was Rs.50.00 lakhs only. The Corporation has shown tremendous growth during the past forty one years. It has achieved a turnover of Rs.30.87 crores during the year 2013-2014. **This is the highest ever sales turnover achieved by Poompuhar.**

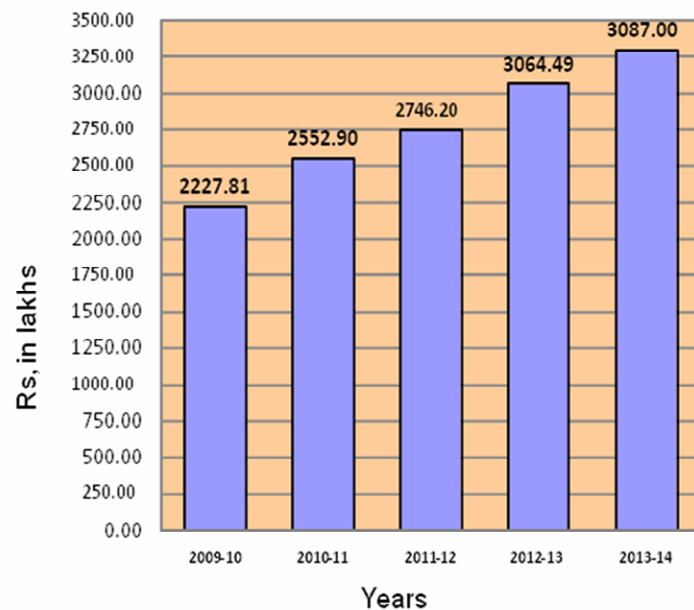
The sale of important craft items of Tamilnadu viz., Bronze Icons, Brass Lamps, Thanjavur Paintings, Wood Carvings and Stone Carvings mainly contribute to Poompuhar’s annual sales turnover.

2.2 Craftwise Details of Sales During 2013-14



2.3 Sales During the Last Five Years

The sales turnover of the Corporation during the last five years are as follows:-



3. Exhibitions

In order to find additional marketing avenues for the artisans, Poompuhar conducts sales exhibitions throughout the year within and outside the country. The number of exhibitions conducted during the year 2013-2014 has increased to 255 when compared to 226 exhibitions conducted during the year 2012-2013.

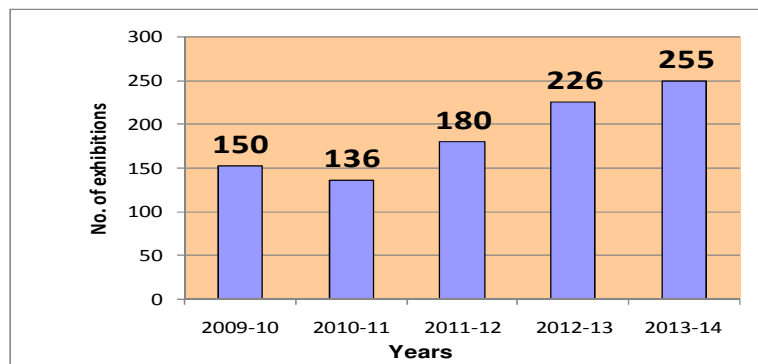
This is the highest number of exhibitions conducted in a year by Poompuhar.

Out of 255 exhibitions, 42 exhibitions were conducted outside the State. These exhibitions yielded sales of Rs.1223.00 lakhs in the year 2013-2014.

Poompuhar is conducting exhibitions at places like New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, Lucknow, Cochin, Chandigarh, Bhopal and Indore during the festival seasons of Vinayaga Chathurthi, Durga-Pooja, Deepavali & Dashara.



Bronze - Sivakami



4. Promoting Sale of Tamil Nadu’s Handicrafts outside the State and Country by Providing Cash Assistance to Artisans

Many artisans of Tamil Nadu prefer to participate in crafts exhibitions held outside Tamil Nadu and outside the country to market their products but are unable to do so because of the expenses involved. Artisans are therefore given cash assistance. This assistance is provided to meet the travelling, accommodation and other miscellaneous expenses involved in participating in the exhibitions.

Each artisan is provided with a sum of upto Rs.25,000/- for participating in exhibitions outside the State and upto Rs.50,000/- for participating in exhibitions outside the country. Total cost of the scheme for the year 2013-2014 is Rs.50.00 lakhs.

5. Exports

The Corporation exports traditional handicraft items to Singapore, Malaysia, United Kingdom and United States of America. Bronze Icons, Brass Ornamental Lamps, Rosewood Furniture and Thanjavur Paintings are some of the important handicraft items exported to these countries.

6. Showrooms

Tamilnadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd., has 14 showrooms at the following places:-

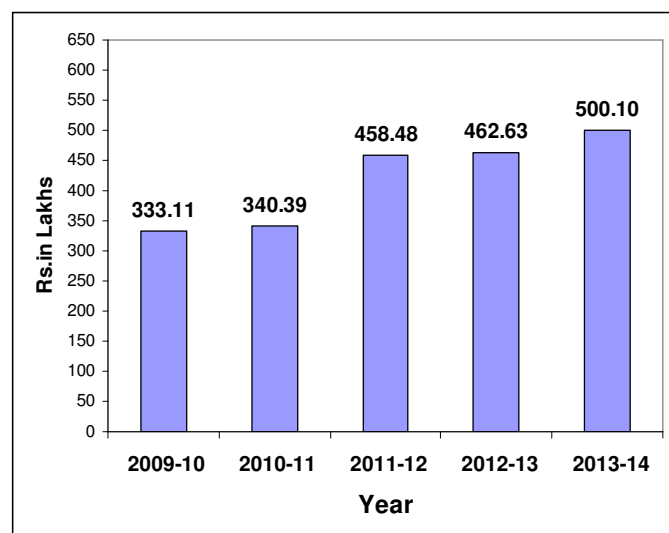
- 1.Chennai, 2.New Delhi, 3.Bengaluru, 4.Kolkata,
- 5.Coimbatore, 6.Erode, 7.Salem, 8.Thanjavur,
- 9.Tiruchirapalli, 10.Madurai, 11.Kanyakumari,
- 12.Kumbakonam, 13.Swamimalai & 14.Mamallapuram

7. Production

The Corporation has production centres for Bronze Icons, Brass Lamps, Thanjavur Art Plates, Stone Carvings and Wood Carvings. Training schemes are also implemented through these production centres.

During the year 2013-2014, the Corporation has achieved a record production of Rs. 500.10 lakhs.

The details of production during the last five years are furnished below:-



7.1 Production Centres

The Tamilnadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd. has 7 production centres at the following places:-

- 1.Nachiarkoil (Traditional Brass Lamp),
- 2.Madurai (Brass Lamps & Brass Artwares),
- 3.Vagaikulam (Brass Malabar Lamps & other lamps),
- 4.Swamimalai (Bronze Icons),
- 5.Thanjavur (Thanjavur Artplates),
- 6.Kallakurichi (Sandalwood Carvings) and
- 7.Mamallapuram (Stone Carvings).

Among all the State Handicrafts Development Corporations in India, the Tamilnadu Handicrafts Development Corporation is the only Corporation that has its own Production Centres for the important crafts of Tamilnadu.

7.2 Special Projects

The Tamilnadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited had executed the work of supplying Brass Iron Boxes to the Most Backward and Denotified Communities Welfare Department

and the Adi Dravidar & Tribal Welfare Department under the free distribution scheme at a cost of Rs.98.00 lakhs. 2432 Brass Iron Boxes were produced during the year 2013-2014.

8. Financial Performance

The Corporation earned a net profit of Rs.84.02 lakhs (unaudited) during the year 2013-2014 as against a net profit of Rs.82.82 lakhs in the previous year. The sales, production and net profit figures for the past 5 years is given below:-

Year	Sales	Production	Profit
	(Rs. in lakhs)		
2009-10	2227.81	333.11	25.22
2010-11	2552.90	340.39	37.37
2011-12	2746.20	458.48	49.88
2012-13	3064.49	462.63	82.82
2013-14	3087.00	500.10	84.02 (unaudited)

9. Strengthening of Human Resources

With a view to strengthen the human resources of the Corporation, the Corporation has recruited 59 personnel in different cadres. Due to

this timely action, the Corporation is now functioning successfully in all aspects like sales, production and administration.

10. Welfare of Artisans

10.1 Providing Employment to Artisans

- The Corporation provides direct employment to artisans in its production units.
- The Corporation also employs a number of artisans for its special projects.

10.2 Increase in the Piece Rate Wages for Poompuhar Artisans

During the year 2011-2012 the Corporation had enhanced the wages by 100% to its artisans in its production centres. By that the wage of each artisan who worked full time increased to Rs.15000-Rs.20000 per month.

A further increase in wages to the extent of 50% was given with effect from 01.10.2013 to the artisans in the Production Centres of the Corporation.

The wages of artisans working in the private sector units have also increased considerably because of such action initiated by this Corporation. This is an indirect way the Corporation has facilitated the welfare of the Tamil Nadu artisans.

This has also facilitated increase in productivity and profitability.

11. Developing a New Generation of Artisans through Training

The Corporation regularly conducts training programmes in the crafts of Tamilnadu to create a new generation of artisans. The Government of Tamilnadu has given an assistance of Rs.20.00 lakhs for the following three training programmes during 2012-2013:-

11.1 A three year training scheme in the production of Bronze Icons at Poompuhar Art Metal Production Centre, Swamimalai.

11.2 A two year training scheme in the production of Brass Lamps at Poompuhar Brass & Bellmetal Production Centre, Nachiarkoil and

11.3 A one year training scheme in the production of Thanjavur Artplates at Poompuhar Artplate Production Centre, Thanjavur exclusively for women.

The following three training programmes have been implemented from 2013-2014:-

11.4 Training is being given to 6 persons at Swamimalai, a traditional centre under the Gurukulam system for Bronze Icon making for 3 years at a cost of Rs.30.00 lakhs. This training programme is funded by the Government of Tamilnadu.

11.5 Thanjavur paintings have a unique identity in the cultural heritage of Tamilnadu. However this craft was slowly languishing with hardly any new craftsmen. Steps taken by the Government during the year 1980-1981 revived the art to some extent.

In order to further popularise this craft, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced a one year training scheme at Srirangam, Tiruchirapalli District for 100 women. The focus of the training is to replicate pictures of deities in temples of Tiruchirapalli and Thanjavur districts.

During the training, course material, and a stipend of Rs.2000/- p.m is being given to the trainees. On completion of the training a certificate will be issued to the successful trainees. Funds to the tune of Rs.83.00 lakhs have been provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The training programme is in progress.

11.6 The traditional wood carvings of Tamil Nadu are in great demand both within and outside the country. This craft is being practised in Kallakurichi, Thammampatti, Arumbavur and Chinna Salem.

The number of artisans who are practising this craft has been slowly coming down over the years.



One year training in Thanjavur Painting for 100 women at Srirangam



Gen Next Competition held at Kallakurichi on 15.12.2013

By imparting training in this craft to young artisans it would be possible to ensure its sustainable development and at the same time to increase the production of wood carvings to meet its demand. It has, therefore, been decided to train 10 young persons who are interested in this craft for one year at a total cost of Rs.6.00 lakhs. The training programme is in progress.

12. Awards to Artisans

12.1 Poompuhar State Awards

Every year ten best artisans in the field who have contributed to the development of the crafts of Tamilnadu are selected and given the Poompuhar State Award, which consists of a cash prize of Rs.50,000/-, a four gram gold medal, thamirapathiram and a certificate. These state awardees are also eligible to get a monthly pension under the Government of India scheme if they are economically backward.



Hon'ble Chief Minister distributing the Poompuhar State award to an Artisan on 06.11.2013

12.2 Poompuhar District Craft Awards

The Poompuhar District Craft Award had been newly introduced in the year 2011-2012. This award consists of a cash prize of Rs.5,000/-, a silver medal and a certificate. A total of 85 awardees in 16 crafts are awarded these prizes every year. One woman in each craft is also selected to encourage woman artisans. 60 Craft persons for the year 2011-2012, 63 Craft persons for the year 2012-2013 and 76 Craft persons for the year 2013-2014 have been given these awards.

12.3 “Living Craft Treasure” – Awards

An award styled as “Living Craft Treasure Award” has been introduced in the year 2013-2014 to craftpersons of eminence who are above 65 years.

This award will be given to 10 artisans who have devoted their lives to the craft, its survival and spread.

This award consists of a cash prize of Rs.1.00 lakh, a thamirapattiram, an eight gram Gold Medal and a Certificate.

This scheme announced by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu is being implemented through the Tamilnadu Handicrafts Development Corporation from the year 2013-2014 at a cost of Rs.15.00 lakhs per year.

12.4 Gen Next Awards

In order to ensure that the traditional handicrafts of Tamil Nadu survive and are passed on to the next generation it is necessary to enthuse the youngsters in the field. In order to do this a craft competition has been introduced from the year 2013-2014 onwards for artisans below 30 years of age. 65 artisans were chosen, duly honoured and given silver medals and certificates. The competitions were conducted in 13 centres namely Chennai, Thanjavur, Nachiarcoil, Swamimalai, Madurai, Kanyakumari, Kallakurichi, Arumbavur, Vagaikulam, Pudukottai, Mamallapuram, Dindigul

and Pattamadai which are the centres of traditional crafts making it easy for the young artisans to participate in the competition.

During the year 2013-2014, 66 artisans from different crafts were honoured with a first and second prize respectively.

The Government of Tamilnadu is the only State in the country giving such a large number of awards to artisans in recognition of their services.

13. Other ongoing Schemes

13.1 Craft Museum at Chennai

The Corporation has established a craft museum at the Poompuhar Showroom, Anna Salai, Chennai at a cost of Rs. 50.00 lakhs.

13.2 Establishment of Urban Haat at Kanyakumari

The Corporation is also in the process of establishing an Urban Haat at Kanyakumari with a financial outlay of Rs.2.00 crores. The construction has been entrusted with the Public Works Department, and work is under progress.

TAMILNADU KHADI AND VILLAGE

INDUSTRIES BOARD

“If we have the ‘khadi spirit’ in us, we would surround ourselves with simplicity in every walk of life. The ‘khadi spirit’ means illimitable patience. For those who know anything about the production of khadi know how patiently the spinners and the weavers have to toil at their trade, and even so much we have patience while we are spinning ‘the thread of Swaraj’.

The ‘Khadi spirit’ means fellow-feeling with every human being on earth. It means a complete renunciation of everything that is likely to harm our fellow creatures, and if we but cultivate that spirit amongst the millions of our countrymen, what a land this India of ours would be! And the more I move about the country and the more I see the things for myself, the richer, the stronger is my faith growing in the capacity of the spinning wheel.”

“Mahatma Gandhiji”

In the campaign of spinning wheel, Gandhi believed that it provided the best means through which poor could earn a supplementary income or save money by producing their own clothes. For him it epitomized the spirit of self-reliance. He launched the spinning campaign in 1919, persuading one of his followers to offer a prize of Rs.5000 for the best design for a wheel. A simple and portable wheel was produced in the following year. Gandhian activists raised funds to have these wheels manufactured and distributed to the poor. The thread was then supplied to handloom weavers to make into a cloth Khadi. Khadi show rooms were opened to market the results, along with other Indian-made products and nationalist literature.

Keeping in view of the “Mahatma Gandhiji’s” spirit and tremendous employment opportunities in rural areas including Khadi spinning, the Tamilnadu Khadi and Village Industries Board was formed in April 1960 under the Tamilnadu Khadi and Village Industries Board Act, 1959. The Tamilnadu Khadi

and Village Industries Board is a statutory body and since its inception, it is doing yeomen service for the development of Rural Industries.

Objectives of the Board

The social objective of “providing employment”

The economic objective of “providing saleable articles” and

The wider objective of “creating self-reliance amongst the people and building up of a strong rural community spirit.

Administration

The Khadi and Village Industries Board is a statutory Board headed by Hon’ble Minister for Khadi and Village Industries, as its President and officials nominated by the Government as members. The Board is entrusted with the task of taking major policy decisions. The day to day activities are looked after by the Chief Executive Officer.

The Board’s activities are divided into two major areas i.e, Khadi and Village Industries.

1. Khadi

In Indian freedom movement “Khadi” played a vital role. Khadi brings a feeling of patriotic sense, peace, and simplicity among Indians and it is closely associated with our freedom struggle movement. Khadi stands for Indian culture and represents a way of life as well as model for economic development of Indian Villages, and create economic blockage to British. Khadi fabrics are handwoven by using charkhas from cotton to yarn which are hand spun. It is natural and durable in the tropical Indian climate as it provides cool comfort. They are comfortable to the body and does not cause any allergy or irritation and it gives humanity touch of feeling.



Rural Textile Centre at Keelapavoor, Thirunelveli District

1.1 Khadi Cotton and Polyvastra

One of the major activities of the Board, which is manufacturing Khadi and Polyester yarn and cloth, plays an important role in providing employment opportunity to rural artisans which includes spinning, weaving, washing and printing. Handspun yarn and weaving activities are mostly done by the women folks. Khadi cloth, dhotis, sarees, shirting, towels, bed sheets, bed spreads and cloth for school uniforms are produced by artisans in 107 Rural Textile centres, 41 Khadi sub centres and 9 Nepali loom centres spread over Tamil Nadu. These units engage about 20,000 artisans comprising mostly rural women and enable them to earn their livelihood. In addition, there are 68 Certified Institutions of Khadi and Village Industries Commission which undertake Khadi production and sales. During the year 2013-2014, the Board produced Khadi Cotton and Polyvastra goods worth



Nepali Loom Centre, Karunkullam, Tiruchirapalli District

of Rs.6.74 crores and the Board marketed Khadi products worth of Rs.11.18 crores.

1.2 Khadi Silk

Traditional Khadi silk sarees are produced by the 18 Khadi Silk Production Units. These evergreen traditional sarees are weaved and sold at a reasonable price having artistic design with jari. The Board also produces printed and embroidered silk sarees to cater to the taste of the consumers. The silk sarees produced by the Board with emphasis on tradition and quality are well received by the public. The Central Silk Board certified Silk Mark labels recognises the quality of the silk varieties produced by the Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board. Due to the activities of the Khadi Silk Units, employment is given to 1500 silk weavers throughout the year.

During the year 2013-2014, Khadi silk goods worth of Rs.5.08 crores were produced and Rs.7.00 crores worth of Khadi Silk goods were sold.



Silk Ladi, Kumbakonam

2. Welfare Measures for the Khadi Spinners and Weavers

2.1 Welfare Fund for the Spinners and Weavers

The Board has set up a Welfare Fund for Spinners and Weavers. Artisans contribute 12% of their wages to this fund and the Board contributes an equal share. Based on their request and availability of funds in their account, financial assistance is being given to the Spinners and Weavers during festival seasons and for education, medical and marriage expenses. The entire amount available with their account will be refunded, when they retire. In addition to the wages, 10% of the basic wages are also paid to the Spinners and Weavers by the Board as incentive.

2.2 Welfare Board for Khadi Spinners and Weavers

A Welfare Board was set up for providing welfare assistance to Spinners and Weavers of the Khadi Board as well as the Sarvodaya Sanghs. For

this purpose, the Government have provided a grant of Rupees one crore to the Board.

The following welfare assistance are given under this scheme:-

Sl. No.	Nature of Assistance	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Accident Insurance Scheme a. Accidental Death b. Accidental Disability Based on extend of Disability	1,00,000/- 10,000 to 1,00,000/-
2.	Natural Death Assistance	15,000/-
3.	Funeral expenses Assistance	2,000/-
4.	Educational Assistance:-	
	a. Girl Children Studying 10th	1,000/-
	b. 10th Passed	1,000/-
	c. Girl Children Studying 11th	1,000/-
	d. Girl Children Studying 12th	1,500/-
	e. 12th Passed	1,500/-
	f. Regular Degree Course	1,500/-
	With Hostel Facility	1,750/-
	g. Regular post Graduate Course	2,000/-
	With Hostel Facility	3,000/-
	h. Professional Degree Course	2,000/-
	With Hostel Facility	4,000/-

	i. Professional PG Course	4,000/-
	With Hostel Facility	6,000/-
	j. I.T.I. or Polytechnic Course	1,000/-
	With Hostel Facility	1,200/-
5.	Marriage Assistance	2,000/-
6.	Maternity Assistance	
	a. Rs.1000 p.m.for Delivery	6,000/-
	b. Abortion	3,000/-
7.	Reimbursement of cost of Spectacles	Upto 500/-
8.	Old Age Pension per month	1,000/-

So far, 9042 persons have enrolled as members in the Spinners and Weavers Welfare Board and an amount of Rs.17.81 lakh has been disbursed as financial assistance from the Welfare Board to 275 beneficiaries.

3. Village Industries

Village Industries plays a key role in generating rural employment and improving the earnings of the rural artisans. The Board has been promoting various trades like Carpentry and Blacksmithy, Leather goods, Soap making, Handmade Paper, Pottery and Bee keeping. The



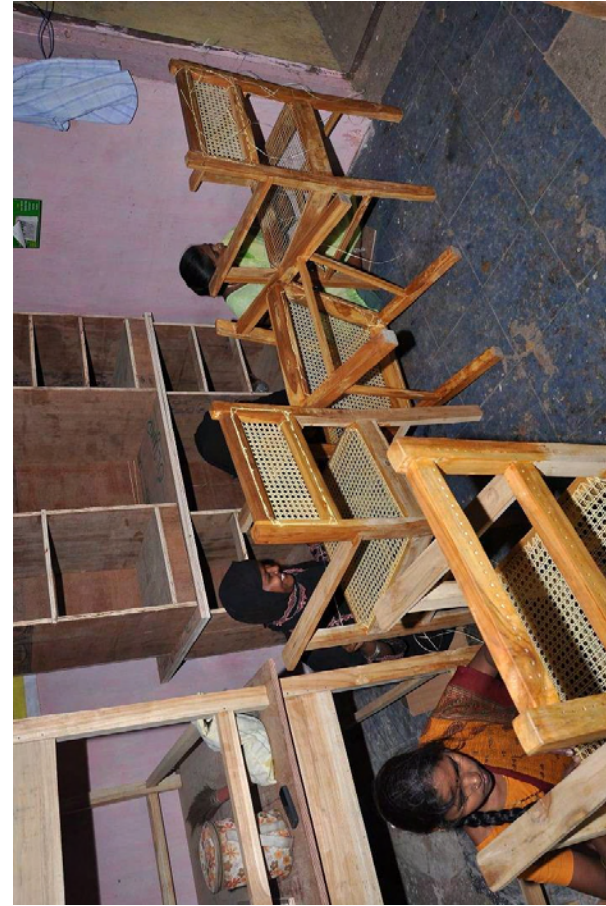
Jawadhu Unit at Vedapatti, Dindigul District

Board is also taking continuous efforts to promote and market these products through Government, Quasi Government, Public Distribution System and other retail outlets throughout the State.

3.1 Carpentry and Blacksmithy Industry

One of the most important industries of Tamilnadu Khadi and Village Industries Board, providing employment opportunity to the rural artisans is Carpentry and Blacksmithy Industry. Seven Departmental Units are functioning under the control of Tamilnadu Khadi and Village Industries Board at Veeraraghvapuram, Pallikonda, Arakkonam, Pettai, Tiruppur, Nanjikottai and Nagamalai Pudukottai.

The furniture requirements of many Government Departments, Public Sector Undertakings are being met by these units. During 2013-2014 production of these Carpentry and Blacksmithy units was Rs.6.04 crores and sales were Rs.6.57 crores.



Carpentry & Blacksmithy unit at Pallikonda, Vellore District

Further in order to motivate the younger generation in this field the Board has launched the training programme initially for 75 artisans in Arakkonam, Pallikonda with the assistance of the State Government.

3.2 Leather Industry

In the Village Industries sector, Leather goods are one of the important activities undertaken by this Board. There are thirteen footwear units functioning under the direct control of the Board. The Police, Prison Departments, Fire and Rescue Services Department, Transport Corporations, Chennai Port Trust and Social Welfare Department are the major Institutions indenting their requirement of footwear and leather products to the Board. Boots, Shoes, Belts, Pistol, Conductor bags, and File boxes are among some of the important items manufactured and supplied to these Institutions. In order to cater to the need of customers, at the Khadi Krafts, the Board manufactures latest design footwear, with



Footwear Unit at Sendhamangalam, Namakkal District

good quality at affordable price, suitable for all categories of people. Around 500 artisans are directly or indirectly engaged in the manufacture of Leather products.

Production to the tune of Rs.4.51 crores and sales to the tune of Rs.3.30 crores were achieved during 2013-2014.

3.3 Hand Made Paper Industry

The Board produces Raw pads, File pads, Manifolding paper, Bond paper, File wrappers and Corrugated boxes from the 4 Hand Made Paper Units functioning at Pidagam, Shenbagapudur, Govanur and Ooty.

In respect of Hand Made Paper Industry, the Board provides employment to 183 workers. The production for the year 2013-2014 was Rs.75.57 lakhs and the sales were to the tune of Rs.73.89 lakhs.

A cloth lined cover manufacturing machinery is being installed in Govanur Hand Made Paper Unit at a cost of Rs.26.00 lakhs. Further to increase the production capacity of the Pidagam Hand Made

Paper Unit, the Board has replaced all the worn out spare parts and repaired the existing Beater Machine at a cost of Rs.4.00 lakhs under Part-II scheme 2013-2014.

3.4 Soap Industry

There are 17 soap units functioning under the control of the Board. Out of these, 7 are Bathing Soap Units, 7 are Detergent Soap Units and 3 are Washing Soap Units.

The Board has recently introduced new varieties of bathing soaps in the name of Mooliga, Kumari and Gopuram Sandal. Further the Board proposes to introduce low priced new bathing soaps so as to attract lower / middle income group.



Soap unit at Dindigul

The Board has installed 3 sets of new detergent soap making machinery at Panruti, Perumalmalai and Sevvapet at the total cost of Rs.11.00 lakhs under Part-II scheme 2013-2014.

The Board provides employment to 51 workers in the soap Industry. The production for the year 2013-2014 was Rs.8.18 crores and the sales were to the tune of Rs.7.30 crores.

3.5 Bee-Keeping Industry

The Bee-keeping in Tamilnadu is largely undertaken in Kanyakumari District, the hilly and forested tracts falling in Western Ghat and Eastern Ghat areas. The type of Bee cultivated is “Apis Indica” and the source of honey is mostly from the rubber plantation and forest tree species. About 2000 Beekeepers and 10000 workers are engaged in Beekeeping activities in and around Marthandam area of Kanyakumari District

The procurement during the year 2013-2014 was Rs.25.18 lakhs and the sales were Rs.48.36 lakhs.

To uplift the livelihood of the Beekeepers, the Board has imparted Skill Development training to 25 Persons/ Artisans for 3 months duration at Amsi in Kanyakumari District at the total expenditure of Rs.2.38 lakhs.

3.6 Pottery Industry

The traditional art of Hand made Pottery is a source of livelihood for the Potters living in villages. There are 34 registered potters co-operative societies functioning under the control of the Board with 3816 members.

This industry is engaged in an indispensable economic activity and thousands of artisans in Tamilnadu are depending on it. To uplift the livelihood of the Potters for their continuous employment opportunity, the Board is imparting 6 months skill development training to 25 potters at the

total expenditure of Rs.3.73 lakhs, besides having imparted 3 months Terracotta training to 150 artisans at Cuddalore, Villupuram, Tirunelveli, Dindugal, Virudhunagar, Pudukottai at the total cost of Rs.12.30 lakhs with assistance from Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation.

Considering the difficulties faced by the Potters during the rainy season, the Government have decided to sanction a maintenance allowance of Rs.4,000/- during 2014-2015 to the Potters who are engaged in pot making as their main livelihood support at the total cost of Rs.4.50 crores.

3.7 Training to Artisans

In continuation to the first phase of skill development training to 395 artisans in the field of Pottery/Terracotta, Bee-keeping, Leather, Carpentry and Blacksmithy, Agarbathi and Readymade Garments at the cost of Rs.42.94 lakhs, the Board proposes to impart second phase of skill

development training to 605 artisans under spinning (200) Weavers (205) and Fashion technology (200) shortly at the total cost of Rs.55.91 lakhs with the assistance of Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation.

4. Naturopathy

In an innovative step, the Board has inaugurated a Naturopathy spa at Khadi Kraft (main) Chennai where facilities such as steam bath, spinal bath, mud bath and oil massage are available. This unit has got good response among the public.

5. Marketing

Apart from the items produced by the Board's production units, the Handicraft items produced by self-help groups and artisans are also sold through 106 Khadi Krafts spread over the entire State.

Special emphasis is given to popularise the Khadi and Village Industries products by conducting exhibitions and special campaigns in rural areas.



Khadi Kraft Showroom at Sivaganga

5.1 Marketing Development Assistance Scheme (MDA)

Khadi and Village Industries Commission has introduced Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) scheme from the year 2010-2011. Under this scheme, 20% financial assistance on production of Khadi is being allowed to Khadi institutions by Khadi and Village Industries Commission. From the year 2012-2013, the State Government has also allowed 20% financial assistance on production of Khadi throughout the year as was allowed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission. Further, the State Government have extended 20% Financial Assistance during the year 2013-2014.

Out of this 5%, is directly given as incentive / bonus to Spinners / Weavers in Khadi Industry and Weavers / Reelers / Dyers in Silk Industry and balance 15% is utilized for giving discount to customers to increase the Khadi sales. Thus, the sales discount of 30% is being allowed to consumers with regard to sale of Khadi Cotton, Polyvastra and

Silk varieties which includes 15% financial assistance of Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

6. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme

Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme has been introduced by Khadi and Village Industries Commission from the year 2008-2009 by merging the two schemes namely Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP). This scheme is implemented through Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board and District Industries Centres. Under this scheme for establishing industry in rural areas the rate of margin money subsidy is 25% to 35%. The Task Force Committee headed by the District Collector selects the beneficiaries in each district.

The margin money subsidy released during the years 2008-2009 to 2013-2014 is given below:-

Year	No.of Project	Margin Money (Rs.in lakhs)	Employment (Nos.)
2008-2009	100	175.08	964
2009-2010	899	1204.36	8745
2010-2011	603	1019.84	4143
2011-2012	572	823.12	4939
2012-2013	52	121.80	475
2013-2014	602	1311.31	7212

7. Production and Sales

The overall production and sales statistics of the Board for the year 2013-2014 are as follows:-

(Rs.in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Industry	2013-2014 Achievement	
		Production	Sales
1	Khadi	1181.86	1850.85
2	Village Industries		
a.	Leather	450.98	330.49
b.	Carpentry and Blacksmithy	603.79	656.85
c.	Soap	817.60	730.33

d.	Handmade paper	75.57	73.89
e.	Beekeeping	25.18	48.36
f.	Others	79.82	511.79
	Total	2052.94	2351.71
	GRAND TOTAL	3234.80	4202.56

The sales effected by Khadi and Village Industries Board during the year 2013-2014 are the **highest** so far and a record in itself.

8. Financial Assistance from Government

The assistance is being provided by the Government under "Net Cost Grant" to meet out the entire salary and pension to the Board staff and pensioners and rebate for the sale of Khadi and Part-II Schemes. The financial support provided by the Government to the Tamilnadu Khadi and Village Industries Board and Tamil Nadu Palm Products Development Board including Part-II Scheme in Budget Estimate 2014-2015 is as follows:-

Sl.No	Details		Rs.in Lakhs
1.	Net Cost Grant		6465.88
2.	Rebate	Khadi Board	200.00
		Certified Institutions	1000.00
3.	Audit Fees		323.89
4.	Part-II Schemes		
1	Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board		39.71
2	Tamil Nadu Palm products Development Board		20.22
5.	Grants to Tamil Nadu Palm Products Development Board		11.98
6.	Grants to Western Ghat Development Programme		
1.	Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board		0.01
2.	Tamil Nadu Palm products Development Board		0.01
7.	Khadi Spinners and Weavers Workers Welfare Board		0.01
	Total		8061.71

9. Redeployment

The Government have identified 719 employees as surplus staff in the Board. So far, 480 employees have been redeployed in other Departments. Out of remaining 239 employees, 82 are either retired, resigned or passed away and 157 employees are working in the Board.

TAMILNADU PALM PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT BOARD

1. Objectives

The activities undertaken by the Tamilnadu Palm Products Development Board are:-

- to arrange for the supply of raw materials, tools and implements to palm products industry
- sale of palm products to achieve social objective of alleviating the status of the workers of the Palm Industry.

2. Formation

A separate first and foremost Board in India namely Tamilnadu Palm Products Development Board was established under Tamilnadu Act 15 of 1994, and it is functioning with effect from 06.01.1995 having its Headquarters at Chennai.



A Palm Tree

3. Functions

Edible products such as Neera, Palm Jaggery, Palm Candy, Palm Chocolate varieties and non-edible products such as Palm Leaf Articles, Palm Naar Articles, Palm Fiber and Brush Varieties are produced by the palm artisans.

To arrange for production, to undertake marketing facilities and to develop the palm industry, 731 primary Palm Jaggery Co-operative Societies, 8 District Palm Jaggery Marketing Cooperative Federations and One State Palmgur and Fibre Marketing Cooperative Federation are functioning.

4. Budget

Funds for the Palm Board are provided in the budget of Tamilnadu Khadi And Village Industries Board.

5. Production and Sales

During 2013 –2014 Rs. 11.85 Crores of palm products were purchased and Rs. 13.05 crores palm products were sold.

6. Purchase of Neera

The Palm neera season usually commences from February every year. In order to increase the sale of Palm neera, five numbers of 1000 liter coolers were installed at Kadappakkam in Kancheepuram District (2 numbers), Egmore in Chennai, Thallakulam in Madurai District and Vanavasi in Salem District and one 3000 litre cooler has been installed at Thanavathiyur in Salem District. Neera is filled and marketed in colorful tetra pack which is eco-friendly and preferred by customers.

7. Purchase of Palm Jaggery

In order to increase the working capital to purchase Palm Jaggery from the palmgur artisans, the Government have sanctioned Rs. 50.00 lakhs as



Different Palm Products

grant to Tamilnadu Palm Products Development Board. This amount was distributed among the State and District Federations to purchase Palm Jaggery.

During 2013-2014, Rs. 9.80 crores of Palm Jaggery was sold in the market.

8. Licence

In order to tap and sell Palm neera and to produce Palm jaggery licence was issued to Palm artisans. The Government have ordered renewal of license for 3 years from 01.01.2013 to Tamilnadu Palm Products Development Board.

During the year 2013-2014, 11,236 licences were issued to Palmgur artisans.

T.P.POONACHI
MINISTER FOR KHADI AND VILLAGE
INDUSTRIES