



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

DEMAND No.50

Pension and Other Retirement Benefits

POLICY NOTE 2024-2025

THANGAM THENARASU
Minister for Finance and
Human Resources Management

©

Government of Tamil Nadu

2024

DEMAND No.50

PENSION AND OTHER RETIREMENT BENEFITS

POLICY NOTE FOR 2024-2025

The employees in the State are covered under two pension schemes viz., Defined Benefit Pension Scheme (Old Pension Scheme) and Contributory Pension Scheme. The employees who have been appointed prior to **01-04-2003** are covered under Defined Benefit Pension Scheme and those appointed on or after **01-04-2003** are covered under Contributory Pension Scheme. Under Defined Benefit Pension Scheme, **6,97,236** Pensioners and Family Pensioners are receiving pension and family pension. As on **31-05-2024**, total number of **6,14,175** employees are serving under Contributory Pension Scheme.

I. CONTRIBUTORY PENSION SCHEME

1. Introduction

(i) Based on the recommendations of the Fifth Tamil Nadu Pay Commission, Central Pay scales were extended to the State Government employees with effect from **01-06-1988**. Consequently, the pension of the retired

employees were revised based on the revised pay scales applicable to the posts held by the employees concerned. The fiscal burden became unsustainable to the State Exchequer due to increasing salary and pension expenditure and this constrained the resources available for public welfare and infrastructure expenditure.

(ii) A High Level Expert Group (HLEG) was set up by the Union Government on **26-06-2001** under the Chairmanship of Thiru.B.K.Bhattacharya, Chief Secretary (Retired), Government of Karnataka to make recommendations for restructuring the pension scheme. The High Level Expert Group in its report submitted in **February 2002**, suggested for a new hybrid scheme that combines contributions from employees and the Government on a matching basis, on one hand, while committing to the employees a defined benefit as pension. The objective of the Union Government was to design a scheme for new entrants to Government service where the contribution is defined, with the infrastructure being created in course of time capable of serving other groups like State Government employees, middle class self-employed people and even those in the lower income bracket in the unorganized sector.

(iii) As a follow up of the Union Government's initiative on pension reform, an announcement was made in the Tamil Nadu Budget for **2002-2003** as follows:

“Tamil Nadu has the highest pension-related commitments when compared to other States in the Country. It is also one of the fastest growing components of the total revenue expenditure. It has already been announced that all employees recruited from December 1, 2001, will be governed by a new contributory pension scheme similar to the one being formulated by the Union Government.”

(iv) Based on the Budget announcement, the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) was introduced for the employees of the State Government appointed on or after **01-04-2003**. Necessary amendments have also been issued to the Tamil Nadu Pension Rules, 1978 accordingly.

2. Methodology of Contributory Pension Scheme:

(i) In respect of employees under the Contributory Pension Scheme, a subscription at the rate of 10% of basic pay plus Dearness Allowance is being recovered from the employees with an equal matching contribution from Government.

(ii) **6,14,175** employees including employees of Local Bodies have been enrolled under this scheme as on **31-05-2024** and a sum of **Rs.73,974.64 Crore** has been accumulated upto **30-04-2024** as Employee / Employer contribution with interest and the same is invested with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

3. Interest

Interest is currently being sanctioned towards the Contributory Pension Scheme accumulation at the same quarterly rate as applicable to General Provident Fund accounts. At present, the rate of interest sanctioned for GPF for the period from **01-04-2024** to **30-06-2024** is **7.1 percent**.

4. Investments made from Contributory Pension Scheme accumulations

The entire accrued amount under Contributory Pension Scheme have been invested in the Life Insurance Corporation Superannuation Fund.

5. Settlement so far made to retirees

In the absence of framing rules under Contributory Pension Scheme, orders have been issued to settle the accumulated amounts inclusive of Employee and

Government contribution along with interest in one lumpsum. The Commissioner of Treasuries and Accounts has received final settlement applications from **38,129** subscribers who have retired / resigned/died/terminated from service requesting final settlement in the Contributory Pension Scheme upto **31-05-2024**. Out of which, final settlement clearance have been made to **37,095** employees for a sum of **Rs.3,143.61 Crore**. During the year **2023-24**, **7,738** employees have retired and settlements to the tune of **Rs.1158.28 Crore** have been made.

6. Contributory Pension Scheme to Local Bodies

The Commissioner of Treasuries and Accounts has been designated as the State Nodal Officer for implementing the Contributory Pension Scheme for the employees of Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, Town Panchayats and Panchayat Unions. A software application for Local Bodies has been developed and the related data are being maintained.

7. National Pension System (NPS) for All India Service Officers (AIS) in Government of Tamil Nadu

The Government of Tamil Nadu signed an agreement on **28-06-2017** appointing National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) as Central Record Keeping Agency (CRA) for

the National Pension System (NPS) and the NPS Trust of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) as the Trustee Bank, Pension Fund Manager (PFM) and Annuity Service Provider (ASP) for operationalizing the National Pension System (NPS) for All India Service (AIS) Officers of Tamil Nadu cadre. A sum of **Rs.59.26 Crore** has been transferred to National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) as subscription amount and Government contribution for All India Service Officers up to **31-05-2024**.

8. Constitution of Expert Committee

An Expert Committee was constituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the year **2016** to examine the feasibility of implementing the demand of various Government employees/Associations for continuing the defined benefit Pension Scheme and make recommendation on the possible options to Government for appropriate decision. The said Committee has submitted its report to Government and the same is under consideration by the Government.

II. GOVERNMENT DATA CENTRE

The Government has established the Central Budget Data Processing Centre in **1971**. For the Management Information System (MIS) for Government a full-fledged

Government Data Centre was established in **1972**. For administrative convenience both the above centres were merged and the Government Data Centre (GDC) was established in **1975**.

The Government Data Centre deals with the following functions :

i) Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) for Government employees

ii) Contributory Pension Scheme for Employees of Local Bodies

iii) GPF Scheme for the employees of Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme (NMP) and Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

iv) Direct Benefit Transfer of Funds to the Bank Accounts of Farmers supplying Sugarcane to Sugar Mills

1) Government Data Centre has been maintaining Contributory Pension Scheme accounts of the Panchayat Union Schools, Aided Educational Institutions, Municipal Schools and Local Body Employees as per G.O.Ms.No.201, Finance (Pension) Department, dated 21-05-2009.

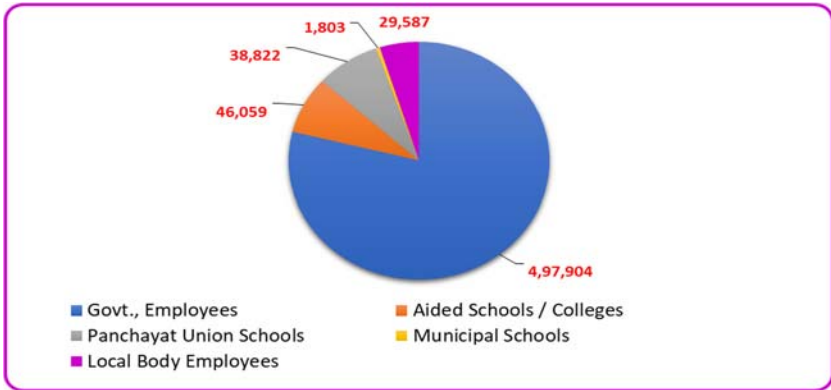
In Government Order No.463, Finance (PGC) Department, dated 27-12-2013, the Government have revised the order of maintaining the accounts of Contributory

Pension Scheme (CPS) of Government Employees previously maintained in Accountant General's Office and transferred all the CPS related works of Government Employees to Government Data Centre. After transferring of all CPS works to this office, the CPS index numbers to all the Government employees and Teachers and the non-provincialised employees of Local Bodies in the time scale are being allotted and the accounts are maintained in Government Data Centre.

The details of Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) Subscribers as on 31-05-2024 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Type	CPS Subscribers as on 31-05-2024
1	Government employees	4,97,904
2	Aided Schools/Colleges	46,059
3	Panchayat Union Schools	38,822
4	Municipal Schools	1,803
5	Local Body Employees	29,587
Total		6,14,175

CPS Index Numbers allotted up to 31-05-2024



Issue of Final Account Slip

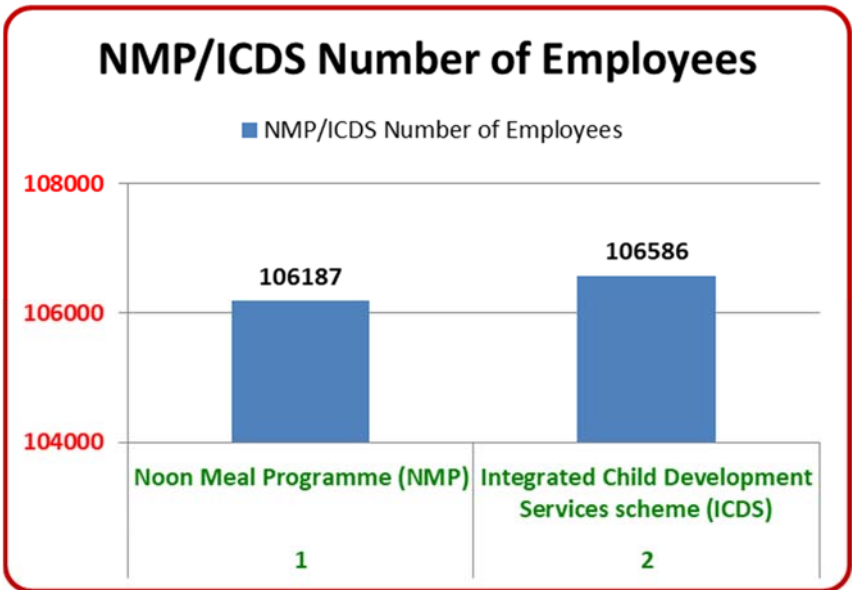
The Final Account Slips for **37,140** retired / resigned / deceased employees have been issued by Government Data Centre.

2) Local Body Employees - Contributory Pension Scheme

The number of non-provincialised employees working in Local Bodies under the Contributory Pension Scheme is **29,587**. Based on the online Data Entry of subscription, Matching Contributions by Local Bodies are being audited and authorized for settlement by the Local Fund Audit Department.

3) General Provident Fund Scheme for the Employees of Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme (NMP) and Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

The Government, in G.O.Ms.No.108, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 19-04-2010 has entrusted the work of maintaining the General Provident Fund Account for the Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme (NMP) and Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme Employees to the Government Data Centre. The number of subscribers enrolled in this Scheme is **2,12,773** as on **31-05-2024**.



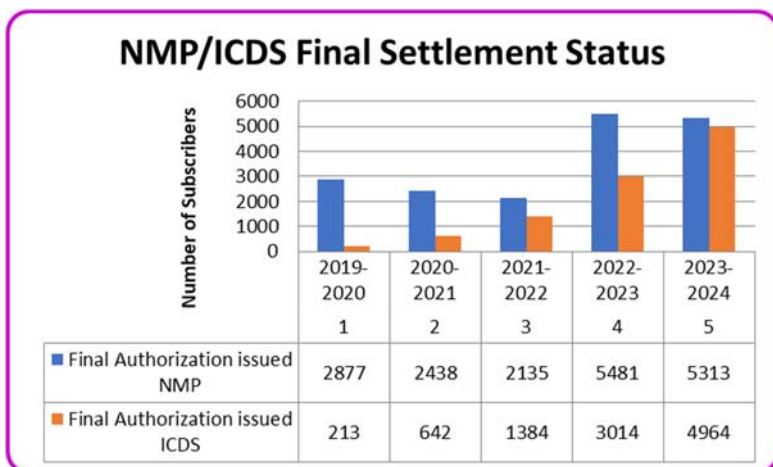
In G.O.Ms.No.53, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, Dated 20-07-2015, guidelines were issued for this Scheme accordingly, the recovery under General Provident Fund is being made from the Nutritious Meal Programme and Integrated Child Development Services employees since August 2015. Account slips for the employees of Nutritious Meal Programme and Integrated Child Development Services have been hosted in the web site.

Temporary Advance / 90% Part Final withdrawal to Nutritious Meal Programme and Integrated Child Development Services Employees

As per the Government Letter No.9831/SW 4-2/2020-3, dated 18-06-2021, Temporary Advance can be applied by the NMP / ICDS employees who have completed 5 years of service and 90% of Part Final Withdrawal can be applied before one year of retirement by the concerned employee. Balance 10% can be sanctioned by the Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) only after obtaining the final authorization from Government Data Centre.

Final Settlement Work

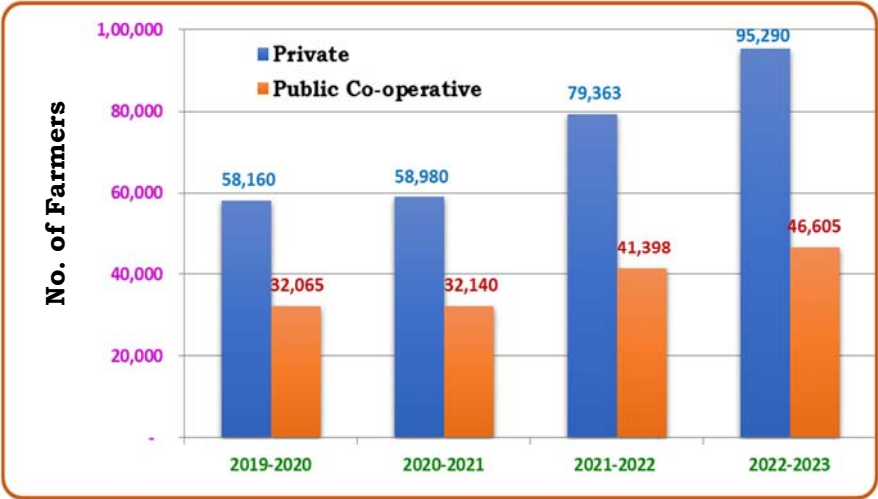
Upto **31-05-2024** total number of **28,461** GPF Final Settlement Authorisation orders for the employees of this scheme were issued by the Government Data Centre for a total amount of **Rs.138.61** Crore.



4. Direct Benefit Transfer of Funds (DBT) to the Bank Accounts of farmers supplying sugarcane to Sugar Mills.

The Government introduced the Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme to the sugarcane growers for the payment of incentive through Electronic Clearing Services from 2017-2018 crushing season.

In this scheme the payment of incentive to the farmers supplying sugarcane to Sugar Mills are transferred through Direct Benefit Transfer of funds to the Bank Accounts of the farmers.



Details of Payments made to farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer of Funds



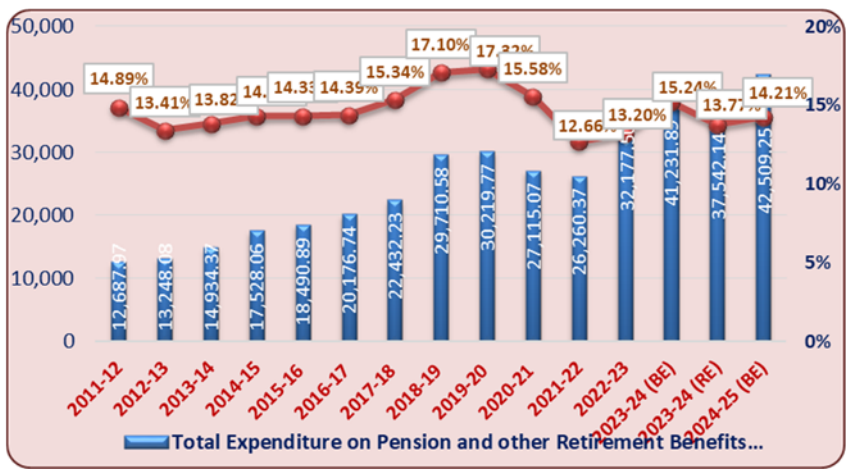
The Government Data Centre has successfully doing the above work from 2018 onwards.

III. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME (OLD PENSION SCHEME):

The Defined Benefit Pension Scheme (Old Pension Scheme) covers all employees who have been appointed prior to **01-04-2003**. As on 31-05-2024, **2,29,525** employees are covered under this Scheme. In **2023-2024**, **23,792** pensioners have retired and expenditure to the tune of

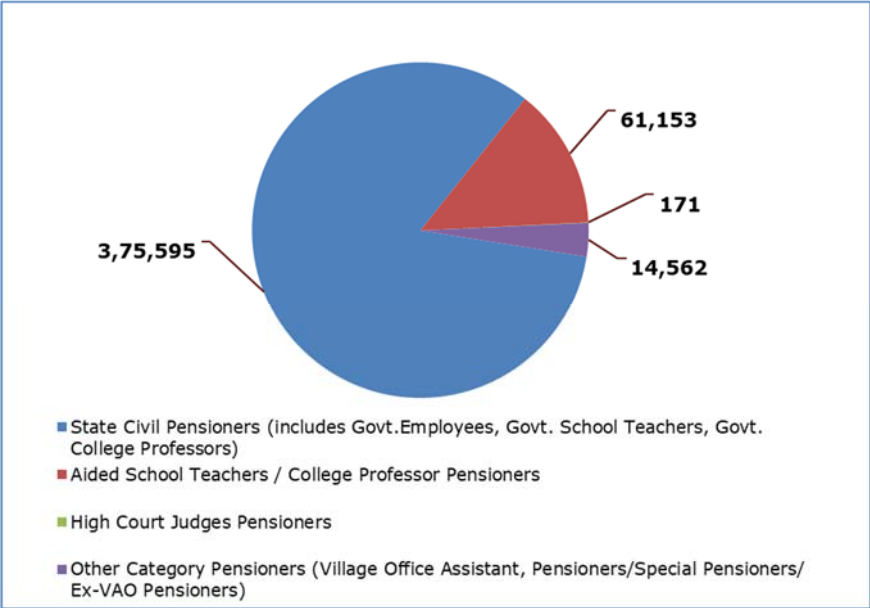
Rs.7,256.23 Crore have been incurred towards pensionary benefits. In addition, **6,97,236** Pensioners and Family Pensioners are receiving pension and family pension under this Scheme. During **2023-2024**, **11,631** existing pensioners have been converted into family pensioners due to death of the pensioners and a sum of **Rs.1002.55 Crore** has been incurred as expenditure. Demand No.50 provides for a total expenditure of **Rs.42,509.25 Crore** towards pension and other pensionary benefits for the financial year **2024-2025**.

The Expenditure on Pension and Retirement Benefits over the past years is given below:

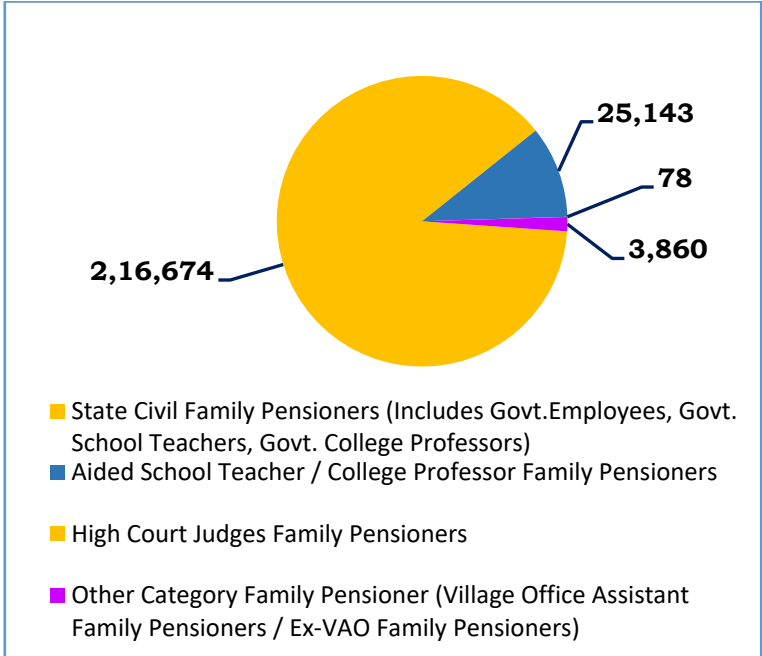


The substantial increase in Pension expenditure is due to the increase in retirement age of Government Employees from **58 to 59** years in **2020** and **59 to 60** years in **2021**.

The details of Service (Civil) Pensioners as on 31-05-2024 is given below:



The details of Family Pensioners as on 31-05-2024 is given below:



Pension

(i) A minimum qualifying service of **10** completed years is necessary to become eligible for Pension. The minimum qualifying service of **30** years is required to become eligible for full Pension. Further, Pension is being determined based on **50%** of pay last drawn at the time of retirement

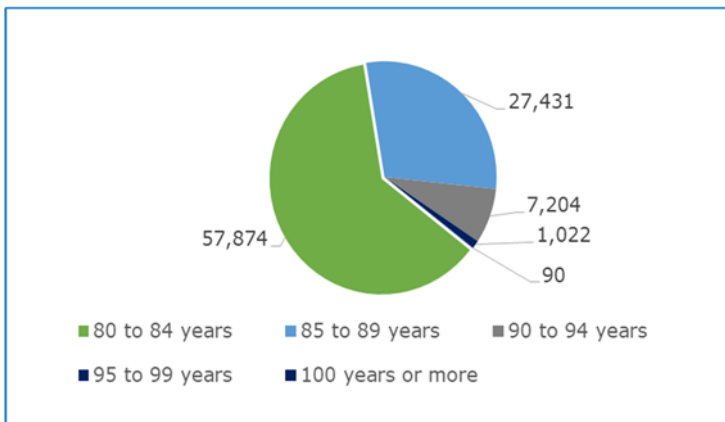
or **50%** of average emoluments drawn during the last **10** months of service rendered whichever is higher.

(ii) Minimum pension of **Rs.7,850/-** per month has been fixed with effect from **01-10-2017**.

Additional Pension / Additional Family Pension

The Pensioners / Family Pensioners who have completed **80** years of age i.e., at the commencement of age of **81** years are eligible for Additional Pension / Additional Family Pension. The total number of Pensioners/ Family Pensioners drawing Additional Pension/ Additional Family Pension as on **31-05-2024** is **93,621**.

Additional Pension /Additional Family Pension being drawn (Age wise)



Pension to Staff of Aided Educational Institutions (Schools and Colleges)

The staff of aided educational institutions are allowed to avail the same pensionary benefits such as minimum pension of Rs.7,850/- per month and other pensionary benefits as applicable to the State Government employees.

Retirement Benefits for Employees both under Defined Benefit Pension Scheme and Contributory Pension Scheme

Encashment of Earned Leave, Encashment of Unearned Leave on Private Affairs and Transfer Travelling Allowance are permitted to their native place or to any other place where an employee wishes to settle down after retirement.

Gratuity under Defined Benefit Pension Scheme

(i) Service Gratuity

Service Gratuity is admissible for those who have put in less than 10 completed years of qualifying service. This is a lumpsum payment for the service rendered in addition to the Retirement Gratuity admissible.

(ii) Death Gratuity

In the event of death in harness, Death Gratuity is admissible at the following rates with effect from **01-10-2017:-**

Sl.No.	Length of Service	Rate of Gratuity
1	Less than one year	Two times of monthly emoluments
2	One year or more but less than five years	Six times of monthly emoluments
3	Five years or more but less than eleven years	Twelve times of monthly emoluments
4	Eleven years or more but less than twenty years	Fifteen times of monthly emoluments
5	Twenty years or more	Half month's emoluments for every completed six monthly period of qualifying service subject to a maximum of 33 times of monthly emoluments provided that the amount of Death Gratuity in no case exceeds Rs.20 lakh.

(iii) Retirement Gratuity

A Government servant who has completed 5 years of qualifying service and above is granted Retirement Gratuity on his/her retirement. In respect of employees retired on or after **01-04-1998**, gratuity is calculated based on basic pay and Dearness Allowance last drawn. The ceiling limit of Death Gratuity / Retirement Gratuity is **Rs.20 lakhs** with effect from **01-01-2016**.

Family Pension under Defined Benefit Pension Scheme

(i) Family pension is payable to a family of a Government servant or a retired Government servant who has completed continuous qualifying service for a period of not less than one year and died on or after **1st April 1979**.

(ii) The revised family pension shall not be lower than 30% of the minimum of the pay in the prescribed Level in the Pay Matrix corresponding to the pre-revised pay scale / pay band and grade pay from which the pensioner had retired as per G.O.Ms.No.313, Finance (Pay Cell) Department, dated 25-10-2017.

(iii) The minimum family pension payable is Rs.7,850/- per month with effect from 01-10-2017.

Ex-Gratia Payment

At present, ex-gratia payment of **Rs.645/-** per month is being granted along with Dearness Allowance at the rate of **404 percent** with effect from **1st April 2023** to the families of deceased Contributory Provident Fund / Non-Pensionable beneficiaries of State Government and the employees of former District Board who had retired / died in harness prior to **1st January 1986** and who are not eligible for family pension.

Commutation of Pension

Pensioners are eligible to commute pension upto **33 1/3 %** of pension and receive a lumpsum payment. This concession has also been extended in the case of voluntary retirement. However, Dearness Allowance is allowed on the original pension prior to Commutation.

Dearness Allowance

The Pensioners / Family Pensioners including Provisional Pensioners / Provisional Family Pensioners are paid Dearness Allowance at par with the serving employees of the Government.

Medical Allowance

The Pensioners / Family Pensioners including Provisional Pensioners / Provisional Family Pensioners are allowed to draw Medical Allowance of **Rs.300/-** per month with effect from **01-10-2017**.

Pongal Prize

A lumpsum Pongal Prize amount of **Rs.500/-** is sanctioned to all Government Pensioners those who retired from the categories of 'C' and 'D' Group including all 'C' and 'D' Group Pensioners of Aided Educational Institutions, Local Bodies, Ex-Village Establishment (Ex-Village Officers and Village Servants / Assistants), adhoc pensioners of all categories and to all Family Pensioners irrespective of the Groups from which Pensioners / Deceased Government employee had retired / died while in service.

Festival Advance

Pensioners are sanctioned festival advance of **Rs.4,000/-** with effect from **02-08-2019** which is recovered at ten equal installments.

e-PENSION

A web-enabled software to process the pension payment and to have a Centralized Database of the pensioners is implemented in all the Districts and Pension Pay Office, Chennai. Under this scheme, the monthly pension and other retirement benefits to the pensioners are now credited directly to the bank account of pensioners through Electronic Clearing Service / Regional Electronic Clearing Service. Further, migration of pension related information from Accountant General's database into the e-pension Central Server is being done to ensure data accuracy and saving of time and resources.

e-Mustering

The State Government pensioners/ Family Pensioners submit their Life Certificate during the months of July, August and September every year for annual mustering.

The Pensioners at their convenience were allowed to choose any one of the following facilities:-

- 1) Digital Life Certificate (DLC) through Jeevan Pramaan Portal by using the services of any one of the following entities as per the option of the pensioners

- a. India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) with Door Step Service
- b. e-Seva Centres/Common Service Centres.
- c. Pensioners' Associations having biometric device connected with Jeevan Pramaan Portal

2) Submission of Life Certificate through Post

3) Direct Mustering (Physical Appearance).

It is ensured that at least **80%** Annual mustering is done through Jeevan Pramaan Portal utilizing the door step services of the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)/ e-Seva Centres / Common Service Centres / Pensioners' Associations having Biometric Devices thereby avoiding hardship to the aged Pensioners / Family Pensioners coming to the Pension Office / Treasuries in person for Mustering.

Accordingly, out of total number of **7,00,198** Pensioners, **5,85,465 (83%)** Pensioners have been mustered by Digital Life Certificate (Online) in which **84,468 (12%)** pensioners were mustered by providing the door step services of India Post Payment Bank (IPPB).

The Government of Tamil Nadu has issued orders for conducting the mustering process throughout the year with effect from 01-07-2023 onwards as below:-

i. Mustering in respect of Service Pensioners shall be conducted in month of retirement of the Pensioner's every year

ii. In the case of Pensioners drawing both Service and Family Pension (double Pension) the month of mustering shall be the retirement month of the Service pensioners every year

iii. In respect of Family Pensioners, Ex-gratia Pensioners and Special category Pensioners (Ulema Pensioners and State Freedom Fighters Pension etc.) the mustering shall be conducted in the month of commencement of Family Pension, Ex-gratia Pension and Special category Pension every year.

iv. If the Pensioners, Family Pensioners and Special Category Pensioners failed to do the mustering process then the pension will be stopped in the succeeding month of the grace period of the year.

Digitization of Pension Records

Government has sanctioned a sum of **Rs.95.53 lakh** towards digitization of pension records by the Office of the Accountant General (A&E) Chennai for Phase-I and a sum of **Rs.132.16 lakh** has been sanctioned under Phase-II for the above purpose.

Pensioners' Portal

Due to the implementation of the IFHRMS in the year 2020, the pensioners details are updated and available in the IFHRMS portal. Pensioners can visit <https://www.karuvoolam.tn.gov.in> (IFHRMS) and to visit [Kalanjiyam Mobile App](#) to view and download their pension details.

IV. DIRECTORATE OF PENSION:

The Government established the Directorate of Pension with effect from 01-09-1994. This Directorate is now headed by a Director who is in the rank of Additional Secretary to Government, Finance Department. The major activities of this Directorate is as follows:

(i) Redressal of the grievances of the State and Teacher pensioners.

(ii) Settlement of pensioners grievances through Pensioners' Adalat.

(iii) Attending to the clarifications sought for by the pensioners.

(iv) Administering and implementing the Tamil Nadu Government Industrial Employees Provident Fund Scheme for Government Departments.

(v) Settlement of old cases under the Tamil Nadu Government Pensioners' Health Fund Scheme, 1995 for Pensioners / Family Pensioners.

(vi) Administering and implementing Tamil Nadu Government Pensioners' Family Security Fund Scheme, 1997.

(vii) Estimating, Reconciling and Controlling Authority for Tamil Nadu Government Employees Special Provident Fund cum Gratuity Schemes, 1984 and 2000.

(viii) Administering and implementing Tamil Nadu Social Security Scheme, 1974 for unorganized daily wages, labourers and Public.

Tamil Nadu Government Pensioners' Family Security Fund Scheme

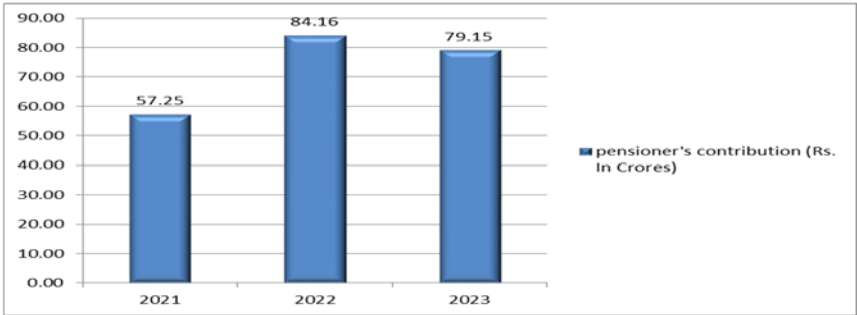
The Government introduced the Tamil Nadu Government Pensioners' Family Security Fund Scheme with effect from 01-01-1997 and implemented it from 01-01-1998. In the case of death of pensioner after one month of contribution to the fund, a sum of Rs.50,000/- is paid to the eligible family members or nominee of the pensioners.

The Government have ordered the enhancement of pensioner's contribution towards Tamil Nadu Government Pensioners Family Security Fund Scheme from Rs.80/- to Rs.150/- per month with effect from 01-07-2021. Based on this contribution on an average, a sum of Rs.6.50 Crore is received every month and 1300 claims made by the spouse / nominees of the deceased pensioners are settled.

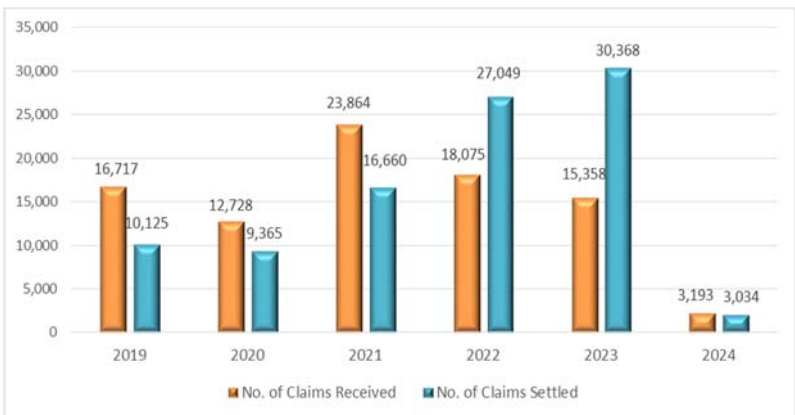
Considering the welfare of the families of the deceased pensioners, the Government has sanctioned an assistance of **Rs.125.00 Crore** as advance from the Government account to the Tamil Nadu Government Pensioners Family Security Fund Scheme during the period from May-2021 to April-2024. Accordingly, 25,000 pending claims have been settled and amount credited to the respective beneficiaries

bank accounts. From the inception of the scheme **2,75,453** claims to the tune of **Rs.1089.25 Crore** has been settled as on **31-05-2024**.

Pensioners Contribution under Family Security Fund Scheme during the years 2021, 2022 and 2023



Year Wise Claims and Settlements of Death Cases in Respect of Family Security Fund 2019-2024



Tamil Nadu Government Employees Special Provident Fund cum Gratuity Scheme 1984

This Scheme was introduced with effect from **01-04-1984**. A monthly subscription of **Rs.20/- per month** was being recovered from Government employee for **148** months and the total subscription is being repaid along with interest accrued thereon at the time of retirement with Government contribution of **Rs.10,000/-**. Under this scheme settlements has been made to **10,921** retired employees from **01-04-2023 to 31-05-2024**.

Tamil Nadu Government Employees Special Provident Fund cum Gratuity Scheme 2000

Tamil Nadu Government Special Provident Fund cum Gratuity Scheme, 2000 was introduced from **01-10-2000**. The employees who had already been enrolled under the earlier scheme are being paid the monetary benefits continuously at the time of their retirement. Further, all regular Government employees in service up to **30-09-2000** were allowed to opt and subscribe **Rs.50/-** per month till one month prior to the date of retirement which is refundable along with interest accrued thereon. Under this scheme settlements has been made to **5733** retired employees from **01-04-2023 to 31-05-2024**. This Scheme was made compulsory to all the employees appointed

on or after **01-10-2000** and the subscription was fixed as **Rs.70/-** per month. The total subscription is refunded with interest at the time of retirement with Government contribution of **Rs.10,000/-**.

Tamil Nadu Government Industrial Employees Contributory Provident Fund Scheme 1969

The Scheme was introduced in the year **1969** for the welfare of the casual Labourers earning wages in the Government Industrial Establishments vide G.O.No.1883, Finance (Miscellaneous) Department, dated 26-12-1969. Prior to 01-04-1989, **8.33%** of the wages was contributed by the employees and equal share of contribution was paid by the employers to the scheme. From 01-04-1989, **10%** of wages is being contributed by the employees and equal share is made by the Government Industrial Establishments as employer's contribution to the scheme fund.

At present, nine Government Departments viz. Agriculture, Agriculture (Oilseeds), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Forest, Public Works Department, Animal Husbandry, Sericulture, Horticulture and Transport are enrolled in this Scheme. **12,694** members have so far been enrolled in this Scheme. Employees share amount recovered

by the unit officer are remitted into Government P.D. Account.

The Account slips upto the Financial Year **2023-2024** have been issued. A sum of **Rs.3.57 Crore** has been disbursed as final payment to **386** beneficiaries during the period from **01-04-2023 to 31-05-2024**.

Redressal of Pensioners Grievances

The representations received from Pensioners / Family Pensioners in various Districts, through Directorate of Pension e-mail, Chief Minister's Special Cell and under Right to Information Act are given due attention for immediate settlement of pensioners' grievances.

Pensioners' Grievances Meeting in the Districts

As per the revised guidelines issued by Government, the District Collectors conduct Pensioners' Grievances Day Meeting once in a year in their districts. The Director or Joint Director attends these meetings and assist in the expeditious disposal of such grievance petitions in the Districts. The pension benefit proposals pending with the Office of the Accountant General are also followed up by this Directorate to speed up settlement.

From **01-04-2023 to 31-05-2024**, Pensioner's Grievance Meetings were held in almost all the Districts. Pension related grievances like non-payment of medical expenses under New Health Insurance Scheme, Issue of ID cards under New Health Insurance Scheme, Payment of additional pension, Restoration of commutation, Payment of Ex-gratia, Refixation of Pension, and Delay in commencing Family Pension are the main grievances received in the meeting.

Computerisation of the Major Schemes in the Pension Directorate

Separate modules have been developed under IFHRMS for the two major schemes dealt within the Directorate of Pension viz., Tamil Nadu Family Security Fund Scheme 1997 and the Tamil Nadu Industrial Employees Provident Fund Scheme, 1969. Payments to the beneficiaries are made directly through IFHRMS.

V. Pensioners New Health Insurance Scheme 2022

The New Health Insurance Scheme for Pensioners has been extended beyond 30-06-2022 for a further period of four years with some additional features.

New Health Insurance Scheme for Pensioners 2022 has been implemented from 01-07-2022 through United India Insurance Company Ltd., to provide health care assistance to the Pensioners (including spouse)/Family Pensioners on a CASHLESS basis, with provision to avail medical assistance up to **Rs.5,00,000/-(Rupees Five lakh only)** for a block period of four years (2022-2026). A monthly subscription of Rs.497/-is being recovered from the Pensioners/Family Pensioners.

Under the new scheme, the medical assistance has been enhanced to the maximum limit of **Rs.10,00,000/-** (Rupees Ten lakh only) for some specified diseases/treatments.

The coverage of medical assistance under this scheme has been extended to accident cases, where the patient got approved treatment/undergone surgery in a non-network hospital.

Under this Scheme, if the pensioner is consciously choosing to avail treatment in Non-Network hospital even the quality of treatment and facilities provided in a Non-network Hospital is not known then the quantum of reimbursement in such cases shall be restricted to 75% of the package rate of similar procedure in the Similar Network hospital.

Kidney Dialysis and COVID-19 treatment have been included under specified illness list to avail cashless medical assistance up to **Rs.10.00 lakh**.

The Contribution Pension Scheme retirees and Village Assistant Pensioners and Family Pensioners are covered under this Scheme.

New Health Insurance Scheme 2022 ID cards are issued to the **6,91,191** pensioners / family pensioners to avail the cashless medical assistance through the medical network hospitals under the scheme.

Further, Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Human Resources Management launched Mobile App and Information Technology Solution Software for New Health Insurance Scheme on 27-02-2024 to monitor the effective implementation of the scheme.

Under this Scheme, **203** treatments are covered to avail medical assistance i.e. **116** treatment and surgeries and **87** medical care procedures on Cashless basis through **1294** networked hospitals and **16** Government radiation therapy centers for cancer treatment located in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Bengaluru, Thiruvananthapuram and New Delhi.

In the Pensioners New Health Insurance Scheme 2022, during the period (i.e. from 01-07-2022 to 31-03-2024) so far **1,48,104** beneficiaries have availed medical assistance for a sum of **Rs.653.29 Crore**.

The Government has reimbursed an amount totaling to **Rs.6.05 Crore** to the beneficiaries during the period 2022-2024 whose medical reimbursement application has been recommended under Scenario – III or Scenario – IV of the guidelines issued by the Government.

Apart from these, for the treatment of COVID-19 under the New Health Insurance Scheme for Pensioners, a corpus fund has been created with a sum of **Rs.2.50 Crore** and a sum of **Rs.85.00 Crore** has been sanctioned so far.

Additionally, for the treatment of non- critical COVID-19 in non-empaneled hospitals under the New Health Insurance Scheme for Pensioners, a corpus fund for a sum of **Rs.17.47 Crore** has been sanctioned so far.

THANGAM THENARASU

Minister for Finance and
Human Resources Management

