



RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT

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1. Introduction

Introduction:

“The economy of the state and the economy of individuals should become self-sufficient. Our Tamil society should be elevated by thought, culture, civilization and customs. We have to become a society which protects human rights”.

- M. K. Stalin

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

This government is prioritizing rural development, in the all-inclusive Dravidian model of government, following the words of Annal Gandhi, who said, “The life of India lies in its rural areas” and the Muthamizh Aringar Kalaingar, who said, “The people of the rural areas should get the facilities of the urban areas within a certain period of time.” The main task of rural development and panchayat raj department is to improve the basic

facilities in rural areas and provide necessary services to the people to improve their quality of life. Tamil Nadu is a pioneering state in creating new rural development programmes and implementing them effectively. The programmes and policies implemented by this department are based on social justice, balanced distribution and inclusive development.

Under the inspirational leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. M.K. Stalin, this government has been working tirelessly to create self-sufficient villages. To achieve the goals of overall sustainable development, the department works in accordance with the guidelines of the Tamil Nadu government based on the three-tier panchayat system to implement the creation of public assets and increase livelihood needs in the rural areas.

“Housing for all” and “Slum-free Rural Tamil Nadu by 2030” are the prime objectives of the government. As part of this, a new scheme called “Kalaingar Kanavu Illam” will be implemented from 2024-25.

To achieve Periyar’s social justice, harmony and indiscriminate society Muthamizh Aringar Kalaingar created Periyar Ninaivu Samathuvapuram. The existing infrastructure in the old Samathuvapuram were refurbished and adequate basic facilities provided. The government is making efforts to build new Samathupurams in the current year.

Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam - II is an unique scheme implemented to bring about balanced development in all panchayats over a period of five years. This scheme is being implemented with the aim of creating the basic

needs of all the village panchayats, such as improving water supply systems, constructing improved roads and streets, shelters, libraries and 'Samathuva Mayanam' etc.

"Namakku Naame Thittam" is being implemented to encourage the public to contribute and participate in development projects, to reduce the gap in basic needs and protect public assets.

It is the basic policy of the government that all families in Tamil Nadu should be freed from the clutches of poverty. The Union Government's Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has ensured the provision of necessary wage employment in rural areas, the creation of individual and public assets, and the fulfilment of the infrastructural and livelihood necessities of the people.

Establishment of infrastructure such as Schools, Anganwadi centres, rural markets, food warehouses and basic facilities such as roads, street lights, drinking water supply and sanitation etc. are implemented by this department in rural areas. Muthalamaicharin Gram Salaigal Mempattu Thittam (MGSMT) has been developed and implemented by this department to improve road facilities in rural areas and establish linkages with urban centres.

The Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 has ensured devolution of power to the three-tier rural local bodies in the democratic system. In order to ensure people's participation in the planning, implementation and monitoring of local government bodies, the practice of convening village councils six times a year has been made mandatory and followed.

Solid and Liquid waste management programmes are being implemented in rural areas with the aim of creating clean and green villages. A separate company is being created for solid waste management.

Rural local government representatives are trained in leadership, governance and innovation through state, regional and local rural development and panchayat organizations. Officials and employees of the rural development and panchayat departments, who play an important role in bringing the development projects to the people, are given continuous training through national, state and regional level training institutes.

Tamil Nadu will continue in its march towards providing best infrastructure and amenities in rural areas.

2. PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTIONS IN TAMIL NADU

2.1. History of Panchayat Raj Institutions

Local Self Government in Tamil Nadu has a long history as is evident from the Uthiramerur stone inscriptions in Kancheepuram district. Tamil Nadu, in those days, was a land of village republics, with community groups undertaking many activities for their area development. This tradition reached its peak during the 10th – 11th centuries under the reign of Cholas when Village Councils used to levy taxes, improve community life and administer justice in their limited area. These Village Councils had effective links with the Chola rulers. “Kuda Olai Murai” was the name of the secret ballot method exercised to elect members of the Village Councils. With the downfall of Cholas, the State experienced a decline of the Village autonomy and rise of the centralised feudal administrative system. This continued till British rulers introduced local self-governance primarily as an administrative

convenience for the imperial Government.

In the post-independence era, the first enactment in democratic decentralisation in the State was the "Madras Village Panchayat Act 1950". Pursuant to the White Paper on the "Reform of Local Administration" in 1957, the "Madras Panchayat Act 1958" and the "Madras District Development Council Act 1958" were enacted with the salient features :

- a) A two-tier system of Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions.
- b) Creation of Panchayat Unions co-terminus with the Community Development Blocks.
- c) Village Panchayat Presidents became ex-officio members of the Panchayat Union Councils with the Chairperson of

the Panchayat Union Council directly/indirectly elected.

- d) Entrusting the Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats with a large number of developmental and welfare functions.
- e) Abolition of District Boards.
- f) Creation of District development Council as an advisory body.

This twotier system operated very well till 1975 and elections were held regularly. Subsequently, the tenures of the Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats were extended upto 1.2.1977 and 12.9.1979 respectively. Thereafter, Special Officers (Block Development Officer for all the Village Panchayats in a Block and Divisional Development Officer for all the Panchayat Unions in a Division) managed the rural Local Bodies till the next

elections in 1986. The elected rural Local Bodies continued in office till March 1991. Again, no elections were held till October 1996 and the Special Officers managed the rural Local Bodies.

In 1992, the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution was enacted and it brought about a number of fundamental changes in the Panchayat Raj system. Consequently, the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1994 came into force with effect from 22.4.1994. Some of the important changes brought about by the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution and the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 are listed below:

- a) Introduction of a three-tier system - at the Village, Intermediate (Block) and District level.
- b) Mandatory conduct of Local Body elections every five years.

c) Introduction of reservation of seats (i.e ward members) and offices (i.e Chairpersons /Presidents) for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes in proportion to their population in every Local Body with provision for rotation of the reserved seats and offices.

d) Introduction of reservation of one-third of total number of seats and offices for women with provision for rotation.

e) Constitution of a State Election Commission as an independent body to conduct elections to both rural and urban Local Bodies regularly.

f) Establishment of a quinquennial State Finance Commission to recommend devolution of resources from the State Government to the Rural and Urban Local Bodies.

2.2 Elected representatives in Rural Local Bodies (RLBs)

As per the article 243K of the Indian Constitution, the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission was established in the year 1994. The State Election Commission was established as an independent autonomous constitutional authority to conduct elections for the Urban and Rural Local Bodies.

The Government has increased the representation of women in panchayats from one-third to 50% during the year 2016. 7012 Village Panchayat presidents, 242 Panchayat Union Chairpersons, 20 District Panchayat Chairpersons, and 67,756 ward members are women which constitutes 56% of the total elected representatives. The Government is fully committed to empower women representatives through

capacity building and various leadership programmes.

After the enactment of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment and the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1994, elections to the Rural Local Bodies in Tamil Nadu were conducted in the below mentioned years:-

1996	1st ordinary Local Body Elections
2001	2nd ordinary Local Body Elections
2006	3rd ordinary Local Body Elections
2011	Fourth Ordinary Local Body Elections
2019	Fifth Ordinary Local Body Elections (27 Districts)
2021	Fifth Ordinary Local Body Elections (9 Districts)

2.3 Three-Tier Panchayat Raj Institutions

2.3.1 Village Panchayats

There are 12,525 Village Panchayats consisting of 79,395 habitations in the State spread

across 37 Districts. The executive authority of the village panchayat is the Village Panchayat President. The Village Panchayat constituted shall function for five years from the date of its first meeting after ordinary local body elections.

In coordination with the Director of Census operations, village panchayat-wise rural population data, as per the census 2011, for all the Village Panchayats, were published in August 2014. The data contains the total population of village panchayats along with SC/ST and women population. The same has been uploaded in <https://tnrd.tn.gov.in> website.

Grama Sabha

During the Chola period, "Oor" and "Sabha" have existed and these institutions, aided in administration and ensured democratic decision making, by involving common people.

Article 243 of the Constitution provides for the formation of the Grama Sabha. All the registered voters of the Village Panchayat constitute Grama Sabha, which is provided with specific powers and functions.

Previously the Government had mandated that the Grama Sabhas shall be held four times a year - on 26th January, 1st May, 15th August, and 2nd October. Considering the importance of World Water Day and Local Bodies Day, the Government has increased that the Gram Sabha shall be held six times a year – additionally on 22nd March – World Water Day and 1st November – Local Bodies Day.

For effective functioning of Grama Sabhas, they are monitored by the “Namma Grama Sabha mobile application”. The application captures the details of the quorum of the Grama Sabha, resolutions passed, Nodal officers attended, timings

of Grama Sabha along with photographs of the conduct of Grama Sabha.

Village Panchayat Committees:

Every Village Panchayat shall constitute the following committees, namely:

- Appointments Committee
- Development Committee
- Agricultural and watershed Committee
- Works Committee
- Education Committee

Village Panchayat Development Plan (VPDP)

As per section 240 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, every Village Panchayat will prepare a development plan for the Village Panchayat every year. For the preparation of the Village Panchayat Development Plan (VPDP) for the

ensuing financial year, People's Plan Campaigns are organised from 2nd October to 31st December, through a participatory approach in convergence with other departments as per guidelines issued by the Government.

These Village Panchayat Development Plans are prepared based on the indicators of the nine Localised Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) in order to converge all the activities of all departments to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the year 2030.

The Village Panchayat Development plan is finalized through Special Gram Sabha meetings held in each Village Panchayat. The plans are then uploaded on the Village Panchayat Development plan portal www.gpdp.nic.in of the Ministry of Panchayat Raj.

All works during the ensuing financial year can be taken up only based on the approved Village Panchayat Development Plan.

Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs)

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations are reclassified into 9 themes as the “Localization of Sustainable Development Goals” (LSDG), with the aim of achieving the goals through the Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs). They are

- i. Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihoods Panchayat
- ii. Healthy Panchayat
- iii. Child Friendly Panchayat
- iv. Water Sufficient Panchayat
- v. Clean and Green Panchayat

- vi. Self-sufficient Infrastructure Panchayat
- vii. Socially Just & Socially Secured Panchayat
- viii. Panchayat with Good Governance
- ix. Women Friendly Panchayat.

For the Panchayat Raj Institutions to localize the Sustainable Development Goals, thematic approach has been taken to cover most relevant SDGs in nine themes so that PRIs can relate to SDGs through those themes with Local Targets aligned to the National Targets.

2.3.2 Panchayat Unions

There are 388 Panchayat Unions (Block Panchayats) in the State. The Panchayat Unions are divided into 6,471 territorial wards for a minimum of every 5,000 populations.

The Panchayat Union Ward Members are directly elected from the territorial wards and the Panchayat Union Chairperson is elected indirectly from amongst the ward members.

2.3.3 District Panchayats

There are 36 District Panchayats. District Panchayat has been constituted in each District as per Section 24 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. District Panchayat for Mayiladuthurai, the newly formed district, will be formed after the next local body elections.

The District Panchayat Ward Members are elected directly by the people, whereas the Chairperson is indirectly elected from among the Ward Members. There are 655 District Panchayat Wards in total. In each district, an officer in the cadre of Assistant Director from the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is

appointed as the Secretary to the District Panchayat.

Reconstitution of District Planning Committee

The District Planning Committee has been reconstituted in 36 districts. As per Article 243ZD, the District Planning Committee (DPC) is to consolidate the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole. The District Panchayat Chairperson heads the committee and members of the respective District Panchayats, Town Panchayats, Municipal Corporation and Municipal Councils are elected as the members of the District Planning Committee. It is advisory in nature.

2.4 Financial Resources of Rural Local Bodies

In Tamil Nadu, among the three tiers of Rural Local Bodies, the village panchayat is the only body empowered to levy and collect taxes. The village panchayats receive revenue from the following sources:

- i) Grants
- ii) Tax Revenue
- iii) Non-Tax Revenue

2.4.1 Grants to Rural Local Bodies

a) State Finance Commission Grant

Tamil Nadu is one of the States that regularly constitutes the State Finance Commission once in 5 years as mandated by the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India and Section 198 of the Tamil

Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. The major functions of the State Finance Commission are:

- i. Distribution of the net proceeds of taxes, duties, tolls, and fees leviable by the Government between the State and the Panchayats.
- ii. Determination of taxes, duties, tolls, and fees which may be assigned to the Panchayats.
- iii. Grants to the Panchayats from the consolidated fund of the State.
- iv. Measures needed to improve the financial position of the Panchayats.

So far, Six State Finance Commissions have been constituted, since the year 1994, for the devolution of funds to the local bodies.

i) Sixth State Finance Commission (2022-23 – 2027-28)

The Government constituted the Sixth State Finance Commission vide its orders on 06.03.2020 to review the financial position of the rural and urban local bodies. The recommendations of the Commission were placed in the Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly on 13.01.2023. Most of the recommendations of the Commission have been accepted by the Government.

Accepted recommendations of the Sixth SFC:

1. The award period of the Sixth SFC is 2022-23 to 2027-28.
2. The Sixth SFC recommended devolving 10% of the State's own Tax Revenue to Local Bodies.

3. The vertical sharing ratio between Rural and Urban Local bodies will be 51:49.
4. The Government has also ordered to share the devolution grant among the District Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats in the ratio of 6:39:55 respectively.
5. The Grant allocated to the three tiers will be devolved on the basis of the multiplier formula recommended by the Sixth State Finance Commission.
6. Sixth SFC has categorised the grants into two major heads as detailed below:
 - i. Special Grant
 - ii. Devolution Grant.

Special Grant:

Special grants are granted to the department to carry out specific functions as per the recommendations in priority sectors. The Special Grants are further divided into Capital Grant Fund (CGF) and Operations, Maintenance and Deficit Grant Fund (OMDGF). The grants are earmarked at the State and District levels.

I. Capital Grant Fund:

As under the Fifth SFC, the Capital Grant fund is continued during the Sixth SFC award period also. As per the recommendations of Sixth SFC, an amount of Rs.1233 crore has been allocated under the head of Capital Grant Fund for the year 2024-25. The Capital Grant fund is further divided into State-level and District level components.

State Level – CGF

Out of the State Level CGF for the Year 2024-25, Rs.720 crore has been allotted for improvement of rural infrastructure with priority to weaker local bodies, Rs.144 crore has been allotted for conversion of Panchayat roads into Other District Roads (ODR), Rs.1 crore has been allotted for developing infrastructure for the Rural Regional Training Institutes, (RRTI) Rs.168 crore has been allotted for improving the infrastructure in the schools located in the RLBs.

District Level- CGF

Rs.200 crore has been allotted for the Capital Grant Fund at the District level.

II. Operation, Maintenance and Deficit Grant Fund (OMDGF):

The Operation, Maintenance and Deficit Grant Fund has replaced the Pooled Fund for Deficit

RLBs. An amount of Rs.834.60 crore has been allocated for the year 2024-25 earmarked as below.

1. An amount of Rs.120 crore has been earmarked to pay long-standing water charge dues to the TWAD Board.
2. An amount of Rs.240 crore has been allocated to TANGEDCO to settle the arrears of electricity consumption charges.
3. An amount of Rs.336 crore per annum allocated to be released to deficit RLBs as per the recommendations of the Sixth SFC
4. An amount of Rs.69 crore is allocated to infrastructure of Peri-Urban Panchayats and Rs.30 crore is allocated to the infrastructure of hill area Panchayats.
5. An amount of Rs.34 crore is remitted as advance library cess to the Directorate of Libraries on behalf of Village Panchayats. The

Village Panchayats, in turn, would collect the same from the rural households along with Property tax and utilize it.

6. An amount of Rs.5 crore has been allocated to the Sanitary Worker's Welfare Board to undertake welfare activities of sanitary workers working in the Panchayats.
7. To ensure capacity building among the elected representatives and officers, an amount of Rs.60 lakh has been allocated to Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.
8. Sixth SFC has allocated an amount of Rs.60 crore for school infrastructure improvement and Rs.10 crore as a reward for the implementation of the Forests Rights Act in rural areas.

III. Devolution Grant

The Devolution Grants are shared in the ratio of 6:39:55 among Three Tiers of Rural Local Bodies for District Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats, respectively.

An amount of Rs.6902.60 crore has been allocated by the Government towards the devolution Grant for the year 2024-25.

a) 15th Finance Commission Grant

The award period of the Fifteenth Finance Commission is from the year 2021-22 to 2025-26.

- The ratio of Tied and Untied Grant has been fixed as 60:40.
- Out of the Tied Grant, 30% is utilised for water supply, water conservation, rainwater harvesting and recycling of

waste, and the remaining 30% is utilized for sanitation.

- Untied Grant is utilised for the specific local needs as permitted by the guidelines other than for salary and establishment expenditure.

The Fifteenth Union Finance Commission has also recommended that its Grants should be distributed horizontally, within the respective tiers of the Panchayats, on the basis of the accepted recommendations of the latest State Finance Commission (SFC). The following vertical sharing ratio among three tiers of Rural Local Bodies has been adopted.

District Panchayat	5%
Block Panchayat	15%
Village Panchayat	80%

The details of the three tier distribution of the 15th Finance Commission grant for the entire Award period have been tabulated below:-

[Rs. in crore]

Year	Village Panchayat	Block Panchayat	District Panchayat	Total
2020-21	2885.60	541.05	180.35	3607.00
2021-22	2132.80	399.90	133.30	2666.00
2022-23	2208.80	414.15	138.05	2761.00
2023-24	2232.80	418.65	139.55	2791.00
2024-25	2365.60	443.55	147.85	2957.00
2025-26	2307.20	432.60	144.20	2884.00
Total	14132.80	2649.90	883.30	17666.00

b) Construction of Buildings for Health Department under 15th Finance Commission Health Grants

Health Grants are provided under the 15th Finance Commission to facilitate strengthening of Health infrastructure at the grass-roots level.

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department executes the construction of these works to ensure better last mile delivery of Health services to the rural people in the State.

Three types of Health Buildings are constructed in the State utilizing these grants- Health Sub Centres, Block Public Health Units and Primary Health Centres.

The details of Health Buildings sanctioned from the years 2021-22 to 2023-24 are as follows:

Year	No. of Works sanctioned			
	HSC	BPHU	PHC	Total
2021-22	169	68	13	250
2022-23	120	68	13	201
2023-24	122	38	64	224
Total	411	174	90	675

2.5 Own Sources of Revenue

1. Tax Revenue

- Section 172 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 empowers the Village Panchayats to levy House Tax. This section 172 has been amended to replace the terminology "House Tax" to "Property Tax".

- Section 198-B of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 provides for the levy and collection of **Profession Tax** payable by the employees from their salaries or wages, and the employer has to deduct the same and remit to the Village Panchayats concerned.
- The Panchayats are empowered to levy **Advertisement Tax** in the exercise of the powers conferred by sections 172, 220 and 242 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994.

2. Non-Tax Revenue

The Village Panchayats are entitled to get revenue from the following sources as non-tax revenue:

- i) Licensing fee for building plan and layout approval

- ii) Fees and charges on Dangerous and Offensive trades. This non-tax revenue head has been changed to trade licence in the Sixth Amendment of 2024 to the Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act 1994.
- iii) Market fee
- iv) Water charges
- v) Fee on cart stand
- vi) Social Forestry auctions
- vii) Fishery rentals
- viii) Income from markets and fairs
- ix) Fee from ferries
- x) Fines and penalties
- xi) Mines and Minerals seigniorage fee and lease amount.

2.6 Pooled Assigned Revenue (PAR)

The assigned revenues due to Rural Local Bodies from the proceeds of surcharge on stamp duty collected by the Registration Department are being pooled at the State level for apportioning the same to the Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions.

Accordingly, the Government sanctions and releases from the proceeds of surcharge on stamp duty as Pooled Assigned Revenue as detailed below:

- One-third (1/3) of the total allocation is apportioned to Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions
- The balance two-thirds (2/3) is earmarked for the Priority Schemes in rural areas.

2.7 Awards and Recognitions to best performing Village Panchayats and Institutions

a. Uthamar Gandhi Award:

Village Panchayat President plays a major role in the development of the village from the preparation of plans, pooling of resources, prioritizing needs, and implementing the schemes of the Government to bring out the holistic development of the Panchayat. He acts as an executive and public representative and also acts as a bridge between the local people and various government departments. Therefore, the development of a panchayat largely hinges on the leadership, enterprise, and ingenuity of the President, who is the fulcrum for the convergence of all programmes and schemes and last mile delivery of services.

The Honourable Chief Minister made an announcement in the legislative assembly under Rule 110 to reinstate the "Uthamar Gandhi Award" from the year 2022 to encourage Panchayat Presidents to lead from the forefront in the development of their Panchayats and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. This Award was earlier given between 2006-2010 and later discontinued.

As per G.O. (Ms) No. 114 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-II) Department, dated: 11.10.2022 this award will be conferred to one best performing Village Panchayat per district with a cash award of Rs.10 lakh. The eligible village Panchayats will be selected based on a standard set of indicators for assessing their performance in fulfilling Sustainable Developmental Goals. The selected Panchayat President will be recognised

to motivate similar good practices which will serve as a model for the other Presidents and Panchayats.

b. Corporate Social Responsibility Award:

NGOs and corporates take up infrastructure and livelihood activities as a part of their social outreach programmes. The corporates have to spend 2% of their net profit towards Social Responsibility activities as per Companies Act, 2013. In recognising the contribution of Private sector and Corporates in the development of Villages, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Award was constituted. The award was conferred to the best performing Corporates in Rural Social Services, till 2010. Now, the Corporate Social Responsibility Award has been reinstated to recognise the outstanding philanthropic & rural development work under CSR social responsibility by Industrial houses and Private sector in the area

of community and Village development in rural areas. As per G.O. (Ms) No. 80 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-II) Department, dated: 06.07.2022, every year one best performing Institution, per district will be selected for the award which carries a cash prize of Rs.1 lakh cash and a citation.

C. National Panchayat Award

‘National Panchayat Awards’ are given to the best performing Panchayats, including financial incentives for award winning Panchayats, in recognition of their performances under various priority sectors/themes by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj under the following categories.

1. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar (DDUPSV)
(For the performance under individual LSDG themes)

2. Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar (NDSPSV)
(For the aggregate performance under all 9 LSDG themes)
3. Green Initiative related Special Categories,
 - a) Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar
 - b) Carbon Neutral Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar

Under Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar category, Pichanur Village Panchayat of Madukkarai Block, Coimbatore District has been awarded 1st prize in National Level under Panchayat with Good Governance theme.

2.8 New Initiatives:

a) Panchayat Development Index (PDI):

The measure of the progress on the LSDGs in rural areas through Panchayats needs to be assessed at the local level and towards this end, the Panchayat Development Index (PDI) has been formulated.

Panchayat Development Index will provide invaluable insights to the Line Ministries/State Governments and Panchayats for evidence based policy making to attain SDGs at the grass roots level.

The PDI for the State will be calculated on **574 Local Indicators** on 9 themes, **138 Local Targets** and **638 unique data points** to monitor the progress of LSDGs. The data source for each data point available at VP level has been identified in the Report.

Based on the **Local Indicator Framework** (LIF) scores, the Village Panchayats will get scores on thematic LSDGs as follows:-

- **A+** Achiever (Above 90)
- **A** Front Runner (75 to Below 90)
- **B** Performer (60 to below 75)
- **C** Aspirant (40 to below 60)
- **D** Beginners (0 to below 40)

b) VPTAX

A website [**www.vptax.tnrd.tn.gov.in**](http://www.vptax.tnrd.tn.gov.in) has been launched to facilitate online payment of taxes and other charges to panchayats.

Totally, 1.44 crore Household data has been entered in the portal and Point of Sale (PoS) Machines have been issued to all 12,525 Village Panchayats to facilitate tax collection.

C) TNPASS

The Village Panchayats in Tamil Nadu have been operating 11 types of bank accounts through PFMS. The Tamil Nadu Simplified Panchayat Account System (TNPASS) has been introduced to simplify the financial transactions of Village Panchayats, in which Village Panchayat account handling has been simplified together in one online portal. This Online platform facilitates faster transactions and speedy delivery of services.

d) Single Window Portal – for Layout and Building plan approval in online.

The process of issuing building plan approval and layout approval online in Village Panchayats areas have been introduced. A common Single Window Portal is used by all Rural Local Bodies for receiving and processing applications of building and layout approval.

3. State Schemes

3.1 Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT – II)

Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam was a landmark scheme taken up during 2006-2011 with a focus on the comprehensive development of all Village Panchayats. This scheme is aimed at improving the overall basic infrastructure facilities in all village panchayats in a phased manner over a span of five years. An amount of Rs.20 lakh was provided to every Village Panchayat to ensure minimum basic facilities. The compulsory works included rejuvenation of a Pond, establishment of a Rural Library with provision of furniture and books, creation / improvement of Common Burial Grounds / Cremation sheds and establishment of Community / School Sports Centre with required equipment in every Village Panchayat.

The scheme created a positive impact on the rural people.

The Flagship scheme of the Government has been relaunched in 2021-22 as Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam-II (AGAMT-II) to ensure holistic development of all habitations in every Village Panchayat in the State through equitable distribution of resources. It is being implemented in a phased manner over a period of five years, from 2021-22 to 2025-26. The scheme is designed to address critical infrastructural needs and holistic development of the people in all habitations by leveraging and converging schemes across 16 Departments towards better impact on rural people.

3.1.1 Selection of Village Panchayats

Under AGAMT-II, about 20% of village panchayats are selected annually at the block level for development.

1. Fund Allocation

Under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam-II, a minimum basic grant of Rs.30.00 lakh is provided to all Village Panchayats and Rs.5 lakh to each Village Panchayat as Performance Incentive Funds. In addition, Population Grant and Habitation Grant is provided by giving weightage of 50% for number of Habitations and 50% for Population.

For release of Performance Incentive Fund, the Village Panchayats are assessed based on certain criteria and it is sanctioned by the District Collector in proportion to the number of parameters achieved.

2. Comprehensive Habitation Survey

The Infrastructure Gap Survey was conducted in all the habitations by a survey team consisting of officials, PLF members and village panchayat Presidents. Based on the Gap survey, the works were taken up under three broad categories (1) Funded by AGAMT, (2) Dovetailing with other Rural Development Schemes and Other Department Schemes.

3. Scheme components:

Table 3.1

Sl. No.	Work Category
i.	Rejuvenation of Ponds and Ooranies
ii.	Public Utility buildings

iii.	Infra-structure facilities to Samathuva Burial Ground
iv.	Upgradation of Streets and Lanes
v.	Street Lights
vi.	Livelihood /Marketing facilities

A minimum of 30% of the fund is allocated to SC/ST habitations/areas.

For the year 2021-22, 2657 village panchayats were selected with an outlay of Rs.1455 crore. During the year 2022-23, 2544 village panchayats have been selected with an allocation of Rs.1155 crore, for the year 2023-24, 2504 village panchayats have been selected with an allocation of Rs.1148 crore and for the year 2024-25, 2482 village panchayats have been selected with an allocation of Rs.1147.28 crore.

**Table 3.2 Details of works taken up
in 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24**

Sl. No	Type of Works	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Total Works (in Nos)	Total Cost (Rs. In crore)	Total Works (in Nos)	Total Cost (Rs. In crore)	Total Works (in Nos)	Total Cost (Rs. In crore)
1	Rejuvenation of Water Bodies	2200	216.25	1753	161.64	1672	150.80
2	Creation and Upgradation of Streets and Lanes in Habitation	9524	451.18	6910	348.16	7080	369.76
3	Creating Infrastructure facilities for the burial ground, which is proposed as Samathuva Burial Ground	892	46.87	548	29.25	607	34.92

4	Infrastructure Development in Schools and Creating Public Utilities	4250	302.91	2887	248.46	3055	222.17
5	Clean and Green Villages	2891	118.31	2213	82.32	1545	72.32
6	Livelihood and Marketing Facilities in Convergence	2368	153.95	1865	129.79	1804	146.80

3.2 Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam

- ❖ The Article 243-G, along with the XI Schedule of the Constitution of India and Section 111 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, empowers the village panchayats to open and maintain libraries/reading rooms in the Villages. Accordingly, 12,618 Rural Libraries were established from 2006-07 to 2010-2011 under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi

Thittam. Due to lack of periodical maintenance these libraries were not functioning to their optimum capacity.

Plan for Revival of AGAMT Libraries

- ❖ Government issued orders to revive all the rural libraries established under AGAMT in the Village Panchayats. The library buildings will be repaired and renovated with provision of ramp and toilet, replacement of damaged furniture and improved collection of additional books.
- ❖ During 2021-22, 4116 libraries were renovated at an estimate cost of Rs.91.75 crore. In the year 2022-23, 3,679 libraries were renovated at an estimated amount of Rs.84.27 crore. During the year 2024-25, 4386 Libraries will be renovated at an estimate cost of Rs.96.84 crore.

3.3 HOUSING SCHEMES

3.3.1 'Kalaignarin Kanavu Illam'

In the Budget 2024-25, Honourable Minister for Finance and Human Resources Management has announced that,

"Even in the twenty-first century, huts persist in rural areas as an enduring symbol of poverty. In the Indian society plagued with disparity, this transition to safe and permanent houses accords an opportunity to people to live with dignity. Fully aware of this reality, Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar introduced a pioneering initiative in 1975 marking the first instance in the country where permanent houses were constructed for hut-dwellers in rural areas. Subsequently, the 'Kalaignar Veedu Vazhangum Thittam' was launched in 2010 for achieving the goal

*of a hut-free Tamil Nadu. In the recent survey conducted by this Government for replacing huts with safe and permanent concrete houses in rural areas of Tamil Nadu, it has been found that approximately eight lakh huts continue to exist. Hence, to create a **'Hut-Free Tamil Nadu'** by **2030**, eight lakh concrete houses will be constructed in rural areas over the period of 6 years. In the first phase, **one lakh new houses** will be built **at a unit cost of Rs.3.50 lakh per house in the coming year**. The selected beneficiaries will be provided with house sites in case they are landless and will be provided with funds, for constructing the house, directly into their bank accounts. With a scientific survey and transparent selection process, **a new scheme, 'Kalaignarin Kanavu Illam', will be implemented in the coming year at a***

cost of Rs.3,500 crore, providing an opportunity for the poor to build their dream homes.”

Unit cost and Target:

New houses will be built at a unit cost of Rs.3.50 lakh per house including convergence with MGNREGS scheme to facilitate 90 person days and another 10 person days for the construction of Individual Household Latrine (IHHL). Individual Household Latrine (IHHL) will be provided from Swachh Bharath Mission-Gramin (SBM G) @ Rs.12,000/- if toilet is not already provided under the scheme.

Salient features:

Following are the salient features of the scheme.

- Under this scheme, minimum plinth area of the house will be 360 sq.ft including

kitchen. Out of which 300 Sq.ft will be covered with RCC roofing and the remaining area 60 Sq.ft may be of RCC or any other type of roof with non-flammable materials as per the choice of the beneficiary.

- In case of hilly areas, roof can be laid as per the choice of the beneficiary.
- At any circumstances roof with thatches and asbestos sheet are prohibited under this scheme
- Cost effective and fast track construction technologies will be permitted.
- The houses can be constructed by the beneficiaries.
- Payment to the beneficiaries will be made directly to their bank account through State level Single Nodal Account.

- Additionally, if beneficiary wishes, he can avail institutional credit through bank, District Central Cooperative Bank / SHG loan upto Rs. 1 lakh.

Implementation

During the year 2024-25, one lakh new houses will be constructed under the scheme 'Kalaigarin Kanavu Illam'.

3.3.2 Repairs to Houses Constructed under Various Government Schemes in Rural Areas

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has made an announcement on the floor of Legislative Assembly on 15.02.2024 that,

"தமிழகத்தில் 2001-ஆம் ஆண்டுக்கு முன்பாக பல்வேறு அரசுத் திட்டங்களின் கீழ் ஏறத்தாழ 2.50 லட்சம் வீடுகள் கட்டப்பட்டன. கிராமப்புற விளிம்பு நிலை மக்களுக்காக கட்டப்பட்ட அந்த வீடுகள்

ஈ.2,000 கோடியில் அடுத்த இரண்டு ஆண்டுகளில் பழுதுபார்த்து, புனரமைக்கப்படும்"

In this regard, RD&PR department have conducted a survey in all the Village Panchayats, named "Repairs to Rural Houses", to ascertain the current status of houses constructed under various Government schemes. The survey was conducted through a web based mobile application named "Repairs to Rural Houses (RRH)" developed by the RD&PR department.

In the above survey, 2,57,006 tiled and sloped RCC roof houses which were constructed prior to 2000-01 were identified as eligible houses which require urgent repair, since they were constructed more than 20 years back.

Based on the above announcement, the Government has introduced a scheme to repair the

houses constructed till the year 2000-01 under the various Government schemes in two years 2024-25 and 2025-26 at a total estimated outlay of Rs.1,954.20 crore.

Unit cost assistance:

Under this special initiative, financial assistance will be

For Tiled Roof Houses,

Sl. No	Type of Repair	Maximum Permissible cost	
		For plains	For hilly areas
1	Minor Repair	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.32,000/- whichever is less.	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.42,000/- whichever is less.
2	Major Repair	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.70,000/- whichever is less.	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.92,000/- whichever is less.

For Sloped RCC roof houses,

Sl. No	Type of Repair	Maximum Permissible cost	
		For plains	For hilly areas
1	Minor Repair	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs. 55,000/- whichever is less.	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs. 72,000/- whichever is less.
2	Major Repair	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.1,50,000/- whichever is less.	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.1,85,000/- whichever is less.

Payment to the beneficiaries will be made directly in to their bank account from the State Level Single Nodal Account (SNA).

Financial sanction:

Financial sanction is accorded to repair 1,48,634 houses at an estimated outlay of Rs. 1041.32 crore for the year 2024-2025.

3.3.3 Construction of New Samathuvapuram

The Government of Tamil Nadu had launched the **“Periyar Ninaivu samathuvapuram”** as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Indian Independence during the year 1997-98 to promote social justice and to spread Thanthai Periyar’s message of social equality. The vision of the scheme is to enable people belonging to various communities to live together without caste or communal differences and 238 Samathuvapurams were constructed in the state in two spells. These

Samathuvapurams have been renovated in two phases during the year 2021-22 and 2022-23.

New Samathuvapuram:

The Government has issued orders for the construction of eight new Samathuvapurams under “**Periyar Ninaivu Samathuvapuram**” scheme during the year 2023-24.

Salient features:

- ❖ Samathuvapuram will be established in an area of 9-10 acres adhering to the guidelines.
- ❖ Each Samathuvapuram will consist of 100 houses (each house having plinth area of 300Sq.ft),
- ❖ Common infrastructure viz., Roads, Water supply, Street lights and Other basic infrastructure facilities such as

Public Distribution shop, Community Hall, Library building, School building, School toilet, Anganwadi, Playground and Park will be provided in the Samathuvapuram.

- ❖ Apart from the above facilities, Arch and Periyar statue will be provided in the Samathuvapuram.

3.3.4 Repair and Reconstruction of Houses in 7 Flood Affected Districts -2023

In order to help the rural poor who were rendered shelter less due to the effect of Michaung Cyclone during December 2023 in Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram and Tiruvallur Districts and due to unprecedented rains lashed the four southern Districts viz., Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Tenkasi and Kanniyakumari on 17.12.2023 and 18.12.2023, the following press release was issued by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 30.12.2023:-

"ஊரக வளர்ச்சித் துறை மூலம் முழுவதுமாக சேதமடைந்த வீடுகளை மீண்டும் புதிதாகக் கட்டுவதற்கு ரூ.4 இலட்சம் வழங்கிடவும். பகுதி சேதமடைந்த வீடுகளுக்கு தலா ரூ.2 இலட்சம் வரை வழங்குவது எனவும் மாண்புமிகு முதலமைச்சர் அவர்கள் உத்தரவிட்டுள்ளார். இத்திட்டம் திருவள்ளூர், காஞ்சிபுரம். செங்கல்பட்டு ஆகிய மாவட்டங்களிலும் செயல்படுத்தப்படும். இத்திட்டத்தின் மூலம் மொத்தம் 385 கோடி ரூபாய் மதிப்பீட்டில் 4577 புதிய வீடுகள் கட்டப்படும் மற்றும் 9975 வீடுகளுக்கு பழுது நீக்கம் பணிகள் மேற்கொள்ளப்படும். இத்திட்டம் முழுவதும் மாநில அரசு நிதியிலிருந்து மேற்கொள்ளப்படும்."

Financial sanction:

As per the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Repair and Reconstruction of affected houses in the Districts of Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari, Tenkasi, Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu and Tiruvallur with a total amount of Rs.382.58 crore has been allocated.

Unit cost assistance:

Under this special initiative, financial assistance of Rs.4 lakh will be provided for reconstruction of house in lieu of fully damaged houses and a sum of upto Rs.2 lakh will be provided for repairing the partially damaged houses.

Salient features:

The salient features of the scheme are

- ❖ The plinth area of the house will be 400 sqft.
- ❖ The walls of the houses should be constructed by using country bricks/Fly ash bricks/ solid blocks/ interlocking blocks/ AAC blocks with framed structure using cement mortar.
- ❖ Under no circumstances mud mortar should not be used. Construction of mud wall is completely banned.
- ❖ Roof can be laid as per the preference of the beneficiary. It may be of RCC, PUF panels or tiles, as per the choice of the beneficiary.

- ❖ The Village Panchayat shall provide necessary assistance to the beneficiary in construction of house.
- ❖ Individual Household Latrine (IHHL) may be provided under SBM-G for eligible beneficiaries.
- ❖ Payment to the beneficiaries will be made directly to their bank account from the State level Single Nodal Account.

3.3.5 Housing Schemes of Other Departments

Apart from the housing schemes of RD&PR department, the construction of houses for specialised groups, such as Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees and Scheduled Tribes are also being undertaken by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

a) Housing For Sri Lankan Tamils

Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils Department has sanctioned 3,510 houses in

32 refugee camps located in 19 districts at an estimated cost of Rs.175.72 crore under Phase-I. These works are nearing completion. Under Phase-II, 3,919 houses in 36 refugee camps located in 15 districts at an estimated cost of Rs.228.64 crore has been sanctioned.

b) Housing For Scheduled Tribes

- ❖ Tribal Welfare Department has sanctioned 3,881 houses during the year 2022-23 at an estimated outlay of Rs.176.46 crore in 23 Districts. All houses are under progress and will be completed as early as possible.
- ❖ Payment to the beneficiaries will be made directly to their bank account from the State level Single Nodal Account.

3.4 Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS)

The Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme was launched during the year 1997-98 with Rs.25 lakh to a constituency for taking up works to bridge the critical infrastructural gap in respective MLA constituencies. This scheme is fully funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu. This scheme is being implemented in both rural and urban areas in the State.

At present the fund allocation under the scheme is Rs.3.00 crore per constituency per annum to the 234 MLA constituencies of the State.

During the Year 2022-23, the Government released new guidelines for the scheme, and

the selection of works have been made time-bound for timely execution. Also, it is reiterated that 22% of the overall allocation must be utilised for areas predominantly inhabited by SC/ST persons in rural areas and slums in urban areas. Every year for the implementation of the scheme the Government is sanctioning a sum of Rs.702 crore as total allocation for 234 MLA constituencies.

For the year 2024-25, the Government have accorded administrative sanction for Rs.702 crore and issued detailed guidelines for implementation of this scheme.

3.5 'Namakku Naame Thittam' (Rural)

Dr Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi, Hon'ble former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, during the Budget Speech 1997-98, announced the 'Namakku Naame Thittam'(NNT) to encourage

people's participation in the creation of public assets. The scheme aims to promote and strengthen the self-help and self-reliant attitude of the rural community.

Individuals, groups, institutions, companies or the local community can choose work by accepting to contribute a minimum of one-third of the cost for the works under this scheme. If the public contribution is 50% or more of the estimated value of the work, the District Collector can permit the contributor or the agency to the work without tender. In an amendment to the existing guidelines, the Government reduced the minimum public contribution requirement for works taken up in SC/ST habitations to 1/5th of the overall value of work. Every year for the implementation of the scheme the Government is sanctioning a sum of Rs.100 crore as total allocation.

During the year 2023-24, the Government has also sanctioned a sum of Rs.50 Crore as additional fund for implementation of the scheme

For the year 2024-25, the Government have accorded administrative sanction for Rs.100 Crore and issued detailed Guidelines for implementation of the scheme in rural areas.

3.6 Rural Infrastructure – Roads

Rural Roads

The road network plays a vital role in the economic development of a country for several reasons such as facilitation of trade, attracting investment, reduced transportation costs, boosting tourism, enhancing productivity, access to markets, stimulating urbanisation, access to essential

services, inter-sectoral linkages, stability and reliability etc.,

Rural roads provide the last-mile connectivity in the State's road network. Investment on rural roads enhances in socio-economic indicators like education, healthcare, agriculture, marketing and employment opportunities. Roads are essential elements of rural development. Thus, this Government has accorded special focus for the improvement of the rural roads through the introduction of "Mudalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam". Some of the related measures on the road sector are described below.

1. Prioritization based on roads connecting unconnected habitations, link roads connecting amenities like Markets, Shandies, Schools, Colleges, Hospitals, Bus

plying roads and interconnecting link roads etc.,

2. Consolidation of road network data by updating all the missed out roads in rural areas and periodically updating newly formed roads and also assigning each Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union road with a unique 'Road Code'.
3. Increased allocation of funds for the improvement of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads from various State and Centrally sponsored schemes.
4. Construction of roads using various Green and Alternate technologies.

Considering the continuous evolution of the rural road network, the updation of the list of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads is a

continuous process. The complete updated details of the Village Panchayat and Panchayat union roads are available in the tnrd.gov.in website. The current status of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads are given below:

Sl. No.	Type of Surface	Village Panchayat Roads (Length in Km)	Panchayat Union Roads (Length in Km)	Total (Length in Km)
1	Black	74263	23123	97386
2	Cement	3237	392	3629
3	Double	1282	69	1351
4	Single	8547	342	8889
5	Gravel	2486	112	2598
6	Earthen	23106	850	23956
Total		112921	24888	137809

The funds required for Rural Roads improvement were met by channeling funds from various

schemes like MGSMT, NABARD-RIDF, PMGSY, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority(CMDA), Infra structure & Amenities Fund(I&AF), Local Planning Authority(LPA), General Funds of Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions etc.

The Scheme wise details of road and bridge works taken in the last 3 years are given below:

S. No	Schemes	Roads			Bridges	
		No.	Length (Km)	Amount (Rs. In crore)	No.	Amount (Rs. In crore)
1.	MGSMT	7465	9651.00	4000.00	-	-
2.	NABARD-RIDF	287	551.76	424.85	342	1129.19
3.	PMGSY	935	4122.82	2692.29	83	320.97
4.	Peri-Urban	2550	709.18	390.24	-	-
5.	TNRRIS	1360	1990.00	627.23	-	-
Total		12597	17024.76	8134.61	425	1450.16

3.7 'Mudalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam' (MGSMT)

The Government has introduced a new scheme named as "Mudhalvarin Grama Saalaigal Membattu Thittam" and Rs.4,000 crore has been sanctioned for the improvements of 10,000 Km length of Panchayat Union Roads and Village Panchayat roads for 2022-23 and 2023-24. The objective of the "Mudalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam (MGSMT)" is to Upgrade/Strengthen/Maintain Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads.

Priority

Priority has been given for Bus plying Roads, roads providing single connectivity to habitations,

roads connecting National Highways, State Highways and Major District Roads, By-pass roads, roads connecting important tourism, pilgrimage, and heritage places socio economic utilities etc.

Salient Features of MGSMT

- Block Rural Road Plan (BRRP) has been prepared to provide a complete profile of the road network in the block and also assigning score to each road based on select weightages.
- This scheme is being implemented with 5-year Routine Maintenance by the same contractor after improvement.

- In order to rationalise and remove imbalance in the rural road network, Bus plying roads, Village Panchayat roads of length more than 3 Km, roads connecting the NH, SH, MDR& Bypass and roads connecting important tourism, pilgrimage, and heritage places socio economic utilities etc. are being reclassified as Panchayat Union Roads.
- As an innovation, Quick Response (QR) Code has been given for all the roads sanctioned under MGSMT and the same has been displayed in the name board. The QR code provides the complete details of the concerned road about the present stage of the road, year of last improvement, estimate cost, length of the road etc.,
- Road Safety measures like road Intersection improvement has been made mandatory

aspect for the roads merging into National Highways, State Highways and Major District Roads under MGSMT scheme. In case of roads with accident spots, black spots, unsafe geometry etc necessary road safety measures including speed calming works, protective barriers, reflective road marking have been made.

- Provision has been given for road marking using Thermoplastic compound with reflective rising glass beads on Bituminous surface.
- The quality of the works is verified through independent State Quality Monitors and/or other Third-party agencies for the works taken under MGSMT and quality is being maintained on par with the 'Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana'.

Year of Sanction	No. of road works	Length in Km	Amount (Rs. In crore)
2022-23 & 2023-24	7465	9651.00	4000.00

For 2024-25, an allocation of **Rs.1000 crore** has been made for MGSMT

3.8 NABARD - Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)

Union Government instituted the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) under NABARD for financing the implementation of rural infrastructure projects by the State Government. 20% of the fund is directly allotted by the State Government and the remaining 80% is borrowed by State Government as loan from NABARD.

The objective of the scheme is to improve damaged Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads, up gradation of non-BT roads to BT standard and construction of bridges, so as to ensure all weather road connectivity in rural areas.

Under this Scheme,

- Priority is given to roads providing connectivity to unconnected habitations, Bus/minibus plying roads, roads used for agricultural purposes, roads leading to industrial clusters and marketing centres, roads leading to tourism and pilgrimage centres, roads linking hospitals, schools and other amenities.
- Roads having minimum length of 1 Km are taken up in this scheme.

From 2006-07 to 2022-23, 8,146 roads to a length of 19,063 Km and 510 high level bridges

were taken up at a cost of Rs.4325 crore under this scheme.

Further for the year 2023-24, construction of 149 high level bridges and 285 roads to a length of 521 Km were sanctioned at a cost of Rs.806 crore under NABARD RIDF XXIX.

In addition to above, during the year 2023-24, sanction has also been accorded for a sum of Rs.139.65 crore under NABARD RIDF XXIX scheme for providing rural road connectivity to a length of 31 Km to Keelur, Melur and Kedamalai habitations located in Bodhamalai hilly regions of Namakkal district. This road connectivity aims to fulfill the long pending demand of the tribal people in Keelur, Melur and Kedamalai habitations by providing easy access to basic health care, education and other socio-economic needs.

3.8.1 Improvements of Roads in Peri-Urban Panchayats

The panchayats within 5 km radius of cities and town area have more influx of population leading to increased usage of roads, streets & lanes. The roads, streets and lanes of these areas play a crucial role, contributing to various aspects of society and daily life and the improvement of these streets & lanes will provide better living standards.

Government has identified a 690 Village Panchayats as Peri -Urban Panchayats.

The Government has sanctioned Rs.390 crore for the improvements of 2550 roads, streets & lanes works for a length of 709 Km during the year 2023-24 by assigning the funds from Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), Infrastructure & Amenities Fund(I&AF) and Local Planning Authority (LPA).

Year of Sanction	No. of road works	Length in Km	Amount (Rs. In crore)
2023-24	2550	709.18	390.24

3.8.2 Flood Restoration

During 2023 North East monsoon, the tropical cyclone named Michaung, made heavy downpour in Northern coastal areas of Tamil Nadu. Similarly, the torrential rain combined with the excess water flow from Thamiraparani river has severely damaged the Southern coastal districts.

The above natural calamities have caused catastrophic damages in Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Tenkasi and Kanniyakumari Districts. In order to provide immediate access to affected people, the damaged rural roads were temporarily restored to motorable condition in the above 7 Districts. In

addition, permanent restorations have been taken up for severely damaged 985 roads at an amount of Rs. 176.82 crore in Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli Districts.

3.9 School Infrastructure - Child Friendly School Infrastructure Development Scheme (CFSIDS)

The Government of Tamil Nadu has introduced various welfare schemes and measures to improve the quality and standard of school education. This has resulted in the increase of student enrolment in Government schools.

There are 21,136 Panchayat Union Primary Schools (PUPS) and 6,502 Panchayat Union Middle Schools (PUMS) in the State. These schools have 58,835 buildings. The infrastructural development and maintenance of the above school buildings are under the control

of the respective Panchayat Unions. The Government took action to demolish 2,745 dilapidated buildings to ensure the safety for the students.

Further, it was assessed that 13,157 additional classrooms are required in 4,847 schools. In order to bridge this critical gap for new classrooms, the Government introduced the Child Friendly School Infrastructure Development Scheme (CFSIDS) during the year 2022-23, in Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools located in rural and urban areas.

During the year 2023-24, the construction of 1,132 new classrooms have been taken up at a cost of Rs.183.64 crore. In addition to this, 472 classrooms in 236 PUPS & PUMS schools have been taken up at the cost of Rs.51.63 crore during the year 2022-23 under various other schemes like Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency

Development Scheme, Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme, Namakku Naame Thittam, etc.

During the financial year 2024-2025, the school building requirements uncovered in the previous years are to be taken up through NABARD and State Finance Commission component earmarked for school infrastructure.

Child-friendly school buildings under CFSIDS envisages the provision of better teaching-learning environment by using the school Building As a Learning Aid (BALA). Educational information and life skills will feature in the form of visual paintings. Child-friendly design modifications have been made in school buildings to ensure adequate lighting, better ventilation, safety features and attractive colourful maps & pictures.

3.10 School Infrastructure Development Scheme (SIDS)

The School Infrastructure Development Scheme was reintroduced in 2021-22, with objective of ensuring maintenance and renovation of existing infrastructure facilities in the Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools located in rural and urban areas.

During the year 2023-24, 2,417 repair and renovation works were taken up at the cost of Rs.60.63 crore. For the year 2024-25, repair and renovation works are to be taken up in the Village Panchayats covered under the AGAMT scheme.

3.11 Rejuvenation Of Basic Infrastructure and Overall Cleanliness of Government Schools (RBIOCGS):

Section 112 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 assigned certain duties to Panchayat Unions

on opening, maintenance, and expansion or improvement of elementary schools, including the payment of grants to private management in respect of elementary schools. Panchayat Union Primary Schools (PUPS) and Panchayat Union Middle Schools (PUMS) located in Village Panchayats are one of the major assets of the Panchayat Unions. It is the statutory responsibility of the Panchayat Unions concerned to ensure the maintenance of infrastructure facilities in these schools.

During the year 2023-24, 5534 repair and renovation works were taken up in Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools at an estimated cost of Rs.122.98 crore under the Rejuvenation of Basic Infrastructure and Overall Cleanliness of Government Schools (RBIOCGS) Scheme.

Further, during the year 2023-24, the Construction of 246 new and additional classrooms in 111 School buildings was taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.42.12 crore under the Scheme for Rejuvenation of Basic Infrastructure and Overall Cleanliness of Government Schools (RBIOCGS).

3.12 Rejuvenation of Rural Water Bodies

The Minor Irrigation (MI) tanks, Ponds/Ooranies are under the purview of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. There are about 22,051 MI Tanks and 69,777 ponds and ooranies in the rural areas. The MI tanks are owned by the Panchayat Unions and the Ponds/Ooranies are owned by the Village Panchayats. The rejuvenation of these water bodies will increase the storage capacity, ground water recharge, prevent surplus run off etc. It is

proposed to encourage community groups, NGOs, CSR institutions, educational institutions in rejuvenation of water bodies in a big way.

During the year 2024-25, 5000 MI Tank will be rejuvenated at a cost of Rs.500 crore. The objective of this scheme is Desilting and Deepening of Minor Irrigation Tanks using earth moving machineries, Repair or reconstruction of all structures like surplus weir, sluice(s) etc. and Desilting of Linking Supply channels with public participation.

3.13 Scheme Component Pooled Assigned Revenue (SCPAR)

Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue is a portion of Pooled Assigned Revenue allotted by the State Government exclusively to take up special works based on need. Since the year 2007-08, the State

Government had been ordering the pooling of assigned revenue due to the Rural Local Bodies from the proceeds of surcharge on entertainment tax and stamp duty at the State level and apportioning the same to the Rural Local Bodies and fund for priority schemes. After the GST was introduced, surcharge on entertainment tax was abolished.

From the year 2021-22 onwards, totally 102 Infrastructure works such as Integrated Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Office Complex buildings, Panchayat Union Office buildings, Gasifier Crematoria, roads, bridges, Bus Stands, Maha Kavi Bharathiyar livelihood Park have been sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.361 crore. Further, 729 vehicles at a total cost of Rs 66.51 crore have also been sanctioned for the officials of Rural

Development and Panchayat Raj Department under this scheme.

It is proposed to take up essential infrastructure works under this scheme to the tune of Rs.187 crore during this financial year.

3.14 Infrastructure Schemes of other Departments

Iyothee Thass Pandithar Habitations Development Scheme

The Department of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare provides funds to Rural Development Department to provide Basic amenities like water supply, streetlights, improvement of roads / internal streets, community toilets, cremation sheds / waiting sheds, pathways to burial grounds, improvements to play grounds and repair and

renovation of existing infrastructure. Adi-Draavidar habitations are selected based on their population. An amount of Rs.100 crore has been allocated for the year 2023-24.

Under Iyothee Thass Pandithar Habitations Development Scheme for the year 2024-2025 an amount of Rs.100 crore is allotted to ensure the basic amenities in Adi Draavidar habitations to bring about comprehensive socio-economic development.

4. Union Government Sponsored Schemes

4.1 Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)

4.1.1 MGNREG Scheme Implementation in Tamil Nadu

The Union Government launched the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in February 2006 to provide a maximum of 100 days of employment in a financial year to any rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

4.1.2 Salient Features of the Scheme:

1. Ten major entitlements of the scheme are:
 - a. Right to a Job Card
 - b. Right to demand and receive work within 15 days

- c. Right to un-employment Allowance
- d. Right to plan and prepare a Shelf of Projects.
- e. Right to obtain work within a radius of 5 km
- f. Right to work-site facilities
- g. Right to notified wage rate
- h. Right to receive wages within 15 days
- i. Compensation for delay in payment of wages
- j. Right to time-bound redressal of grievances and right to conduct concurrent social audits of all MGNREGS expenditure

2. MGNREGS 'work week' starts every Thursday and ends on next Wednesday. Works are taken up in clusters within a village.

3. The wages for unskilled labour have been fixed based on the Rural Schedule of Rates (RSoR). As per the revised Schedule-I of MGNREG Act, the Schedule of Rate for wages of unskilled labour is so fixed that an adult unskilled labourer working for eight hours which includes an hour of rest (i.e.,7 hours of effective work), will earn wages as per the wage rate.
4. Government Order for a Special Rural Schedule of Rates (RSoR) for the differently-abled was adopted, which provides either special activities for the differently-abled workers or special provisions for undertaking earthwork-related activities.
5. No contractors or labour displacing machinery is allowed.

6. For all civil construction works, RSoR should be adopted for unskilled labour and PWD SoR in respect of materials and skilled labour.
7. Every individual worker in a household is entitled to a job card so that they can apply for and receive work. Renewal of job cards are done once in 5 years. New job cards were issued from 01.04.2022 to all active workers after 100% verification and it will be valid for 5 years.
8. From 2017-18, e-MR has been adopted in all 12,524 Village Panchayats where MGNREGS is implemented.
9. The wage rate has been revised to Rs.319 per day with effect from 01.04.2024 for Tamil Nadu for both men and women without any difference.

10. If the distance to the worksite exceeds 5 Km, an additional wage of 10% of the wage rate is paid. However, in Tamil Nadu, worksites are being selected in such a way that works are available within a radius of 2 km.
11. Facilities such as drinking water, first-aid kit, shade etc., are provided in all worksites.
12. Grama Sabha conducts the Social Audit in respect of MGNREGS works through Social Auditors, i.e. Community Resource Persons trained from among SHG members.
13. All workers shall have a right to participate in the Grama Sabha and decide the Shelf of Works with the order of priority to be taken up under MGNREGS in their Village Panchayat.

14. Citizen Information Boards depicting the details of work i.e., name of the work, sanctioned amount, duration of work etc., are installed in all worksites.
15. 79.39 lakh workers have been provided employment out of the 68.76 lakh rural households during the year 2023-24.

4.1.3. Funding Pattern

The funds for MGNREGS is divided into three main components:

1. Wage Component for Unskilled Labour (100% funded by Union Government).
2. Material component for civil works, including use of materials (75 % by Union Government and 25% by State Government).
3. Administrative Component for Salary and

other expenditure (100% by Union Government).

As per guidelines, the overall material expenditure should not be more than 40% of the total expenditure.

4.1.4. Timely Payment and Payment through Banks

During the financial year 2023-24, 100% of wage payments to workers have been made. The revised timely payment norm for stage I is T+8 days, and stage II is T+9 – T+15 days.

100% of wages are credited to the workers' bank accounts. All transactions under MGNREGS are made through e-FMS.

4.1.5. Permissible Works

MGNREG Act provides a list of permissible works categorized into 3 parts. Based on the various works mentioned in the Schedule I, the Management Information System (MIS) has listed 266 types of works permissible under the Programme. Of these, 58 works are related to Natural Resource Management, 150 works are related to Agriculture and allied activities and 58 works are related to Rural Infrastructure.

4.1.6 Natural Resource Management Works under MGNREGS (NRM) / Agriculture and Allied Activities.

The focus under MGNREGS has been on Natural Resource Management works, which include drought-proofing activities like

afforestation, avenue tree plantation, and artificial recharge of groundwater through water harvesting structures like check dams, recharge shafts, percolation ponds, trenches, soak pits, farm ponds, etc. Also, works for increasing the storage capacities of surface water sources through desilting of supply channels / field channels, rejuvenation of traditional water bodies, etc., are permitted.

Union Government (MoRD) has issued the Water Conservation Mission framework. Based on that, 60% of expenditure on Agriculture and Allied works in all the Blocks and 65% of expenditure should be made on Natural Resource Management works in the Mission Water Conservation (MWC) Blocks.

Tamil Nadu has been focusing on Natural Resource Management (NRM) works

for individuals and communities, particularly in the water-stressed blocks. *In 2023-24, a total of 2,88,769 NRM works were taken up, out of which 2,39,701 works were completed at an expenditure of Rs.7,724.57 crore, which is 57% of the total expenditure.*

4.1.7 Water Conservation Works

A. 100-day Campaign for Water Harvesting (2021)

A 100-day campaign in mission mode across the State was taken up during the months from September–November, 2021 and 34,367 water harvesting structures were constructed. The Campaign was designed to complement the Jal Shakti Abhiyan-Catch The Rain Campaign (JSA: CTR) of the Government of India. Nearly 4,057 Check dams, 5,681 Trenches, 16,784 Farm ponds, 6,283 Sunken

Ponds and 1,562 Percolation Ponds were taken up during this period. The Campaign has revived the interest among local communities in water conservation and protection of water bodies.

B. 75- Day Campaign for Water Conservation Works (2022)

In 2022, a 75 Day Campaign was launched from March 22 (World Water Day) to June 5th (World Environment Day) with two objectives:

15,397 water harvesting structures like farm ponds, check dams, trenches, and rooftop rainwater harvesting structures have been completed to ensure that every drop of rainwater is harvested in rural areas. In order to increase the green cover, 10,000 saplings were raised in nurseries present in every block

across the State. In these 75 days, around 30,00,000 saplings were planted.

4.1.8 Water Conservation Works (2023)

During this period, 1,30,816 water harvesting structures like farm ponds, check dams, trenches, Renovation of traditional water bodies, have been completed to ensure that every drop of rainwater is harvested in rural areas.

In all the Village Panchayats, on March 22nd World Water Day, Gram Sabha meeting was held and pledge taken to preserve and conserve local water bodies, reduce wastage of water and construct rain water harvesting structures in all buildings.

4.1.9 Monitoring

1. National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS)

Union Government has launched the National Mobile Monitoring System App on 21st May 2021 and mandated its daily use by all states. The NMMS App enables transparent monitoring of daily attendance by logging attendance details at the site, twice a day. The field level implementing officers have to monitor and ensure that everyday attendance of MGNREGS workers is taken through NMMS App for all ongoing works across the State. Proper training has been given to all worksite facilitators and field Officials at the Block and District levels to monitor the progress on a daily basis.

2. Area Officer Inspection App

Area Officers Monitoring Visit Application was launched on 21.05.2021 by the Union Government for the effective implementation of Rural Development schemes. This app will facilitate the officials of the state to record their field visit findings through online mode. The App will also allow the officials to record time-stamped and geotagged photographs for all the schemes launched by the Department of Rural Development. This App will help hassle-free reporting of field visits with a provision to view the field visit report by the senior officials through the rural.nic.in portal.

3. Using Drone technology:

Union Government has requested to utilize the drone technology for monitoring of works under MGNREGS. Accordingly monitoring of MGNREGS works using drone has been implemented on pilot basis in Chengalpattu, Tiruvallur and Namakkal Districts. Now, it is proposed to extend the drone monitoring the all 37 rural districts.

4.1.10 Transparency

Social Audit

As per the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011, Section 3 (1), the State Government shall facilitate the conduct of Social Audits of the works taken up under the Act in every Gram Panchayat at least once in

six months by the Gram Sabha. Social Audit is a comprehensive audit done by the people with the guidance of the Social Audit staff. Apart from financial aspects, it looks at processes, social equity and performance. It is an Information, Education and Communication (IEC) tool, which enforces transparency and accountability and promotes the participation of stakeholders in all stages (planning, design, implementation and evaluation) of Development initiatives.

Institutional arrangement for Social Audit

As per the guidelines issued by Government of India, the Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu (SASTA) has been constituted under the Tamil Nadu Societies Act, 1975.

District Resource Persons assisted by Block Resource Persons are placed in all

Districts and Blocks to facilitate Village Panchayat Resource Persons (VPRP). VPRPs are selected by Gram Sabha and randomly allocated Villages where they facilitate the process of Social Audit by Gram Sabha.

Impact of Social Audit

The beneficiaries / stake holders themselves are conducting Social Audits, and the impact of Social Audits is seen, both among the beneficiaries and the implementing agencies. Deliberations that take place during the Special Gram Sabhas convened to discuss the Social Audit report are akin to public hearings. The process of Social Audit also helps the workers become aware of their rights and entitlements. Rectifications of the findings of the Social Audit take place in the Special Gram Sabhas.

As a result of Social Audits, the practice of proper maintenance of records at Village and Block levels is getting better.

Social Audit Activities during 2023-24

Regular Social Audit of FY 2023-24, for the Expenditure year of 2022-23 of MGNREGS has been completed in 10,282 Village Panchayats, and the remaining 2242 Village Panchayats will be completed by June 2024.

Social Audit has now been extended to other Schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana–Gramin (PMAY-G) and 15th Finance Commission Funds.

4.1.11 Ombudsperson

Ombudspersons have been selected and placed in all the 37 districts for the redressal of grievances and disposal of complaints

relating to MGNREGS. Now Ombudspersons have also been extended to PMAY(G).

4.1.12 Delay Compensation and Unemployment Allowance

The MGNREG Act provides for compensation to workers in case of delayed payment and payment of unemployment allowance to workers where work is not provided within 15 days of its demand. The Government of Tamil Nadu in 2022 notified Delay Compensation rules and Unemployment Allowance rules.

4.1.13 Labour Budget

- (A) **2023-24** : Out of the approved Labour Budget of 41 crore persondays 40.87 crore person days has been achieved with total expenditure of Rs 13,397 crore.
- (B) **2024-25** : The Labour Budget was prepared

through a 'bottom-up' approach by each Village Panchayat. Cluster-wise analysis was undertaken for the preparation of the Labour Budget and finalization for the year 2024-25. Accordingly, the Labour Budget of 20 crore Persondays has been approved by the Union Government. Revision of Labour Budget proposal will be submitted to the Union Government after achieving the 20 crore Persondays.

4.1.14 Convergence with KAVIADP

The Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department has launched a state flagship scheme – **KAVIADP (Kalaingar All Village Integrated Agricultural Development Program)** and is being implemented in the same villages as Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT-II), thereby

ensuring geographical convergence. *Both the schemes are jointly implemented in 2,657 Village Panchayats during 2021-22 and in 2,544 Village Panchayats during 2022-23.* The components of AGAMT-II pertaining to the rejuvenation of water bodies, marketing and livelihood support, and common infrastructural facilities directly converge with the objectives and outcomes of KAVIADP.

Similarly, a substantial portion of KAVIADP has been planned in convergence with components of MGNREGS, particularly with respect to water conservation works such as construction of check dams (CC/Gabion), farm ponds, trenches, sunken ponds, recharge shaft arrangements etc., In addition, soil conservation works such as the construction of earthen bunds, stone bunds and other land development activities are undertaken for

agriculture farmers. Similarly, the Department has established dedicated horticulture nurseries (1,500) and moringa nurseries (3,500) to support plantations in the farms of small and marginal farmers.

Thus, both KAVIADP and AGAMT-II are converged both geographically and programmatically to achieve the objectives of Natural Resource Management and water conservation for the benefit of farmers. Special thrust under MGNREGS will be given for convergent components in KAVIADP villages.

Such a holistic approach to rural development will ensure substantial improvement in Quality of Life indices on a saturation mode in rural areas.

4.1.15 Convergence with Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission

During 2022-23, 388 Block Nurseries, 3500 dedicated moringa seedling nurseries, and 1,500 horticulture nurseries have already been established in addition to the existing 388 Block Nurseries to improve the livelihood of women in the Village Level Federation and Cluster Level Federations formed by the Women's Self Help Groups and to green the villages. During the year 2023-24 also, 10 lakhs saplings have been raised in the above nurseries.

In continuation with this, Individual assets are being provided to the poor families identified by the Participatory Identification of Poor (PIP) survey conducted by the TNSRLM. 37,785 Individual assets like Farm pond, Dug

wells, Plantation, etc., have been provided to the PIP Households during 2023-24.

4.1.16 Efforts taken to increase Person days Generation

A.Cluster Increase

The concept of clusters is adopted to provide work to more people within a radius of 2 km from the residence of the worker. To provide 100 days of employment to all households, District Collectors are empowered to create additional clusters as per the requirement of each Village Panchayat. The number of clusters has increased from *27,261 to 28,069 with an addition of 808 new clusters.*

B. Workmate

Under MGNREGS, workmates have to be engaged in all work sites for the

supervision of the workers in the work site for a period of 100 days. The Workmate should be one among the workers who can take attendance and give simple instructions. They be replaced on completion of that work or 100 days, whichever is earlier.

C. Deployment of Employment Guarantee Scheme Work Coordinator.

To implement MGNREGS more effectively erstwhile Makkal Nala Paniyalargal or their legal heirs, who are willing to work are deployed as Employment Guarantee Scheme Work Coordinator with the monthly honorarium of Rs.7500 (i.e.) Rs.5000/- from the MGNREGS administrative cost and Rs.2500/- from Panchayat funds.

4.2 Housing for All - Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin

To address the gaps in the Rural Housing programme, the Union Government Sponsored Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana–Gramin (PMAY-G) is being implemented from the year 2016-17 replacing the erstwhile Indira Awaas Yojana. As per the guidelines issued by Union Government, the funding pattern under this scheme is in the ratio of 60:40 between Union and State Governments. In Tamil Nadu this ratio is 32:68. i.e., the State provides 62% of the funds under the scheme Housing for All – PMAY-G.

4.2.1 Objective

Providing permanent houses with basic amenities to all poor houseless households and households living in huts and dilapidated houses in rural areas to achieve “Housing for All” is the objective of the scheme.

4.2.2 State Support to Housing

The unit cost of a house under PMAY-G in Tamil Nadu is Rs.2.83 lakh which is inclusive of State support cost for RCC roofing, convergence with MGNREGS and SBM(G) as detailed below:

Table
Unit cost of a house in Tamil Nadu

Details	Union Share (in Rs.)	State Share (in Rs.)	Total (in Rs.)
Unit cost	72,000	48,000	1,20,000
State additional fund for RCC Roofing	-	1,20,000	1,20,000
Construction of Individual Household Latrine	7,200	4,800	12,000
100 persondays (90 for house and 10 for Toilet under MGNREGS)	31,900	-	31,900
Total	1,11,100	1,72,800	2,83,900

4.2.3 Key Features

- i. Minimum unit (house) size is 25 sq.m. (269 Sq. ft.), including a dedicated area for hygienic cooking.
- ii. Out of the total target, 60% is earmarked for SC/ST, 40% for others (including 15% for minorities subject to the availability of eligible households). In all categories, 5% of allocation is made for Differently abled persons.
- iii. Socio-Economic Caste Census-2011 (SECC-2011) database was used to identify the beneficiaries through the Grama sabha by arriving a Permanent wait list (PWL) using exclusion and inclusion criteria mentioned in Framework for Implementation of PMAY-G up to 2019-20.
- iv. For the year 2021-22, sanction of houses is being made from "Awaas plus" database.

- v. Payment to the beneficiaries is being made directly to their bank account.

Table

Number of Houses constructed under PMAY-G

Sanctioned	Completed			Pending	% of Completion
	Up to 31.03.23	During 01.04.23-14.05.2024	Total		
744406	503113	100062	603175	141231	81.03

From 2016-17 to 2020-21, a total number of 2,82,630 houses were completed. From 2021-22 to till date 3,20,545 houses have been completed. The pending houses are in progress and all the houses will be completed shortly since the period of the scheme ended by March 2024.

4.2.4 Receipt of funds

Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has released Rs.5216.09 crore and corresponding state matching share of Rs.3477.39

crore has been released by the State Government. Out of the total amount of Rs.8693.48 crore, expenditure to the tune of Rs.7778.76 crore has been incurred under PMAY(G). Balance amount will be paid to the beneficiaries on completion of houses.

4.2.5 RCC Roofing Cost and Additional State fund

Government of Tamil Nadu is providing Rs. 50,000/- per house for RCC roofing and Rs.70,000/- per house as additional fund to minimize the burden of the beneficiaries due to the increased cost of materials and labour. So far, in this regard, State Government have released a sum of Rs.4502.23 crore and expenditure incurred to the tune of Rs.4314.75 crore.

4.2.6 Alternative Technologies in House construction

New/alternative technology initiatives such as Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) panels, interlocking bricks, Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) blocks/panels, fly ash bricks, rat trap bond with filler slab technology etc., are being followed by the Department for cost effective and speedy construction of houses.

4.3 Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)

The Ministry of Tribal Welfare, Government of India has introduced a scheme named PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan) to improve the socio-economic condition of the particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) to provide PVTG households and

habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihood opportunities on saturation mode.

Based on this, the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has launched a housing scheme for the PVTGs on the line of PMAY-G with slight scheme specific modification. In Tamil Nadu six of Tribals viz., Irular, Kattunayakkam, Kota, Kurumba, Paniyan and Toda are eligible to get housing under this schemes. They are living in 21 districts in the State.

4.3.1 Period of Implementation

The scheme was launched during December 2023, and will be implemented for a period of three years, i.e., upto 2025-26.

4.3.2 Exclusion Criteria

Owning a pucca house and having a member in the family as Government Employee are the two exclusion Criteria under the scheme.

4.3.3 Unit Cost Fixed by GoI

The unit cost fixed by GoI is Rs.2 lakh per house to be shared by Union and State Governments in the ratio of 60:40. The target for the year 2023-24 is 4811 houses.

4.3.4 Unit Cost and Plinth Area in Tamil Nadu

Apart from, the unit cost approved for PM-JANMAN by Union Government, the Government of Tamil Nadu has fixed the unit cost for the construction of houses for the PVTGs under this scheme as Rs.5.07 lakh for plains and Rs.5.73 lakh

for hilly areas with the increased plinth area of 300 Sq.ft.

4.3.5 Target for the year 2023-24

Based on the list of PVTG Villages provided by the Ministry of Tribal Welfare, the eligible households are identified through Village level survey through Awas App and the beneficiaries are selected by following due procedure in 21 Districts.

Out of the target of 4811, a total of 3844 houses have already been sanctioned. All sanctioned houses are in progress at various stages of level.

4.4 Jal Jeevan Mission

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was launched during the year 2019-20 for providing water supply to every rural household in adequate

quantity (55 LPCD) and prescribed quality on a regular basis, through a Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC). Community participation in planning, monitoring of water supply, ensuring sustainability of sources through source-strengthening, water recharge and re-use are the other main objectives of the scheme.

4.4.1 Community Contribution towards Capital cost

JJM guidelines specifies collection of community contribution from the rural households to the extent of 5 percent of the capital cost in cash/kind/labour in villages having 50 percent SC and/or ST population, hilly and forested areas, and 10 percent of the capital cost in other village Panchayats for in-

village piped water supply infrastructure works including source development.

4.4.2 Components of Jal Jeevan Mission

- i. Development of in-village piped water supply infrastructure to provide water supply through tap connections to every household.
- ii. Development of reliable drinking water sources and/ or augmentation of existing sources to ensure long-term sustainability of water supply system.
- iii. In water-stressed areas, bulk water transfer systems like CWSS (Combined Water Supply Schemes), treatment plants, and distribution networks to cater to every rural household.
- iv. Retrofitting of completed and ongoing Single Village/ Multi Village schemes (Combined Water Supply Schemes).

4.4.3 Funding Pattern:

The fund sharing pattern for implementation of works under Jal Jeevan Mission is shared by the Union Government (50%) and the State Government (50%).

4.4.4 Implementation Mechanism

The State Nodal Department for the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Tamil Nadu is Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department. The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board is the Mission Director for Jal Jeevan Mission in Tamil Nadu.

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department undertakes the design, estimate preparation, and implementation of Single Village Schemes provided the source is

within the concerned Village Panchayat and for the In-Village infrastructure of Multi Village Schemes (MVS) is undertaken by TWAD Board.

TWAD Board implements **Multi Village Schemes (MVS)**, to provide water supply to more than one Village Panchayats.

4.4.5 The other Salient features of the scheme are:

- Third party verification and quality check.
- Functionality Assessment based on the Quality, Quantity, and Regularity of the water supplied.
- Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) to monitor the implementation, operation, and functionality of water supply schemes.

- Water Quality Test is conducted using Field-Test Kits supplied to Village Panchayats by well-trained Self-Help Group women.

4.4.6 Operation & Maintenance

The Village Panchayat will be responsible for the Operation and Maintenance of the Water Supply.

- i. Minimum User Charge of Rs.30/- is being collected.
- ii. The Bulk water transfer charges to the TWAD Board has to be paid by the Village Panchayats at the tariff rate fixed by the Government.
- iii. Water Supply Works under Jal Jeevan Mission are monitored by Village Water Supply and Sanitation Committee– (VWSC) and Village Panchayat.

4.4.7 Convergence from 15thUFC and other Funds

The water supply infrastructure in the Village Panchayats are developed through convergence of funds under various schemes viz., the 15th Union Finance Commission tied Grant (30%), State Finance Commission Grant, District Mineral Fund and other scheme funds.

In Tamil Nadu out of 1,25,23,588 rural households, 1,03,31,470 (82.50%) households have been provided with Functional Household Tap Connections so far and 67,494 works have been taken up under Single Village Schemes (SVS) (including JJM & Convergence) and 101 works have been taken up under Multi Village Schemes (MVS) respectively.

4.4.8 Pilot for Monitoring

Automatic sensor-based monitoring & control system improves the efficient usage of electricity and public water supply systems. This prevents unwarranted wastage of water due to controlled usage of the motor. The sensor-based automatic monitoring systems are installed in the following Panchayats on a pilot basis:

S. No	District	Panchayat
1.	Chengalpattu	Mambakkam
2.	Kanchipuram	Marudur
		Melkathirpur
3.	Tiruvallur	Alinjivakkam
		Malliankuppam
4.	Erode	Kathirampati
5.	Coimbatore	Arasur

In a phased manner, this automatic monitoring system for water supply will be extended to all Panchayats.

4.4.9 Water Quality Monitoring

62,625 women from self-help groups in Village Panchayats have been trained to use field test kits to test 13 basic water quality parameters i.e., pH Value, Total Dissolved Solids, Turbidity, Chloride, Total Alkalinity, Total Hardness, Sulphate, Iron, Total Arsenic, Fluoride, Nitrate, Total coli-form Bacteria, E-coli or thermos tolerant coli-form bacteria.

Tamil Nadu was honoured by the Hon'ble President of India for the exemplary performance in the functionality of Water supply during the celebration of Swachh Bharat Diwas on 2nd October 2022 at New Delhi.

4.5 Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

In the year 1993, the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) was launched by the Union Government.

The scheme's objective is to enable the Members of Parliament to recommend works of developmental nature with an emphasis on creating durable community assets based on the felt needs of the people in their Constituencies. The annual allocation under this scheme is Rs.5 crore per constituency.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is the nodal department for implementing this scheme. The District Collectors accord administrative sanction for the works proposed by the MPs. The guidelines

contain 'permissible works' and a 'negative list of works' not permitted under the scheme.

The Union Government, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MPLAD Division) has allocated Rs.5 crore per MP constituency for the year 2023-24.

To implement the scheme during the period of 17th Lok Sabha (2019-20 to 2023-24) the Union Government, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MPLAD Division) have allocated a sum of Rs.663 crore for Lok Sabha Members and Rs.316 Crore for Rajya Sabha Members. Accordingly, 10,684 works have been taken up at an estimate cost of Rs.806.95 crore.

4.6 'Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)'

'Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana' (SAGY) was launched by the Government of India in 2014. Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana aims at holistic development through convergence. The village panchayat is the basic unit for the implementation of the scheme. Each Member of Parliament should identify one village panchayat with a population of 3000-5000 in plain areas and 1000-3000 in hilly/tribal and difficult areas. However, in districts where this unit size is not available, village panchayats approximating the desirable population size can be chosen.

The Member of Parliament is to identify a suitable village panchayat as a model village panchayat (Adarsh Gram) other than his/her village or that of his/her spouse. The Lok

Sabha MP has to choose a village panchayat from within his / her constituency, and Rajya Sabha MP has to choose a village panchayat from the rural area of a Districts of his / her choice in the state from which he/she is elected. Nominated MPs may choose a village panchayat from the rural area of any District in the country. In the case of urban constituencies (where there are no village panchayats), the Member of Parliament will identify a village panchayat from a nearby rural constituency. Thus, five such model village panchayats (one per year) will be selected and developed by 2024.

The village panchayats identified under SAGY will be developed based on converging and implementing existing Government schemes (both Union and State) in a saturation mode.

4.7 'Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana' (PMGSY)

4.7.1 PMGSY I

The objective of PMGSY I was to provide all-weather road connectivity to unconnected habitations of population more than 500. The upgradation of existing single connectivity roads was also permitted under PMGSY I. In Tamil Nadu, 1,986 unconnected Habitations of population more than 500 were provided connectivity through PMGSY I.

For Tamil Nadu, PMGSY I was sanctioned under XI phases from 2000-01 to 2018-19. Totally, 7,678 rural roads for a length of 16,296 Km and 98 bridges were taken up at a cost of Rs.4,586 crore.

4.7.2 PMGSY II

The Union Government introduced PMGSY II in 2013 for upgrading rural roads leading to Growth Centers and Rural Hubs. Tamil Nadu obtained sanction for 860 roads to a length of 2,940 Km and 34 bridges at a cost of Rs.1,434 crore.

In Tamil Nadu, works sanctioned under both PMGSY I and II have been completed.

4.7.3 PMGSY III

The Union Government introduced PMGSY III, during 2019, to upgrade existing Through Routes and Major Rural Links that connect habitations to Gramin Agricultural Market (GraMs), High/Higher secondary Schools and Hospitals. Government of India has allocated an overall target of 7,375 Km length of roads to Tamil Nadu under PMGSY-III.

From 2019-20 to 2022-23, Tamil Nadu has got sanctions for 1154 roads to a length of 4,449 km and 55 bridges at a cost of Rs. 2,883 crore.

For the year 2023-24, Government of India had accorded clearance for improvement of 660 roads for a length of 2869 Km and 28 bridges at a cost of Rs. 1945 crore.

4.7.4 Funding

PMGSY was initially introduced with 100% funding of Union Government. However, the Union Government revised the funding pattern as 60% Union Government and 40% State Government from 2015.

4.7.5 Maintenance of PMGSY roads

The maintenance of PMGSY roads is being monitored through a dedicated portal of Union Government called e-MARG (Electronic Maintenance of Rural Roads under PMGSY). For

2022-23, an amount of Rs.52.68 crore and for 2023-24 an amount of Rs.54.37 crore was allocated by the State Government for routine maintenance of PMGSY roads. In addition to this the State also takes up periodic renewal of PMGSY roads, under State schemes, which have completed 5 years routine maintenance.

For the year 2023-24, Incentive fund of Rs.80.45 crore will be utilized for periodical renewal of PMGSY roads.

4.7.6 PMGSY - PM - JANMAN

The objective is to provide road connectivity to the unconnected Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) households and habitations with population more than 100.

Under PM-JANMAN 2023-24, proposal to connect 11 tribal habitations of 8 roads for a length of 18.085 km at a cost of Rs.1542.25 lakh has

been submitted to Government of India.

4.7.7 Quality Control Mechanism

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department has a separate Quality Control unit headed by State Quality Co-ordinator (SQC), in the rank of Superintending Engineer, at State level. The National Quality Monitors (NQMs) deputed by the Government of India and the State Quality Monitors (SQMs) are carrying out Quality tests of works periodically at all stages of execution. To improve the skills of field Engineers in the Department, various capacity building and quality control training have been imparted through reputed training institute at National Level and State level.

There are 33 State Quality Monitors (Roads) and 26 State Quality Monitors (Schemes) for Quality monitoring of Roads and Scheme works.

50 reputed Engineering Institutions have been empaneled for Design and Vetting of design for major buildings and bridges and Quality Control Testing and Quality monitoring for roads, bridges and buildings.

4.7.8 Quality Control Labs

A State level QC lab has been established in SIRD, Maraimalai Nagar. District level Quality control laboratories have been established in all districts by the department to conduct required quality control tests. Further, the Department has established 7 mobile Quality Control laboratories to enable real time onsite Quality control tests of various works. In addition, basic Quality control equipment is available in the Vehicles of Department Officials to test the quality of works during their field inspection. The Quality Control Registers are being maintained

for all the works. Payment for all works are made only upon satisfying Quality Control results after verification of Quality Monitors / Executive Engineers/Assistant Executive Engineers concerned.

4.8 Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)-SBM(G)

Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was launched in 2014 with a focus on behavioural change among the people to end open defecation, and efforts were accelerated to achieve Sanitation Coverage by 2019. The SBM has two phases - SBM Phase-I (2014-2019) focused on constructing individual household latrines and community sanitary complexes, while SBM Phase-II (2020-21 to 2024-25) aims to sustain and improve the gains of Phase-I. Tamil Nadu achieved ODF (open defecation-free)

status in 2019. The key objective of SBM(G) Phase II is to sustain the ODF status of villages and improve the cleanliness levels in rural areas through solid and liquid waste management activities, making villages 'ODF Plus' by ensuring sustainability.

Villages should have ODF sustainability, solid and liquid waste management, and visual cleanliness for model status. As per the SBM (G) Operational Guidelines for Phase II, all the program components, except for the IHHL and Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) components, are implemented in convergence with the 15th Finance Commission grants and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

4.8.1 Village Sanitation Saturation Plans (VSSP)

Tamil Nadu has made considerable strides in rural sanitation regarding accessing and using improved sanitation facilities in households and institutions. To consolidate these gains, assess gaps and bridge them and enhance the status of panchayats from ODF + Aspiring Category to Model category, a comprehensive and holistic assessment of the existing sanitation facilities and the requirements at the household level and community level for each panchayat had to be taken up.

The panchayats, in a testament to the participatory nature of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), prepared the Village Sanitation Saturation Plans (VSSPS) with the

involvement of the local body representatives and people. They took up street-wise transect walks to understand the existing infrastructure and evaluate any further requirements, with a greater focus on solid and grey water management. Upon finalisation of the VSSP, funds are allocated from SBM(G) components and other schemes like MGNREGS and 15th CFC based on the needs identified. The aim is to reinforce a bottom-up approach and needs-based planning to enable the effective and sustainable achievement of access to sanitation and solid and greywater management to create a clean and green state.

4.8.2 Individual Household Latrines

The Mission aims to ensure that all rural families can access safe toilets. A duly completed IHHL shall consist of a sanitary

substructure, a superstructure, and a water storage facility to ensure proper hygiene. Identified eligible households are given an incentive of Rs.12,000 for constructing IHHLs. So far, in phase II, 3,00,971 IHHLs were constructed at Rs. 335.57 crore.

4.8.3 Community Sanitary Complexes (CSC)

An ODF Plus village is expected to have at least one community sanitary complex, which may cater to the sanitation needs of the floating population. The CSCs have separate facilities for men and women and consist of an appropriate number of toilet seats, including one for the physically challenged, bathing cubicles, running water and wash basins. It should be built in a place in the village that is acceptable and accessible. During 2021-22, 2022-23 & 2023-24, 1304 CSCs were

constructed at a cost of Rs.70.32 crore. During the years 2022-23 & 2023-24, 4500 mini-CSCs were taken up, and 1,295 mini-CSCs were built at an estimated cost of Rs.27.09 crore for covering high footfall areas and public places near libraries, schools and government buildings.

4.8.4 Solid Waste Management

Solid waste management (SWM) is a vital component in SBM (G). Under SBM (G) Phase-II, the total assistance for Solid Waste Managements projects in the village panchayat is on a per capita basis. The works are also converged with the 15th Finance Commission Grants and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Solid waste management facilities have already been established in all the panchayats

in Tamil Nadu. 66,130 Thooimai Kavalars across all village panchayats collect garbage door-to-door. One Thooimai Kavalari is responsible for 150 households. A 'Waste Audit' was conducted in all panchayats, and the types of solid waste generated in the respective panchayats were analysed. Overall, more than 70% of the waste generated is biodegradable.

Households are being given awareness of segregating waste at the source so that the wet waste can be easily converted into compost and dry waste can be recycled. To effectively manage the solid waste generated in the peri-urban / bigger panchayats, Two hundred eighty-seven micro-composting centres are already established and are functional.

(a) Plastic Waste Management

Under SBM (G) Phase-II, Rs.16.00 lakh is provided to set up block-level plastic waste management units (PWMUs). The plastic waste processed from these units run by SHGs will be used to lay BT roads by mixing the plastic in bitumen. A 'Direct Plastic Buyback Policy' has been adopted to encourage households to segregate recyclable plastic at source. In the last three years, a total of 310 PWMUs were set up at the cost of Rs.23.30 crore.

(b) Clean Tamil Nadu Company

The Government has identified gaps in the establishment of waste value chains, especially non-biodegradable waste. To address this, the Government is considering setting up a special-purpose vehicle (SPV)/ company to

assist urban and rural local bodies in secondary segregation, logistics, and price discovery of waste.

The company will collect the segregated Non-biodegradable waste from the panchayats and urban local bodies that are onboarded with the company, do secondary segregation and sell them to authorised recyclers or coprocess them in cement factories based on the recyclability of the waste collected and prevailing market conditions. Coprocessing will be undertaken for materials such as multi-layered plastics where the scope of recycling is limited. The company will charge the local bodies a commission on a tonnage basis. The money earned on recycling and costs incurred on coprocessing will be transmitted to the local bodies after the commission is charged.

The price of the recyclables and materials to be co-processed will be discovered and fixed by an empanelment process with the authorised recyclers. This discovered and fixed price will act as a price floor for rural local bodies and the onboarded urban local bodies. The local bodies can sell to authorised recyclers other than the company if it is fetching a price higher than the price offered (exclusive of the commission charged by the company). However, they would not be allowed to sell below the price floor to other agencies since the company offers a better price. The company will be responsible for transportation, storage, further segregation, grading, and sales to authorised recyclers or coprocessors.

The necessary block-level and district-level infrastructure, such as Resource Recovery Centers and warehouses, will be set up under

local body funds or the funds available with the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department or the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department under various schemes. The company will operate and maintain these block-level and district-level facilities. The company will bear the operational expenses such as manpower costs, electricity and water charges, etc. The company will engage self-help groups to meet the workforce requirements for operating these facilities.

4.8.5 Liquid Waste Management

(a) Grey Water Management

To saturate the village panchayats under Grey Water Management (GWM), detailed plans have been made in the VSSPs. A total of 776 village panchayats have been selected for

creating 'Models' at the rate of two village panchayats per block. To prevent the stagnation of grey water in roads/streets and public places and to ensure efficient handling of grey water, community soak pits and horizontal/vertical filters are constructed under SBM (G) phase-II in convergence with the 15th Finance Commission grant.

(b) Faecal Sludge Management

Cluster mapping was conducted for all panchayats and ULBs for decanting the faecal sludge from rural areas in existing and proposed sewage treatment plants (STP) and faecal sludge treatment plants (FSTP) facilities in urban areas. Nine thousand three hundred forty-four panchayats will be clustered in four phases, with the nearest treatment facility on a cost-sharing basis. Where clustering is

not feasible with urban local bodies, faecal sludge treatment plants will be constructed under SBM (G) after mapping the left-out village panchayats. One FSTP has already been sanctioned, and another 15 FSTPs will be sanctioned in 2024-25.

4.8.6 Amendments to the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act,1994, and Subsequent Rules

An enabling legal framework is necessary to further the efforts taken to prevent manual scavenging, ensure the safety and dignity of core sanitary workers, and enable the scientific management of faecal sludge in rural areas. For this, The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fourth Amendment) Act, 2024 was passed by the Legislative Assembly. Faecal Sludge Management Rules will also be adopted shortly

to operationalise the Amendment to the Act.

Similarly, the existing provisions of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 were insufficient to enable the Panchayats to regulate and manage the solid waste generated by households, commercial establishments, and institutions in rural areas. To rectify this, the Legislative Assembly adopted new provisions vide The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fifth Amendment) Act, 2024. Solid Waste Management rules will be adopted shortly to operationalise the new provisions.

4.8.7 GOBARDhan

GOBARDhan aims to improve rural sanitation by transforming agro-waste into a valuable resource, converting animal waste, kitchen leftovers, crop residue, and market waste into biogas and bio-slurry. Under SBM

(G) phase- II, the project is eligible for a one-time grant of up to Rs.50.00 lakh per district for the entire project period. There are currently 87 operational Gobardhan plants in 20 districts of Tamil Nadu, with plans to establish them in all rural districts during the project period.

4.8.8 Convergence with Other Schemes

Infrastructure facilities for sanitation and Solid waste management must be created by converging the funds under SBM (G) with various schemes, such as 15th CFC, MGNREGS, AGAMT-II, MLACDS, NNT, and MPLADS.

The Biogas Programme: This scheme under Ministry of Non-conventional Energy funds the setting up of small and medium biogas plants from 1 m³ to 2500 m³ biogas generation per day for individual users, farmers, poultry farms, goshalas,

slaughter houses, diaries/co-operatives/industries/organisations and others. Beneficiaries are given subsidies based on claims.

For the year 2024-25, 600 biogas plants have been fixed as the target by the Government of India.

- **AGAMT-II Rural Sanitation:** Ten per cent of the total fund is allocated to the Clean and Green Village Component, which includes a drain network and soak pits.
- **MGNREGS:** MGNREGS can fund the construction of various sanitation facilities, such as individual and community soak pits and horizontal and vertical filters.
- **15th Union Finance Commission Grants:** As per the guidelines issued by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, GoI, any SBM (G) Works related to SWM and LWM may

be undertaken only in convergence with 30% of 15th UFC funds.

4.8.9 IEC Campaigns

Approximately 12,000 motivators selected from SHGs/PLFs are trained to engage in effective interpersonal communication (IPC) at the grassroots level to promote behaviour change towards better sanitation practices.

4.8.10 Namma Ooru Superu Campaign

The first 'Namma Ooru Superu' campaign was conducted across all village panchayats from August 15th to October 2nd 2022. The primary aim was to create a people's movement to make clean and green villages with a specific focus on sanitation and solid and liquid waste management through behaviour

change among people.

Due to the overwhelming response received in the first campaign, the campaign is now carried out on the second Saturday of every month to sustain the behaviour and ensure cleanliness.

4.9 Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission (SPMRM)

The Union Government launched Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) with the aim to develop clusters of villages with facilities perceived to be essentially urban in nature, thus creating 'Rurban Villages'. The Union Government has allocated 11 non-tribal clusters to Tamil Nadu in a phased manner from the year 2016-17 onwards. The five

clusters of phase-I (2016-17) are Tirunelveli – Suthamalli, Coimbatore - Madukkarai, Sivagangai - Vaniyankudi, Tiruppur - Velayuthampalayam and Tiruvallur - Kuthambakkam. The three clusters of phase-II (2017-18) are Chengalpattu - Singaperumalkovil, Madurai - Kovilpappakudi and Thanjavur - Thirumalaisamudram and the three clusters of phase-III (2018-19) are Kanniyakumari - Chadayamangalam, Theni - Seelayampatti and Krishnagiri - Alasapalli Batravapalli. Under the Critical Gap Fund (CGF) 976 works were approved, out of which 885 works were completed, 91 works are in progress. The entire financial allocation of Rs.311.32 crore has been released and Rs.276.62 crore was expended. 176 assets created have been handed over to user groups / concerned departments and brought under

livelihood activities. All the ongoing works will be completed this year and assets created will be handed over to user groups and relevant departments.

4.10 Infrastructure Schemes of other Departments

Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)

The objective of this Scheme is to ensure integrated development of the selected villages with more than 40% SC population. The Union Government has identified 1113 villages under PMAGY in Tamil Nadu for the years 2022-23. The amount allocated for gap filling in these villages is Rs.20 lakh per village. The Adi-Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department is the nodal department for the scheme and the implementation is being done

by the RD & PR department. Basic amenities like water supply, streetlights, toilets, link roads, drainage and other infrastructure facilities are created under this scheme. A total of 3,163 works were taken up in 1113 Villages during the year 2022-23.

5.Establishment of Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

5.1. Establishment

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has separate gazetted cadres under Tamil Nadu Panchayat Development service Rules. Additional Director, Joint Director and Assistant Director cadre officers are governed by Tamil Nadu Panchayat Development service Rules (1969). Block Development Officers are governed by Tamil Nadu Government Servant's (Conditions of Service) Act, 2016.

5.2. Gazetted Establishment

Table 5.1

Category wise Staff Strength as on 31.01.2024

Government Officials – Gazetted Establishment

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength			Total
		RD&PR Department		Other department/ Deputation Posts	
		State Level Posts	District/Regional Level Posts		
1.	Additional Director	14	-	8	22
2.	Joint Director	8	80	11	99
3.	Assistant Director	16	388	9	413
4.	Block Development Officer	47	1068	2	1117
Total		85	1536	30	1561

5.3. Engineering Establishment

In this wing, the posts of Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineer, Assistant Executive Engineer and Assistant Engineer are governed by Tamilnadu Panchayat Development Service Rules and the posts of Senior Draughting officer, Junior Engineer, Overseer/Junior Draughting officer, Road Inspector are governed by Tamilnadu Panchayat Development Engineering Subordinate Service Rules.

Table 5.2**Category wise Technical Officers Strength**

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength			Total
		RD&PR Department		Other department/ Deputation Posts	
		State Level Posts	District Level Posts		
1.	Chief Engineer	2	-	-	2
2.	Superintending Engineer	3	-	-	3
3.	Executive Engineer	2	39	13	54
4.	Assistant Executive Engineer	4	180	21	205
5.	Assistant Engineer	13	917	15	945
6.	Senior Draughting Officer	-	37	-	37
7.	Junior Engineer	-	315	-	315

8.	Overseer / Junior Draughting Officer	3	2619	--	2622
9.	Road Inspector	-	1151	-	1151
Total		27	5258	49	5334

Deputation of Senior Officers to other Departments

The Senior Officers of this department in the cadre of Additional Director, Joint Director, Executive Engineer, Assistant Director and Assistant Executive Engineer have also been deputed to other Departments / Agencies such as Special Programme Implementation Department, Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute (EDII), Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board (TNUHDB), Tamil Nadu Adi-draavidar Housing and Development Corporation Limited (TAHDCO), Chennai Metropolitan Development Agency (CMDA), State

Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT), National Health Mission (NHM), National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA), Tamil Nadu Fibernet Corporation Limited (TANFINET), Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA) etc. The exposure to schemes and experience gained by the officers in other departments offers them an opportunity to learn from other departments and to develop their professional skills.

Officers on Deputation from other Department to RD & PR

Followings are the Details of Officers on Deputation from other Department

TABLE 5.3

Name of the Department	Post Name	No's			
		Directorate		District	
		Sanctioned	Filled	Sanctioned	Filled
Finance	Financial Adviser & Chief	1	1	-	-

	Accounts Officer.				
	Accounts Officer	3	2	37	37
Statistics	Deputy Director of Statistics	1	1	-	-
	Statistical Inspector	2	1	-	-
	Assitant Statistical Investigator	1	0	36	36

5.4 Non-Gazetted Establishment

The Non-Gazetted Establishment Unit deals with officials covered under various Service Rules, i.e., Basic Service, both Government and Panchayat Union, Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service and General Subordinate Service and Village Panchayat Establishment

matters. All Non Gazetted Establishment service matters are looked after in this unit.

Under Non-Gazetted Establishment, 251 staff at state level and 98,326 staff are working at district level and other offices.

The sanctioned strength in each category of staff under Non-Gazetted Establishment is furnished below

TABLE 5.4

Details of the Employees under Non-Gazetted Establishment

SI. No	Designation of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	
		Directorate	District / Other Office
Government Employees			
i)	Deputy Block Development Officer	47	3936
ii)	Assistant	49	5642

Sl.	Designation of the	Sanctioned Strength	
iii)	Junior Assistant	38	3171
iv)	Steno Typist	17	185
v)	Typist	26	1054
vi)	Driver	11	934
vii)	Record Clerk	7	149
viii)	Office Assistant	54	670
ix)	Night Watchman	2	135
x)	Masalji	0	14
	Total	251	15890
Category of Local body Employees			
a) Panchayat Union Employees			
i)	Driver	776	
ii)	Record Clerk	390	
iii)	Office Assistant	1533	
iv)	Night Watchman	380	
v)	Masalji	9	
	Total	3088	

Sl.	Designation of the	Sanctioned Strength
b) Village Panchayat Employees		
i)	Panchayat Secretary	12525
ii)	Thooimai Paniyalar	26404
iii)	OHT Operator	40419
Total		79348

6. Training and Capacity Building

6.1 Capacity Building

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department plays a vital role in the Socio-economic development of the rural masses through implementation of the various schemes of State and Central Governments. Therefore, Capacity Building and Training programmes are critical to improve capability, capacity, productivity, performance and effectiveness of officials, staff and rural local body representatives entrusted with the responsibility of implementing Government schemes. The training programmes not only enhance skills, knowledge, competencies but also contribute to better attitude and behavioural change.

The following 3 categories of Training Institutes are available in Tamil Nadu

Sl. No	Name of the Institution	Name of Districts Covered
I	State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	All Districts
II	Regional Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	
	S.V.Nagaram	Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Tiruvallur, Cuddalore, Tiruvannamalai, Kallakurichi, Chengalpattu (7 districts)

	Krishnagiri Dam	Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Salem, Dharmapuri, Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupattur (7 districts)
	Pattukottai	Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Pudukottai, Mayiladuthurai, Sivagangai, Tiruchirappalli (7 districts)
	Bhavanisagar	Erode, Coimbatore, Dindigul, The Nilgiris, Karur, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Tiruppur (8 districts)
	T.Kallupatti	Madurai, Theni, Tirunelveli, Virudhunagar, Tenkasi, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari, (8 districts)
III	District Resource Centres for Panchayats (DRCPs)	One each at District headquarters (37 Nos)

6.2 State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SIRD&PR)

State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is the apex institution at the State level organizing training programmes for various target groups to update their knowledge, upgrade their skills and change their attitude for successful implementation of the various schemes of the department effectively and efficiently. It is also vested with the responsibility of developing course content and training of trainers for various courses. SIRD&PR has been registered as a Society under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act of 1975. Since 1991, the Institute is functioning in a 25-acre campus at Maraimalainagar near Chennai.

Resource Pattern

SIRD&PR receives grants-in-aid to meet the salary and non-salary expenditure from the recurring grant of State Government. Under RRGSA, the Ministry of Panchayat Raj supports SIRD&PR in conducting various Training programmes throughout the year. Moreover, to improve Grama panchayat level. It also receives financial support for conducting training programmes from the schemes like JJM. The Ministry of Rural Development also provides 100% assistance to upgrade the infrastructure facilities on need basis.

6.2.1 Centres in SIRD&PR

The following four Centres have been established at State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

1. Centre for Panchayat Raj / State Panchayat Resource Centre.
2. Centre for Programme Implementation and Coordination.
3. Centre for Livelihood, Women Empowerment.
4. Centre for Rural Engineering and Technology.

6.3 Training Methodology

The participants in the training at SIRD&PR are exposed to various participatory training methodologies like group discussions, role play, experience sharing, exposure visits, etc., 'Cascading model' is adopted by creating master resource persons, who in turn build the capacity of the stakeholders at Regional,

District, Block and Community levels.

This Apex Institute conducts residential programmes in its campus and off-campus programmes at District, Block and Village Panchayat levels through District Administration and Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

6.4 Training Performance

During 2023-24, SIRD&PR conducted 91 programmes in which 2607 participants in- campus and also 81 participants on campus are trained under RRGSA fund. During 2023-24, conducted in campus training on three months Certificate Course on Rural Development and Panchayat Raj 211 participants are trained. And off campus training of Three months Certificate Course on

Volunteerism and Social Service on Rural Youth
390 participants were trained.

Under Jal Jeevan Mission scheme, conducted Webinar Virtual Training Classes for 379 Block Development Officers were participated. Moreover, 120 Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Functionaries and Elected representatives were trained the Leadership Management by Indian Institute of Human Settlement, Bangalore.

NIRD&PR off campus training programme conducted to 435 Assistant Engineers about GIS based planning and monitoring of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA at GP level using Yuktdhara MGNREGS.

6.5 Hand holding support from academic institutions and NGO's for Grama Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP)

The Panchayats have been devolved with 29 functions in the 11th Schedule of the Indian Constitution. As per the Annual Action Plan for 2023-24 of SIRD & PR, handholding support to the Village Panchayats in the preparation of 740 VPDPs at the rate of Rs.20,000/- per village panchayat by the Academic Institutions/NGOs. Stakeholders workshop for handholding the Village Panchayats has been proposed on 24th and 25th November 2023. During 2023-24, SIRD & PR has entered into MoU with reputed Academic Institutions including IIT Madras, Madras School of Social Work, Gandhigram University, Mother Teresa University, SRM University, SAIRAM Educational Institutions, Madras

Christian College, Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore etc.,

As part of the collaborative efforts, it has engaged these MoU institutions to 216 villages in the preparation of GPDPs during 2023-24.

Panchayat Learning Centre:

There is a great way to gain knowledge from Exposure visits to well performing panchayats (award winning panchayats) and also learning from elected representatives and functionaries of PRIs. Such RLBs are being developed as Panchayat Learning Centres. During 2023-24, SIRD &PR had selected 10 Panchayat Learning Centres in Various Villages such as Kovalam, Padur, Mannivakkam, Vellaputhur in chelgalpattu district, Odanthurai in Coimbatore district, Poonjuthi in Madurai

district, Muthugapatti in Namakkal district, Prathamaramapuram in Nagapattinam district, Vaiyampatti in Thiruchirapalli district, Ittikal Agaram in Krishnagiri district under RRGSA funding of 2023-24.

6.6 Networking with other Academic Institutions

Memorandum of Understanding have been signed with Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, Gandhi Gram Rural Institute, Institute of Rural Management, Anand, Gujarat, Madras School of Social Work, National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Avinashilingam University, SRMIST University, Bharathiar University etc., to undertake joint training programmes, share resources and resource persons.

This networking is aimed at bringing in expertise in the areas such as Faculty Development, Research, Exposure visit, Skill Development, Field placements, Publications etc., Similarly, Organizations may benefit through Internship, Orientation, Training for Students, Joint Research and Evaluation Projects, Faculty Support, Documentation of best practices etc.

6.7 Regional Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj are headed by Principals in the cadre of Additional Director / Joint Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

6.8 Activities

Based on the course content and modules developed by SIRD, the RIRDs directly

trains various stakeholders like officials and functionaries of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, elected representatives of Panchayat Raj Institution such as Ward Members of Block Panchayats, Village Panchayat Presidents, Panchayat Secretaries and Government functionaries, Self Help Group Members, CBOs, line Department Officials on Government schemes and programmes. Each Regional Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has got capacity to train a minimum of 6,000 persons (in campus) and to a maximum of 25,000 (including off campus) during a year.

6.8.1 Fund

State Government is providing Rs.7 crore every year for the five Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj. The

Government of India provides Rs.20 lakh every year to each RIRD&PR as recurring grant for the training programmes. It also provides 100% non-recurring grant on need basis to improve the infrastructure facilities and training equipment. Besides these, the RIRD&PRs receive funds under schemes of RGSA, SFC and JJM to conduct training.

6.8.2 Training Performance

During 2023-24, RIRD & PR conducted 12 programmes in which 8,192 participants were trained.

6.9 District Resource Centres for Panchayats (DRCPs):

District Resource Centres for Panchayats (DRCPs) have been established under Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan to focus

exclusively on Panchayat Raj training and capacity building at District level. It functions under the administrative control of the District Collector. They train Village Panchayat Ward Members, Road Inspectors, Panchayat Secretaries, Village Panchayat staff including OHT operators, Thooimai Paniyalargal, Community based Organizations and Village Panchayat level Committees.

Training Performance

During 2023-24, DRCP conducted 9 programmes in which 93,318 participants had been trained.

6.10 Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RRGSA)

The Union Government has launched Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan in the year 2022 to strengthen capacities of Panchayat Raj institutions to become more

responsive towards local development needs. It also aims to facilitate participatory planning, leveraging technologies for effectively utilizing available resources and realizing sustainable solutions to local problems which are linked to Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs). The Panchayats have therefore been designated as a key player for implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved by 2030.

Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan is executed with a financial sharing pattern of 60:40 (Union and State Government) for training, Infrastructure and Human Resources, distance learning, Innovative activities, technical support to Panchayat Raj Institutions, Panchayat Buildings, E-enablement of Panchayats, Project based support for Economic Development and

Income enhancement, IEC (2%) and Programme Management (1.5%).

During 2024-25, RRGSA will focus on the localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) by Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) through convergence of Government schemes and various activities for achieving the 9 LSDG themes.

7. Budget

7. Budget Estimate for 2024-2025

A sum of Rs. 27,922 crore is provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025. Out of which, the Revenue Expenditure is Rs.22,699 crore and Capital Expenditure is Rs. 5,223 crore.

8. Conclusion

8. Conclusion

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is committed to create self-sufficient rural communities by providing access to basic amenities such as drinking water, sanitation, road connectivity, street lighting, etc., while alleviating poverty and promoting sustainable development for all. Transforming panchayats into clean, green, resilient, liveable, economically vibrant and well-connected rural hubs will contribute to the State's overall development.

The Government and Panchayat Raj Institutions are striving to ensure convergence of the activities of all departments at the village level. If all departmental schemes get converged at the Panchayat level it will help us

achieve improved outcomes from governmental programmes at the grass root level. Efficient service delivery, betterment of rural livelihoods, better natural resources management, increasing the green cover and reducing the carbon footprint are priorities of the Government at Panchayat level.

Localising sustainable development goals at the village level will strengthen local governance, institutions, fosters social cohesion, and promote community resilience in creating a sustainable and equitable future for all.

The quality control mechanisms are being improved for implementation of scheme, works and service delivery which results in betterment of schemes and services. The three-tier panchayat raj institutions and highly

competent department professionals will ensure the delivery of schemes and services and improvement of physical and social infrastructure.

Improving the rural infrastructure, the rural school development and improvement of rural roads have been the priorities for the flag ship schemes of the Government to support panchayat Raj Institutions. Village sanitation, village Water supply are prioritized in Gram Panchayat plan to provide better standard and effective resource utilisation and service delivery.

Under the dynamic leadership of the **Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin** the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is determined to carry forward this **Dravidian Development**

Model to enable Tamil Nadu to attain number one status in rural development in the country.

I.PERIYASAMY

Minister for Rural Development

Government of Tamil Nadu



Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin inaugurated 1000 new classroom buildings under the Child Friendly School Infrastructure Development Scheme, 50 Village Panchayat Secretariat buildings, 102 Panchayat Secretariat buildings and 5 Panchayat Union buildings constructed under various Scheme at the Secretariat through video conferencing on 26.12.2023.

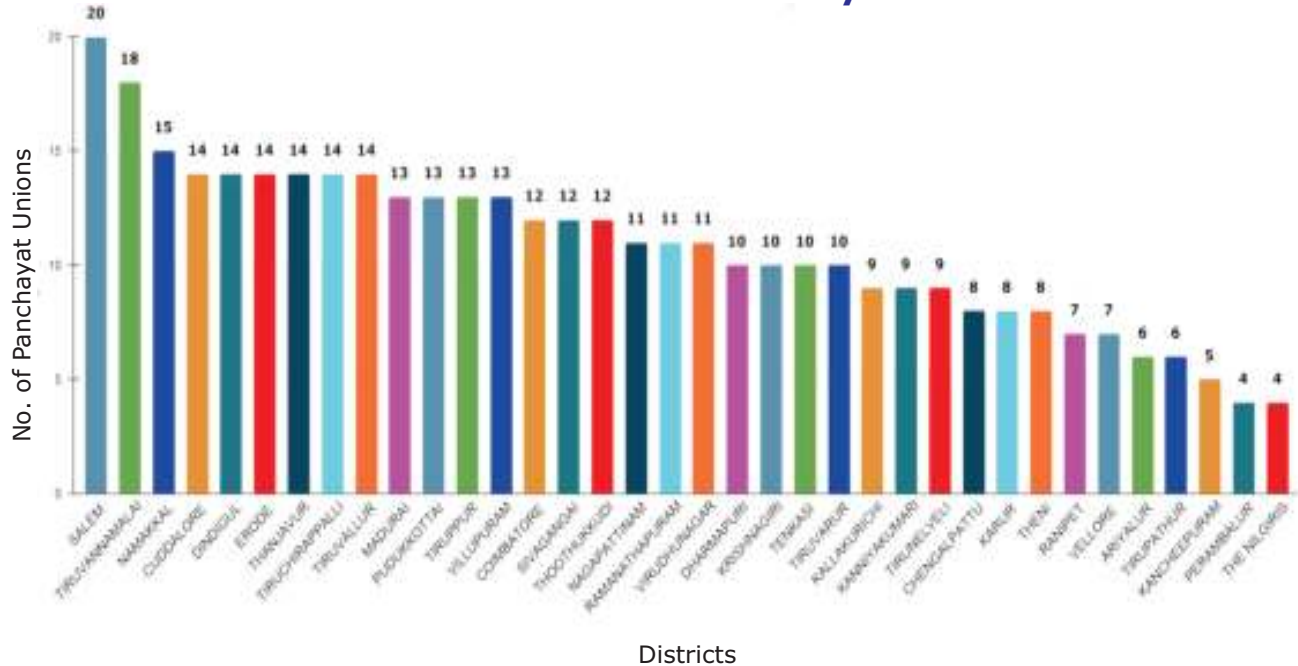


Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin inaugurated 1000 new classrooms constructed in Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools in 37 districts at a cost of Rs.150 crore under the Child Friendly School Infrastructure Development Scheme at the Secretariat on 26.9.2023.

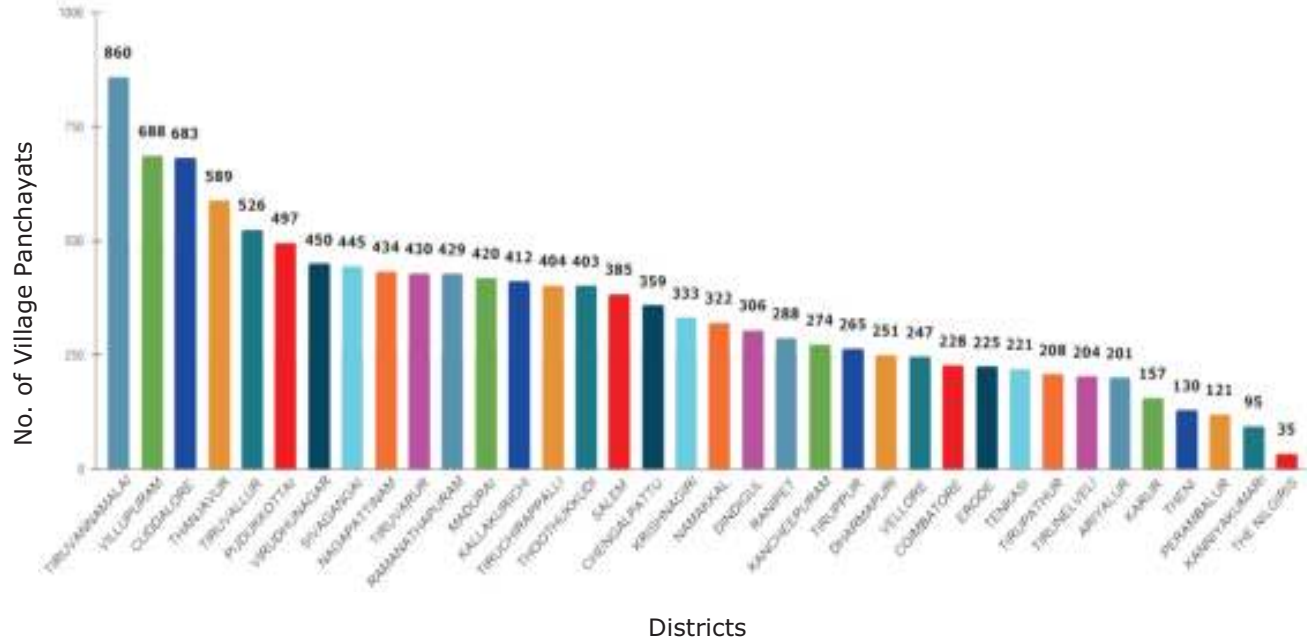


Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin flagged off 253 vehicles worth of Rs.23.84 crore for the use of officials of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department at the Secretariat on 02.08.2023.

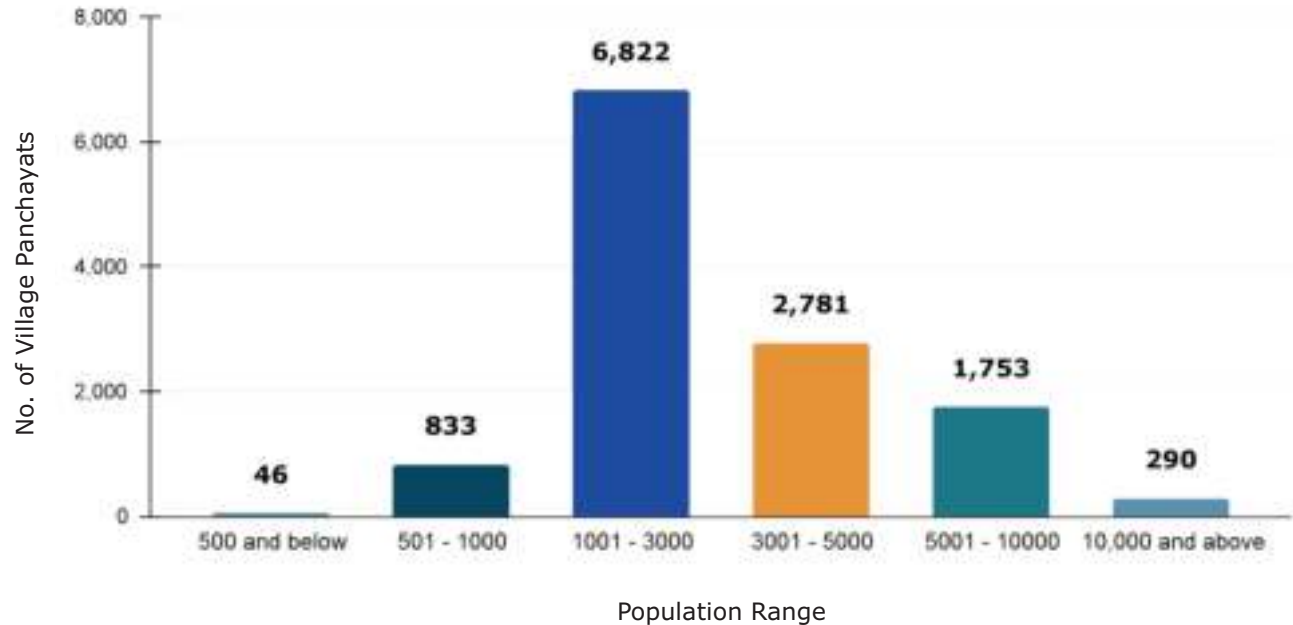
District wise Number of Panchayat Unions



District wise Number of Village Panchayats

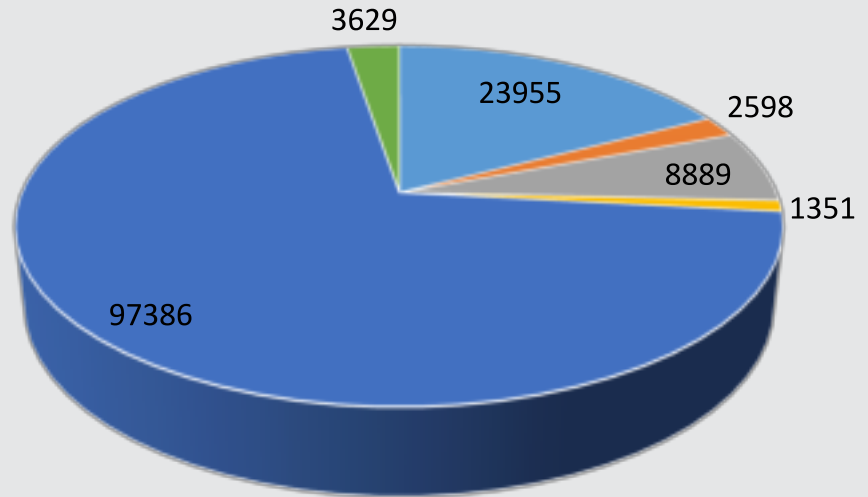








Classification of Village Panchayats based on population (Census 2011)



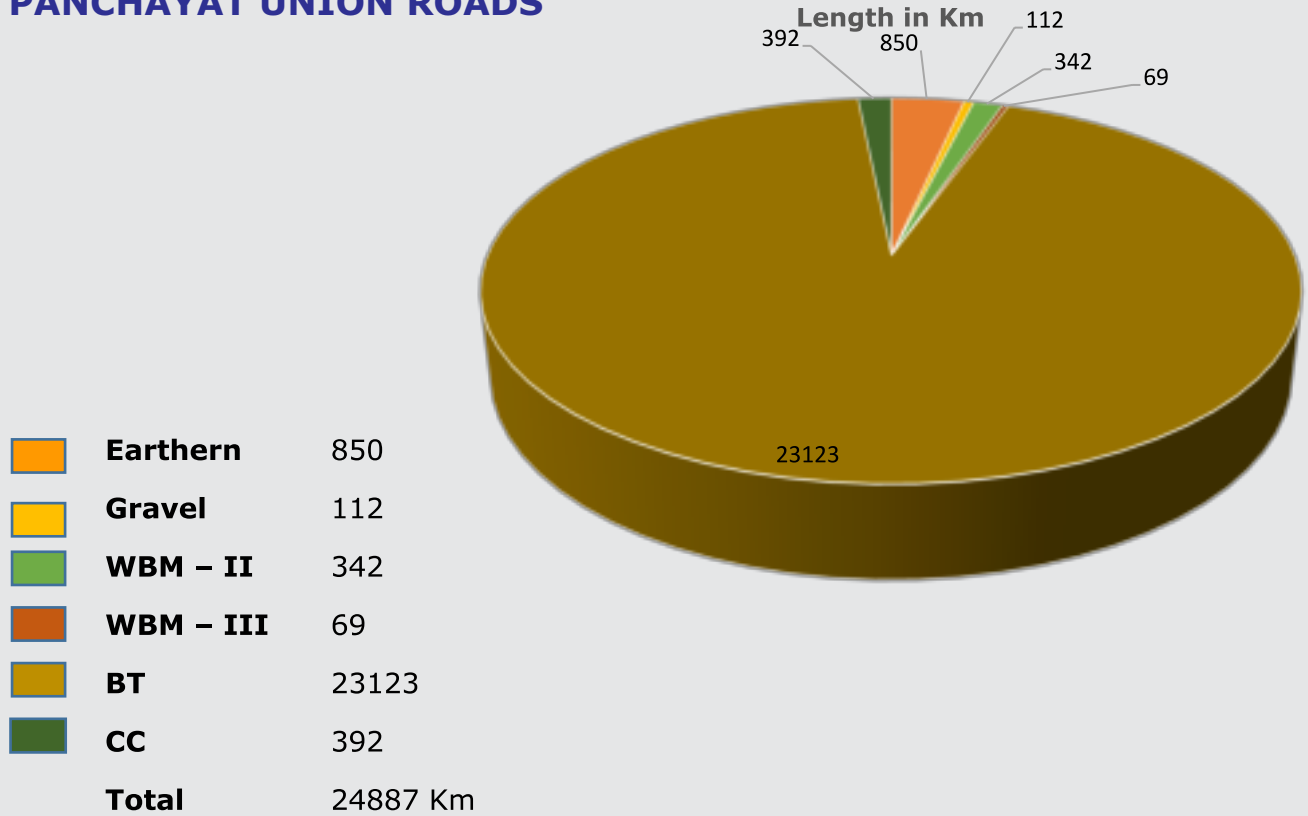
RURAL ROADS

Length in Km



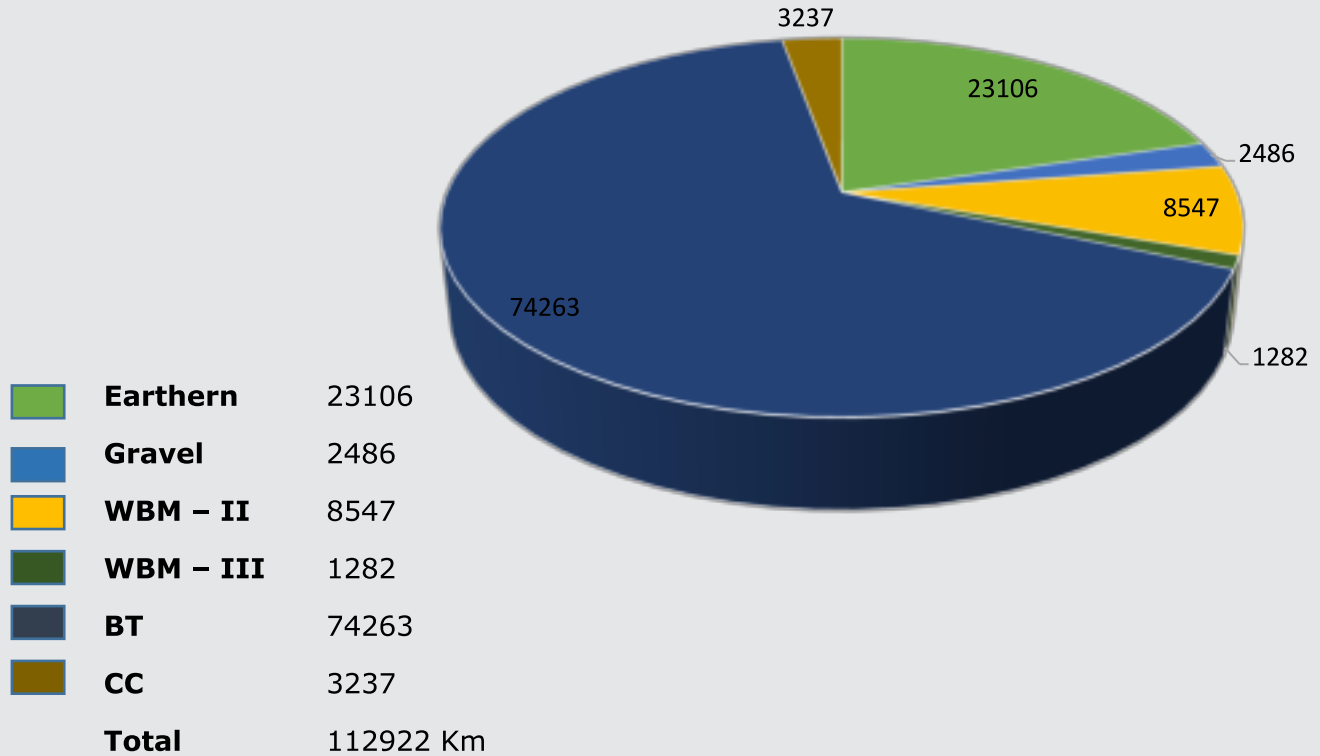
	Earthen	23955
	Gravel	2598
	WBM - II	8889
	WBM - III	1351
	BT	97386
	CC	3629
	Total	137809 Km

PANCHAYAT UNION ROADS

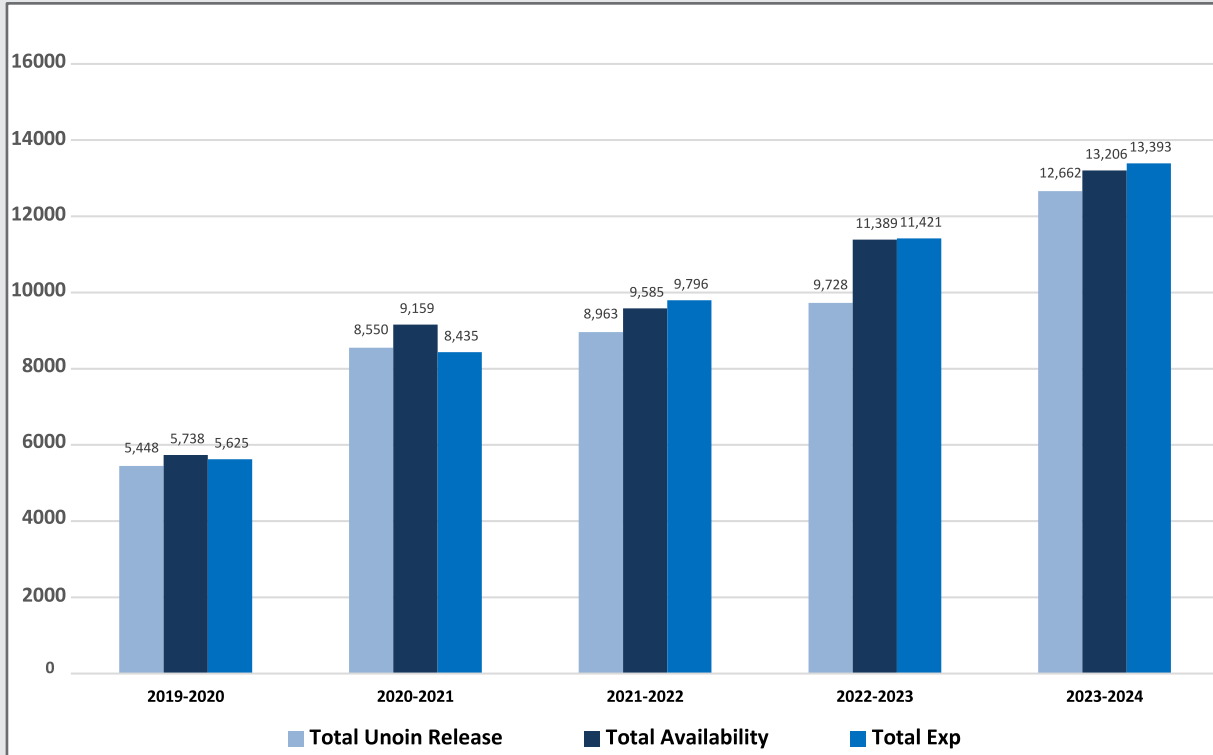


VILLAGE PANCHAYAT ROADS

Length in Km



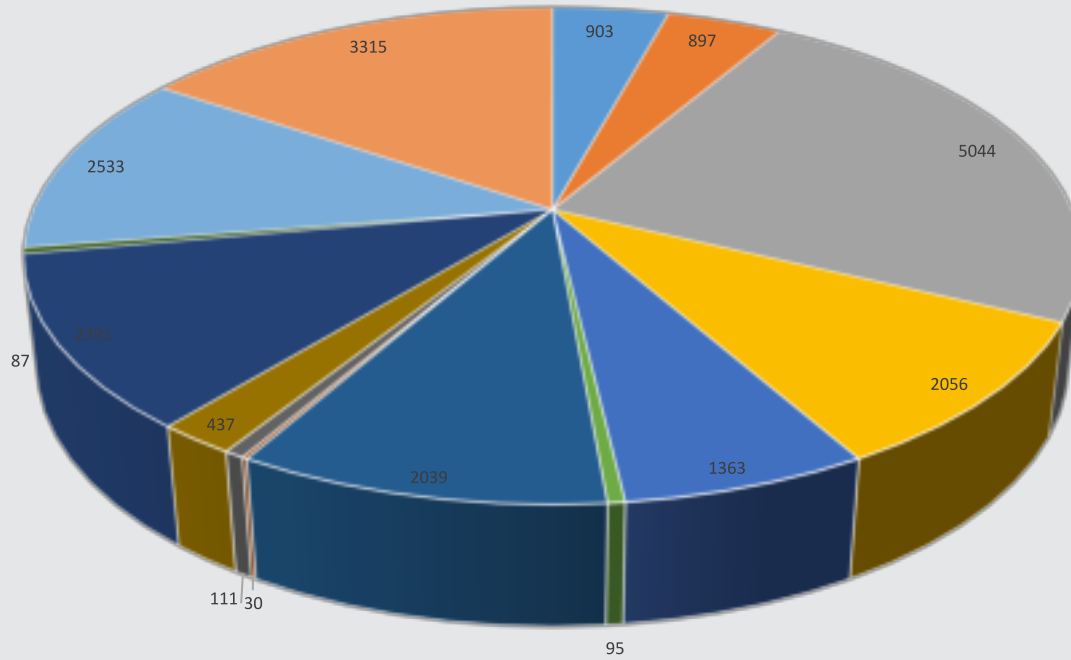
MGNREGS FINANCIAL PROGRESS - YEARWISE



Rs in crore

Year

MGNREGS - INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS 2023-24



- Anganwadi (903)
- Building for Panchayat office (897)
- Cement Concrete Roads (5044)
- Check Dam (2056)
- Compound wall for gov. schools (1363)
- Crematorium for Community (95)
- Drainage (2039)
- Fish Drying Yards (30)
- Food grain storage (111)
- Irrigation Open Well for Community (437)
- Kitchen Shed (2391)
- SHG/Fed building (87)
- WBM Roads (2533)
- Paver Block (3315)



Panchayat Union Office Building constructed at Kelamangalam of Krishnagiri District under Scheme component of Pooled Assigned Revenue at an estimate of Rs.3.10 crore.



Integrated Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department Office Complex Constructed in Tirunelveli District under Scheme component of Pooled Assigned Revenue at an estimate of Rs.9.50 crore.



Rural Road MRL 21 SU – Manivizhuthan Pudur via Manivizhuthan North Pudur (1/600-5/900 km) laid under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY-III) in Thalaivasal Panchayat Union of Salem District, at an estimate of Rs.232.30 Lakhs



Construction of Bridge across Vaniar River at Km 1/6 of Sattaiampatti to Kailavaram road in Harur Panchayat Union of Dharmapuri District under NABARD RIDF at an estimate of Rs. 395.46 Lakh

SCHEME : JJM 2020 - 2021



Construction of OHT, Pumping room and household water connections at Kattur in Vembedu Panchayat of Thiruporur Union of Chengalpattu District at an estimate of Rs 21.4 lakh



Construction of 2 Class Rooms in Nattuchalai Panchayat in Pattukottai Panchayat Union of Thanjavur District Under Child Friendly School Infrastructure Development Scheme at an estimate of Rs.29.60 lakhs



Construction of Farm pond in Seelapandal Panchayat in Thurinjapuram Panchayat Union of Tiruvannamalai District under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme at an estimate of Rs.1.78 lakhs



Construction of Check Dam across Veeraiyan Odai in Melachinthalaichery Panchayat of Uthamapalayam Panchayat Union of Theni District under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme at an estimate of Rs.7.40 lakhs



Andal Oorani Development in Chidambarapuram Panchayat in Aruppukottai Panchayat Union of Virudhunagar District under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam II at an estimate of Rs.18.45 lakhs

ANAITHU GRAMA ANNA MARUMALARCHI THITTAM-II 2021-22



Construction of Cycle Parking shed in Panchayat Union Middle School under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam II at an estimate of Rs. 3.55 Lakhs in Periyaseerakapadi Panchayat, Veerapandi Panchayat Union of Salem District



Cement road laid in Chinnapudur Vinayagar Koil Street under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam II at an estimate of Rs. 4.06 Lakhs in Semmandakuppam Panchayat, Dharmapuri Panchayat Union of Dharmapuri District

ANAITHU GRAMA ANNA MARUMALARCHI THITTAM-II 2021-22



Construction of Cremation Shed (Samathuva mayanam) at Samathuvapuram in Manmangalam Panchayat in Karur Panchayat Union of Karur District under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam II at an estimate of Rs.5.91 lakhs

