



**Rural Development and
Panchayat Raj Department**

**Policy Note
2015 - 2016**

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Government of Tamil Nadu
2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SI.No.	TITLE	PAGE No.
1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	PANCHAYAT RAJ	12
3	STATE SCHEMES	
3.1.	Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme	86
3.2.	Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS)	98
3.3.	Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme for Weavers	105
3.4.	Rural Infrastructure – Roads	105
3.5.	Use of Solar Power to street lights in Village Panchayats and Panchayat Union Office buildings.	120
3.6.	Comprehensive School Infrastructure Development Scheme	121
3.7.	Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS)	124
3.8.	Self Sufficiency Scheme	132
3.9.	Sanitation Programmes	137
3.10.	Renovation of Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women	138
3.11.	Maintenance of Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women	140

3.12.	Integrated Men Sanitary Complexes	141
3.13.	Bio-digester linked Community Green Sanitary Complexes	143
3.14.	Clean Village Campaign	144
3.15.	State Level Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign to achieve open defecation free status	145
3.16.	Strategies adopted by the Government in the coverage of Individual Household Latrines	146
3.17.	Solid Waste Management Scheme in Rural Areas	153
3.18.	Socio Economic Development Programme	158
3.19.	Thane Housing Scheme	159

4	CENTRAL SCHEMES	
4.1.	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme	163
4.2.	Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)	185
4.3.	Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	189
4.4.	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)	191
4.5.	Thirteenth Finance Commission Grants – Road Works	192
4.6.	Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)	192
4.7.	Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)	198
4.8.	National Bio-gas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP)	200
4.9.	Socio Economic and Caste Census	201

5	HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT	205
5.1.	Gazetted Establishment	205
5.2.	Engineering Establishment	207
5.3.	Deputation of Senior officers to other Departments	210
5.4.	Non-Gazetted Establishment	211
5.5.	Details of Vacancies filled up	212
5.6.	Benefits to Panchayat Secretaries and other employees of Village Panchayat	213
5.7.	Capacity Building	214
6	PUDHU VAAZHUVU PROJECT	227

7	TAMILNADU CORPORATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN	247
8	INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD) ASSISTED POST-TSUNAMI SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME	284
9	BUDGET FOR 2015-16	297
10	CONCLUSION	299

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT
POLICY NOTE
2015-2016**

1.INTRODUCTION

1.Introduction

"The Rural Development schemes designed and undertaken by this Government have set the benchmark for the highest standards of infrastructure and quality service delivery in rural areas which are not found anywhere else in the country."

-Honourable Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma avargal

Rural Development occupies one of the highest priorities of this Government, since the development of rural areas is indispensable for the overall development of the State. Never before has Tamil Nadu witnessed such huge investment of funds and introduction of several path-breaking schemes for the comprehensive development of rural areas as in the past four years. This feat has been made possible by

the unrivalled leadership of our Honourable Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

With the objective of equitable distribution of resources to all habitations and to improve the quality of life of the people living in rural areas, this Government introduced a flagship programme called '**THAI (Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement) scheme**', wherein 'Habitation' is taken as the basic unit for implementation of the programme. Tamil Nadu is the first State to adopt 'Habitation' as the basic unit of 'Development'. Under the scheme, the basic needs of all the 79,394 habitations in 12,524 Village Panchayats have been identified through an elaborate survey and the identified requirements of all these habitations are fulfilled through THAI Scheme. 'THAI' scheme ensures provision of the facilities available in urban and semi-urban area to all the rural habitations of Tamil Nadu.

Another path-breaking initiative in the development history of our country is the **introduction of Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme**, enabling

the rural people to have an environment friendly and dignified shelter with a larger living space, having all the necessary amenities with additional solar power for lighting. This scheme also sets the tone for harvesting clean and green energy in the rural areas.

This Government have given a new thrust to the Sanitation front by declaring the vision of making Tamil Nadu an 'Open Defecation Free' State soon, by strengthening institutional arrangements for implementation, making available sufficient funds, and also through sustained Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns. All the Integrated Women Sanitary Complexes in rural areas have been renovated and continuous usage and maintenance have been ensured through the Habitation level user groups. Construction of Integrated Men Sanitary Complexes is also being taken up from 2012-13 onwards. **A multi-pronged strategy has been put in place to achieve the goal of an open defecation free Tamil Nadu by involving all stakeholders and converting**

it into a mass movement to root out the practice of open defecation.

Another priority of the Government is to provide connectivity to all habitations. In view of this, the Honourable Chief Minister has been allocating huge sum of money for the improvement of rural road network. Due to the sustained efforts of the Government, the size of the rural road network, which was 1.03 lakh km in 2010-11 has increased to 1.47 lakh km in 2015-16.

Moreover, this Government has ensured the laying of BT roads using plastic waste for reducing environmental hazard, apart from improving the quality of roads as directed by Honourable Chief Minister. Well established rural connectivity is a pre-requisite for the socio - economic development of any area. This Government has taken various initiatives for upgradation of Non-BT roads into BT roads, strengthening of damaged roads, construction of Bridges and has thus ensured access to remote areas.

This Government have taken various measures for effective implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) viz., i) execution of more than one work in each Village Panchayat at any point of time, ii) judicious selection of water harvesting structures using satellite based maps, iii) IEC activities to generate awareness among the workers to get their full wages, iv) payment of wages through banks, v) establishing better workers' interface by appointing 'Worksite Supervisors' and vi) continuous on-line monitoring to ensure habitation wise participation of workers. Efforts have also been taken for the provision of irrigation facilities, plantation, horticulture and other land development activities in the lands owned by households of SC/ST, Small and Marginal Farmers, beneficiaries of land reforms, Indira Awaas Yojana and BPL families. **Tamil Nadu continues to excel in the implementation of MGNREGS by generating highest number of Persondays in the country.** In order to increase the number of durable assets created under MGNREGS, works involving

material component have also been taken up since 2014-15. Under this category, common infrastructure works like Village Panchayat Service Centres, Block Panchayat Service Centres, Village Panchayat office Buildings, Anganwadi Centres, Food Grain Storage Structures and Individual Household Latrines have been taken up.

As a unique initiative, Special Schedule of Rates have been issued for the benefit of the physically and mentally challenged persons, for participation in MGNREGS works and this initiative has also been recognised by Government of India by incorporating it in the Revised Schedule I of MGNREG Act 2005. **Tamil Nadu is the only State in the country which has bagged the “Best Performing State Award” in the category of “Social Inclusion”,** for best performance for the year 2012-13. Further, Theni District has received the Best Performing District Award, and F.Keelaiyur Village Panchayat of Manapparai Block of Tiruchirapalli District has been selected as one of the Best

Panchayats in MGNREGS implementation at the National Level for the year 2013-14.

Under the capable stewardship of Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the Self Help Group movement has grown in size, stature and capacity in Tamil Nadu. The SHG movement has brought about rapid changes in the quality of life of women – particularly rural poor women. The Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW), started in 1983 for the welfare and development of women, is guiding the women for their progressive life by providing training, livelihood assistance and employment opportunities through two schemes viz., Mahalir Thittam (Mathi) and Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM). The TNCDW inculcates the habit of savings among women SHGs to prevent them from falling into a debt trap. It also encourages the SHGs to avail bank linkages to start income generation activities to earn their livelihood. In the past four years, Rs.20,270 crore has been given as credit linkage to the SHGs through banks. Moreover, 272 Job Melas were conducted and 83,686

unemployed rural youth were given placement in 2,525 private establishments with monthly emoluments ranging between Rs.5,000 and Rs.12,000 during the year 2014-15.

The prime objectives of TNSRLM are to bring in all the left out poor, particularly widows, destitutes and the marginalized into the SHG network, strengthening community institutions, developing social capital, enabling financial inclusion, enhancing the capacity of the poor and providing sustainable livelihood opportunities. The TNSRLM is being implemented in 265 blocks in Tamil Nadu.

The World Bank assisted Tamil Nadu Pudhu Vaazhvu Project (TNPVP) was launched by the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in 2005 and this scheme is being implemented in an outstanding manner in 120 blocks of the State. The concept of empowering the rural poor through the Village Poverty Reduction Committees (VPRCs) to eradicate the poverty of targeted rural poor has been a great success. Hence, it is no wonder that many teams from other States and Countries have come to Tamil Nadu to study the TNPVP model

and started replicating similar projects in their respective areas. Through TNPVP and TNSRLM, placement linked skill training is given by reputed institutions to the rural youth in various sectors with assured employment. Due to these placement opportunities, the standard of living of rural youth has undergone significant improvement. A great transformation has been taking place in the life of rural women in Tamil Nadu, due to the interventions made by the SHG movement, TNSRLM and TNPVP.

2. PANCHAYAT RAJ

2. PANCHAYAT RAJ

The history of the local self-governance in Tamil Nadu can be traced back to the stone edicts and carvings in Sri Vaikunda Perumal Temple of Uthiramerur in Kancheepuram District, which bear evidence to the well established local self-governance during the period of the Chola Empire. It was a system of democracy in monarchy where the members of the Village Council were elected through a process of secret ballot called 'Kuda Olai Murai' and these Councils functioned as self-contained economic and administrative entities. It is also interesting to note that the eligibility criteria and norms for disqualification had been prescribed for those who contested for the Village Council.

In the post-independence era, Article 40 in Part-IV of the Constitution of India provides for the organization and endowment of powers to the Panchayats. The Balwantrai Mehta Committee appointed by Government of India, submitted its report in January 1957 and recommended the establishment of democratic

decentralization which finally came to be known as Panchayat Raj.

The Government of Madras enacted Madras Panchayats Act, 1958 and Madras District Development Council Act, 1958 with the following major features:

- i) A two-tier system of Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions.
- ii) Creation of Panchayat Unions co-terminus with the Community Development Blocks.
- iii) Village Panchayat Presidents to become ex-officio members of the Panchayat Union Councils with the Chairperson of the Panchayat Union Council directly/indirectly elected.
- iv) Entrusting the Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats with a large number of developmental and welfare functions.
- v) Abolition of District Boards.
- vi) Creation of District Development Council as an advisory body.

2.1. Constitutional (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992

The 73rd amendment of the constitution was enacted in 1992 and came into effect from April 1993. Article 243G of the Constitution provides for the scope of devolution of powers and functions to the Panchayat Raj Institutions. 29 items were specifically listed out in the XI Schedule of the Constitution and 74th Amendment provided for formation of District Planning Committees. Accordingly, the Government of Tamil Nadu enacted Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 21 of 1994) which came into force on 22.4.1994.

2.2. Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994

The Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 brought in a number of changes in the Panchayat Raj structure in Tamil Nadu as detailed below:

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

elections before the expiry of the duration of the Local Body or before the expiry of a period of 6 months from the date of its dissolution.

- iii) 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.
- iv) Introduction of reservation of one-third of total number of seats and offices for women with provision for rotation.
- v) Constitution of a State Election Commission (SEC) as an independent body to conduct elections to both rural and urban Local Bodies regularly.
- vi) Establishment of a quinquennial State Finance Commission (SFC) to recommend devolution of resources from the State Government to the rural and urban Local Bodies.

vii) Constitution of a District Planning Committee to consolidate the plans prepared by the rural and urban Local Bodies in the District with a view to prepare a comprehensive development plan for the District.

vii) Introduction of the concept of 'Grama Sabha' comprising all registered voters in a Village Panchayat.

2.3. Important Rules under Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994.

The Government is empowered to make rules regarding all matters relating to Panchayat Raj Institutions as per the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. The framing of rules enables the authorities to carry out the features specified in Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994.

i) The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Quorum and Procedure for the convening and conduct of Meetings of Village Panchayat) Rules 1999:

The details regarding duration between the meetings of Village Panchayat Council, service of notice of the meeting and agenda, quorum and attendance, passing of resolution, Preparation of minutes and custody of records are explained in this rule.

ii) Rules pertaining to conduct of Grama Sabha:

The Tamil Nadu Grama Sabha (Procedure for convening and conducting of Meeting) Rules, 1998 and the amendment to the said rules issued in 2006 explain detailed procedures and guidelines for conduct of Grama Sabha. The Government order ensures conduct of Grama Sabha meetings for a minimum of four times a year i.e., in 26th January, 1st May, 15th August and 2nd October.

The details regarding procedure for conduct of Grama Sabha, quorum for the meeting, agenda, monitoring the proceedings of Grama Sabha, attendance register and minutes of the Grama Sabha meetings have been clearly explained in the rules.

iii) The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Election) Rules, 1995:

These rules deal with the conduct of direct and indirect election to rural Local Bodies. Various procedures such as Election machinery, preparation and publication of Panchayat Electoral Roll, Notification of Election and Nomination of candidates, conduct of poll, counting of votes, Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of District Panchayat and Panchayat Union Councils, Election of President and Vice-President of Village Panchayats, Election expenses, Adjudication of Election disputes are detailed in these rules.

iv) The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Reservation of seats and Rotation of Reserved Seats) Rules, 1995:

These rules deal with the reservation of seats and offices for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Women, rotation of reserved seats and office in the three tier Panchayat Raj Institutions.

v) The Tamil Nadu Panchayats Building Rules, 1997:

These rules govern the procedure for grant of layout and building plan approval in rural areas. As per the rules, President of the concerned Village Panchayat has the power to approve building plan to certain extent. The Panchayat President will give approval for the building plans / layouts beyond a certain limit with the prior concurrence of the Director of Town and Country Planning who is the competent authority to give technical clearance.

vi) Tamil Nadu Village Panchayats (Assessment and collection of Taxes) Rules, 1999:

The basis of levy of house-tax, persons liable to pay house tax, preparation of house-tax assessment list, appeal against imposition of house tax, mode of collection of house tax in Village Panchayats are specified in these rules.

vii) Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Preparation of Plans and Estimates for works and Mode and conditions of contracts) Rules, 2007:

These rules govern the preparation of plans and estimates, mode and conditions of contracts in respect of works of Village Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats executed from out of the General funds, Centrally sponsored and the State Government funded schemes.

viii) Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Regulation of sinking of wells and safety Measures) Rules, 2015:

These rules have been framed to regulate the sinking of bore wells, tube wells and open wells in Village Panchayats in order to prevent the fatal accidents and death of small children. The rules contain detailed guidelines for issue of permit for sinking of wells to the applicants, certificate of registration for carrying out the business of sinking wells, formats for maintaining the register for grant of permit and sending of monthly reports.

2.4. State Election Commission

The Tamil Nadu State Election Commission was set up as an independent and autonomous constitutional authority in 1994 in order to strengthen the process of decentralization and democracy. The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of all elections to the Village Panchayats, Panchayat Union Councils and District Panchayats are vested with the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission, headed by the State Election Commissioner.

The Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner and other administrative staff are appointed as per the sub-section (3) of Section 239 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. The conditions of service and the tenure of office of the State Election Commissioner shall be such as Governor may by rules determine. The State Election Commissioner shall hold office for a term of 2 years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for two successive terms provided no person shall hold the office of Tamil Nadu State Election

Commissioner for more than 6 years in aggregate. Further, a person appointed as Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner shall retire from office if he completes the age of sixty-five years during the term of his office. The State Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of High Court and the conditions of service shall not be varied to the disadvantage of his appointment.

2.5. Conduct of Local Body Elections

In Tamil Nadu, after enactment of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act in April, 1994, the first ordinary elections were held to all the three tiers of Rural Local Bodies in October, 1996. The second ordinary elections to the Local Bodies were conducted in October, 2001 and the third such elections were conducted in October, 2006. The fourth elections to the Local Bodies were successfully conducted in October, 2011.

Elections to the seats (i.e. ward members) and offices (i.e. heads) of District Panchayats and Panchayat Unions were held on party basis. Whereas, the elections to the

seats and offices of Village Panchayats were held on non-party basis. The following table details the number of seats and offices in the three tiers of Panchayats for which elections were held during October and November, 2011.

Table 2.1.

Number of Seats & Offices in the three tier PRIs

Sl.No.	Details of Post	Number
1.	Village Panchayat Wards	99,333
2.	Panchayat Union Wards	6,471
3.	District Panchayat Wards	655
4.	Village Panchayat Presidents	12,524
5.	Panchayat Union Chairpersons	385
6.	District Panchayat Chairpersons	31
Total		1,19,399

2.6. Conversion of Multi Member Wards into Single Member Wards in Village Panchayats

In Tamil Nadu, though the Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats have single member wards, the Village Panchayats had

both single member and multi-member wards and the elections were held on this basis upto the ordinary elections in 2006.

The system of having Multi Member Wards in the Village Panchayats posed difficulties in the reservation of seats to SC/ST and Women members for the Village Panchayat Wards. The rural voters also felt that the ballot paper was confusing and difficulties were encountered by the staff members at the time of counting of votes. Since there was no clear demarcation of territory in a multi member ward, there was no sense of owning responsibility among the members of a particular ward. Hence, Section 12 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 was amended vide the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Third Amendment) Act of 2009 (Tamil Nadu Act 20 of 2009). But, the corresponding rule amendment was not issued. Because of this, the conversion of multi-member wards into single member wards were not given effect to.

Hence, necessary amendment was made in September, 2011 in Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fixation of strength of members and division

of Wards) Rules, 1995 so as to bring single member ward system in Village Panchayats – vide G.O. (Ms.) No.63, RD & PR (PR.II) Department, dated the 14th September, 2011.

Originally as per 1991 Census, there were 40,879 multi member wards with 97,458 ward members in the Village Panchayats. Hence, in order to streamline the electoral process and demarcate the Village Panchayat Wards with clear boundaries, it was proposed to convert the multi member wards into single member wards. After the exercise for conversion of multi member wards into single member wards as per 2001 Census, the number of Village Panchayat wards has gone up to 99,333 and equal would be the number of ward members. Ordinary elections to the Village Panchayat Wards were conducted successfully with the single member ward system only in October, 2011.

2.7. Reservation of Seats and Offices and Rotation

Seats shall be reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in every Panchayat and the number of seats reserved shall bear,

as nearly as may be, the same proportion to the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in that Panchayat as the population of Scheduled Castes in that Panchayat area or of the Scheduled Tribes in that Panchayat area bears to the total population of that area and such seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Panchayat according to Article 243 D of the Constitution of India. It is also mandated that not less than 1/3rd of the total number of seats reserved as above, shall be reserved for women belonging to SCs/STs. Also, not less than 1/3rd (including the number of seats reserved for women of SCs/STs) of the total number of seats shall be reserved for women. The State may legislate laws on the reservation of offices of Chairperson and these provisions have been covered in Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 in Sections 11, 20, 32 and 57, further supplemented by Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Reservation of Seats and Rotation of Reserved Seats) Rules, 1995.

Table 2.2.
Reservation of Offices and Seats for Women, SCs and STs for Local Body Elections, 2011

Sl No	Category of Reservation	Total No. of office/ seats	Reserved for Women	Percentage	Reserved for SCs (General & Women)	Percentage	Reserved for STs (General & Women)	Percentage
1.	District Panchayat Chair persons	31	11	35%	7	24%	0	0%
2.	Panchayat Union Council Chair persons	385	140	36%	87	23%	4	1%
3.	Village Panchayat Presidents	12,524	4,289	34%	3,136	25%	156	1%
4.	District Panchayat Ward Members	655	228	35%	154	24%	8	1%
5.	Panchayat Union Ward Members	6,471	2,286	35%	1,526	24%	64	1%
6.	Village Panchayat Ward Members	99,333	33,121	33%	25,360	26%	1039	1%

2.8. Village Panchayat

There are 12,524 Village Panchayats covering 79,394 habitations in the State spread across in 31 Districts. The Village Panchayat is constituted for each Village Panchayat consisting of such number of elected members,

with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification of the Inspector of Panchayats. Every Village Panchayat unless sooner dissolved shall continue for 5 years from the date appointed for its first meeting after each ordinary election. The Village Panchayat President is the Executive Authority of the Village Panchayat.

2.9. Grama Sabha

Grama Sabha is the grass root level democratic institution in each Village Panchayat. A vibrant Grama Sabha is essential for the effective functioning of Village Panchayats by promoting transparency and accountability in administration, enhancing public participation in the planning and implementation of schemes and in the choice of beneficiaries, and paving the way for social audit. Grama Sabha shall statutorily be conducted in such a way that the intervening period between two Grama Sabhas shall not exceed a period of 6 months. The Government have ordered for the conduct of Grama Sabha meetings, a minimum of four times a year i.e. on 26th January, 1st May, 15th August and 2nd

October. Minimum quorum for the Grama Sabha based on the population of Village Panchayats has been prescribed by the Government as below:

Table 2.3.
Quorum for Grama Sabha

Sl. No.	Population of Village Panchayat	Quorum
1	Up to 500	50
2	501-3,000	100
3	3,001-10,000	200
4	Above 10,000	300

Recording of Grama Sabha attendance and proceedings through proper registers and keeping photographic record have been made mandatory for the conduct of Grama Sabhas.

The Grama Sabha performs the following functions:

1. Approves the Village Development Plan.
2. Approves the Village Panchayat Budget.
3. Approves the Audit Report.

4. Reviews the progress of scheme implementation.
5. Approves the list of beneficiaries, intended to be benefitted under various schemes.
6. Promotes communal and social harmony among various groups of people.

2.10. Panchayat wise population Data as per 2011 Census

In co-ordination with the Director of Census Operations, the Village Panchayat wise rural population details as per census 2011 for all the 12,524 Village Panchayats in 31 Districts were published. The data contains total population of Village Panchayat, SC/ST and Women. The same has also been uploaded in www.tnrd.gov.in also. The Village Panchayats have been categorized on the basis of population as detailed below:

Table 2.4.**Classification of Village Panchayats on the basis of Population as per 2011 census**

Sl. No.	Population	No. of Village Panchayats
1	500 and below	46
2	501-1,000	833
3	1,001-3,000	6,821
4	3,001-5,000	2,781
5	5,001-10,000	1,753
6	Above 10,000	290
Total		12,524

The District wise details of rural population with the breakup of SC/ST and women are given below:

**Table 2.5.
District wise Rural Population Details**

Sl.No.	District	Rural Population	Women	ST	SC	% of SC
1	Kancheepuram	18,61,789	9,24,124	29,706	6,24,458	33.54
2	Thiruvallur	15,85,280	7,90,170	37,708	5,04,115	31.80
3	Cuddalore	18,00,133	8,91,507	10,082	6,25,788	34.76
4	Viluppuram	29,12,960	14,45,062	71,289	9,19,308	31.56
5	Vellore	24,82,556	12,41,612	65,230	6,05,248	24.38
6	Tiruvannamalai	20,39,049	10,14,486	87,096	5,02,044	24.62
7	Salem	19,57,105	9,45,014	1,12,334	3,54,545	18.12
8	Namakkal	10,87,895	5,37,918	55,417	2,48,100	22.81
9	Dharmapuri	12,90,530	6,24,646	60,609	2,13,538	16.55
10	Krishnagiri	14,65,743	7,17,175	20,980	2,20,945	15.07
11	Erode	11,30,722	5,59,797	19,084	2,16,689	19.16

Sl.No.	District	Rural Population	Women	ST	SC	% of SC
12	Tiruppur	11,39,466	5,68,772	1,947	2,63,539	23.13
13	Coimbatore	10,21,359	5,10,409	19,565	2,13,492	20.90
14	The Nilgiris	3,10,591	1,59,447	22,767	91,446	29.44
15	Thanjavur	16,67,809	8,46,926	1,465	3,84,291	23.04
16	Nagapattinam	12,61,288	6,37,194	2,214	4,60,876	36.54
17	Thiruvavur	10,06,482	5,06,528	939	3,88,740	38.62
18	Tiruchirappalli	14,71,945	7,39,563	14,519	3,05,109	20.73
19	Karur	6,68,360	3,36,684	201	1,59,718	23.90
20	Perambalur	4,68,017	2,34,113	2,136	1,50,504	32.16
21	Ariyalur	6,71,100	3,37,847	9,946	1,63,770	24.40
22	Pudukkottai	13,41,111	6,75,896	845	2,51,552	18.76
23	Madurai	13,00,481	6,44,431	4,896	2,72,494	20.95
24	Theni	5,75,394	2,84,527	1,377	1,43,589	24.95
25	Dindigul	14,57,412	7,25,917	4,580	3,34,064	22.92
26	Ramanathapuram	10,09,270	5,01,016	526	2,13,583	21.16
27	Virudhunagar	12,86,543	6,44,603	1,197	3,15,796	24.55
28	Sivaganga	9,52,610	4,77,215	518	1,88,454	19.78
29	Tirunelveli	16,45,509	8,32,916	4,099	3,58,487	21.79
30	Thoothukkudi	9,71,273	4,92,268	1,921	2,48,752	25.61
31	Kanniyakumari	6,46,441	3,25,257	3,893	26,546	4.11
Total		404,86,223	201,73,040	6,69,086	99,69,580	24.62

2.11.Panchayat wise Area Details

The State Government has accepted the recommendations of the Fourth State Finance Commission to release the Devolution Grant to the Village Panchayats based on 2011 Census total population, SC/ST population and the area of Village Panchayat and issued orders accordingly. The District Collectors have reported that the total rural area is 1,04,149.61 sq.kms. The District wise area details are as below:

**Table 2.6.
District-wise Area of Village Panchayats**

Sl. No.	District	No. of Panchayats	No. of habitations	Average No. of habitations	Rural Area (in Sq. km)	Average Area per Panchayat (in Sq. km)
1	Kancheepuram	633	3,512	6	3,851.45	6.08
2	Thiruvallur	526	3,862	7	2,859.84	5.44
3	Cuddalore	683	2,403	4	2,942.24	4.31
4	Viluppuram	1,099	3,487	3	6,509.43	5.92
5	Vellore	743	6,109	8	4,022.30	5.41
6	Tiruvannamalai	860	4,267	5	4,826.27	5.61
7	Salem	385	5,109	13	4,561.41	11.85
8	Namakkal	322	2,520	8	3,119.43	9.69
9	Dharmapuri	251	2,835	11	4,407.43	17.56
10	Krishnagiri	333	3,983	12	4,965.73	14.91
11	Erode	225	3,199	14	2,626.99	11.68
12	Tiruppur	265	2,455	9	4,545.50	17.15
13	Coimbatore	228	1,200	5	2,534.24	11.12
14	The Nilgiris	35	1,282	37	1,170.39	33.44
15	Thanjavur	589	2,260	4	3,657.67	6.21
16	Nagapattinam	434	2,054	5	2,400.31	5.53
17	Thiruvarur	430	1,704	4	2,322.69	5.40
18	Tiruchirappalli	404	2,210	5	4,028.00	9.97
19	Karur	157	2,179	14	2,656.25	16.92
20	Perambalur	121	314	3	1,609.54	13.30
21	Ariyalur	201	710	4	1,710.17	8.51
22	Pudukkottai	497	4,062	8	4,433.78	8.92
23	Madurai	420	1,946	5	3,183.18	7.58
24	Theni	130	607	5	1,159.89	8.92
25	Dindigul	306	3,083	10	4,401.34	14.38
26	Ramanathapuram	429	2,306	5	4,116.19	9.59
27	Virudhunagar	450	1,760	4	3,282.08	7.29
28	Sivaganga	445	2,723	6	3,075.90	6.91
29	Tirunelveli	425	2,337	5	4,283.06	10.08
30	Thoothukkudi	403	1,761	4	4,260.78	10.57
31	Kanniyakumari	95	1,155	12	626.14	6.59
Total		12,524	79,394	6	1,04,149.61	8.32

2.12. Statutory Functions of Village Panchayat

Section 110 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, mandates that it shall be the duty of the Village Panchayat to carry out the requirements in rural areas in the following matters:

- i) Construction, repair and maintenance of all village roads (other than those classified as Highways and Panchayat Union roads), all bridges, culverts and cause-ways.
- ii) Street lights in public places.
- iii) Construction of drains and disposal of drainage.
- iv) Cleaning of streets and improvement of sanitary conditions.
- v) Provision of public latrine.
- vi) Burial and burning grounds.
- vii) Supply of drinking water.
- viii) Other duties that the Government, may by notification, impose.

2.12.1. Water Supply

Provision of drinking water supply in rural areas is the basic duty of Village Panchayat. Handpumps and Powerpumps are the major sources of water supply and OHTs, GLRs and mini tanks are the major water storage structures in Village Panchayats. The number of water sources available in rural areas are as below:

Table 2.7.
District wise details of Water Supply sources

Sl. No	District	No. of Hand Pumps	No. of Power Pumps	No. of Mini Power Pumps	No. of CWSS	No. of Pts covered with CWSS
1	Kancheepuram	9,150	6,816	4,174	20	69
2	Thiruvallur	4,762	4,038	2,416	9	36
3	Cuddalore	16,813	4,370	1,788	12	60
4	Villupuram	15,741	6,014	10,428	11	78
5	Vellore	9,925	6,926	12,199	20	46
6	Tiruvannamalai	11,350	5,064	6,502	25	240
7	Salem	7,742	5,259	4,687	9	262
8	Namakkal	3,123	4,403	2,804	12	298
9	Dharmapuri	11,542	3,038	5,602	8	66
10	Krishnagiri	9,700	3,720	3,640	17	93
11	Erode	4,969	4,890	2,324	40	192
12	Tiruppur	4,740	3,272	1,272	17	265
13	Coimbatore	2,774	3,577	646	9	228
14	The Nilgiris	25	1,239	183	1	4
15	Thanjavur	6,855	5,237	2,755	6	90
16	Nagapattinam	25,216	2,152	2,059	12	291
17	Tiruvarur	12,663	2,804	1,392	4	96
18	Tiruchirapalli	9,592	3,261	3,432	25	327
19	Karur	3,435	2,697	3,308	12	92

Sl. No	District	No. of Hand Pumps	No. of Power Pumps	No. of Mini Power Pumps	No. of CWSS	No. of Pts covered with CWSS
20	Perambalur	3,110	803	814	4	65
21	Ariyalur	1,628	1,403	882	7	168
22	Pudukottai	7,448	4,747	4,117	46	208
23	Madurai	6,854	3,422	4,816	7	182
24	Theni	1,270	879	1,151	24	106
25	Dindigul	4,384	6,152	5,034	32	116
26	Ramanathapuram	2,152	2,098	1,396	52	429
27	Virudhunagar	10,839	3,629	3,696	12	153
28	Sivagangai	6,000	3,232	5,052	33	129
29	Tirunelveli	5,038	2,682	3,401	26	388
30	Thoothukudi	8,399	1,939	1,758	22	354
31	Kanniyakumari	748	1,375	1,404	13	44
Total		227,987	111,138	105,132	547	5175

In addition to the existing water sources, 36,740 water supply works were taken up during 2014-15 under different schemes such as Tamil Nadu Habitations Improvement Scheme (THAI), Rural Building Maintenance and Renovation Scheme (RBMR), Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund (IGFF), State Finance Commission Grant (SFC) and from the General Funds of Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions at the cost of Rs.622.08 crore.

2.12.2. Monitoring of Habitation wise daily drinking water supply through online.

The District Collectors are monitoring the drinking water supply in rural areas and weekly review meetings are conducted with the Officers from Rural Development, TWAD Board and the TANGEDCO and sort out the issues to maintain regular water supply. In order to streamline the monitoring system, an online module has been developed at the State level through NIC.

The Village Panchayat are making online entry with respect to water supply on daily basis. Accordingly, arrangement has been taken to know the actual status of water supply in Village Panchayats habitation wise on daily basis.

The District Collector and the Assistant Director (Panchayats) are monitoring the water supply position at District level using this online monitoring module. At State level, the Directorate is monitoring the water supply position in rural areas habitation wise through online module and action is being taken to

ensure regular water supply in all the habitations.

Weekly analysis is also being done using the online report so that the habitations where water supply is not provided for 3 days or more, remedial action is taken to provide water supply without any issue in rural areas. Action has being taken by the Block Development Officers in this regard and water supply is provided in these habitations also.

2.12.3. Street lights

Extension of street lights and maintenance is one of the basic services delivered by the Village Panchayats. Different types of street light system maintained by the Village Panchayats are as detailed below:

**Table 2.8.
District wise details of Street lights**

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Tube lights	Mercury Vapour	Sodium Vapour	CFL	Solar street light	LED light	Total
1	Kancheepuram	75,180	514	12,163	23,082	1,538	69	112,546
2	Thiruvallur	33,186	856	8,230	69,926	1,115	0	113,313
3	Cuddalore	69,980	596	10,150	30,461	636	0	111,823
4	Villupuram	62,656	26	10,166	53,279	1,020	420	127,567
5	Vellore	85,142	772	4,767	9,745	2,529	0	102,955
6	Tiruvannamalai	59,952	883	5,792	17,081	1,565	0	85,273
7	Salem	81,227	196	2,811	12,245	1,283	386	98,148
8	Namakkal	52,041	44	2,640	2,824	1,496	262	59,307

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Tube lights	Mercury Vapour	Sodium Vapour	CFL	Solar street light	LED light	Total
9	Dharmapuri	36,959	543	1,287	11,343	420	0	50,552
10	Krishnagiri	22,016	295	864	38,162	360	20	61,717
11	Erode	60,594	170	1,975	3,061	1,055	730	67,585
12	Tiruppur	47,015	349	1,451	3,609	1,611	0	54,035
13	Coimbatore	53,493	370	1,828	10,998	840	643	68,172
14	The Nilgiris	9,857	0	1,173	1,415	220	441	13,106
15	Thanjavur	110,192	1,887	6,478	46,083	1,980	0	166,620
16	Nagapattinam	67,146	104	2,116	28,945	1,315	316	99,942
17	Tiruvarur	64,451	151	1,853	18,928	1,095	0	86,478
18	Tiruchirappalli	81,539	611	3,394	5,198	1,544	54	92,340
19	Karur	30,881	182	750	11,852	760	82	44,507
20	Perambalur	14,964	36	590	8,117	180	0	23,887
21	Ariyalur	27,685	364	2,565	8,340	625	0	39,579
22	Pudukottai	69,005	206	3,203	12,295	1,915	1,200	87,824
23	Madurai	53,126	110	1,261	5,786	1,225	0	61,508
24	Theni	19,830	14	757	140	549	0	21,290
25	Dindigul	33,457	259	646	29,551	1,369	0	65,282
26	Ramanathapuram	40,429	181	2,695	38,569	510	0	82,384
27	Virudhunagar	42,411	511	1,700	15,699	1,574	8	61,903
28	Sivagangai	44,173	110	1,133	16,678	1,103	204	63,401
29	Tirunelveli	78,050	335	3,790	1,135	1,670	0	84,980
30	Thoothukudi	63,423	129	1,570	3,768	758	0	69,648
31	Kanniyakumari	40,182	7	1,438	9,282	440	67	51,416
Total		16,30,242	10,811	1,01,236	5,47,597	34,300	4,902	23,29,088

2.12.4. Maintenance of Cleanliness and hygienic conditions in Village Panchayats

It is mandatory for the Village Panchayat to provide hygienic condition and cleanliness in rural areas. Accordingly, Village Panchayats are undertaking the following types of sanitary activities.

- i) Cleaning of streets and Panchayat roads

- ii) Construction and clearing of drains and disposal of drainage water
- iii) Removal of rubbish heaps and jungle growth
- iv) Sanitary arrangements for public toilets
- v) Supply of safe drinking water
- vi) Opening and maintenance of burial and burning grounds
- vii) The filling up of disused wells, insanitary ponds, pools, ditches, pits or hollows and other improvements of the sanitary condition of the Village.

To perform the sanitary works in rural areas, a total number of 26,622 sanitary workers are available in Village Panchayats. This strength is inclusive of 16,726 additional sanitary workers sanctioned and appointed by the Government in 2013.

2.12.5. Measures taken for the prevention of Dengue fever:

To control the spread of dengue fever in rural areas, following measures have been taken in all the Village Panchayats.

- i) Village Panchayat has acted as Unit to create awareness so that the Common Public in the Village Panchayat gets sensitized about the dengue fever and how it spreads.
- ii) Regular Block level Meetings were arranged to create awareness involving Panchayat Union Chairpersons, Village Panchayat Presidents, District Malaria Officer, Block Development Officers, Block Health Supervisors and Village Health Nurses.
- iii) Local Media (both Electronic and Print) were utilized properly for the creation of awareness, so that the message has spread among the public.
- iv) Pamphlets were issued on the prevention of dengue fever including the control and prevention of spread of mosquitoes and its larvae. Tom toms also were beaten to illustrate the effects of dengue fever and measures to reduce mosquito menace.

- v) The SHG members were engaged wherever necessary to create awareness and also to work closely with the Panchayat Raj Institutions and Health Department in reduction of the sources at the household level.
- vi) The Over Head Tanks (OHTs), Ground Level Reservoirs (GLRs) and Hand Pump Platforms in the Village Panchayats were cleaned and effective chlorination have been done.
- vii) Necessary instructions were given to the Block Development Officers and the Village Panchayats to fill up the low lying areas in their Village Panchayats with gravel to avoid water stagnation.
- viii) Water stagnation of any kind namely, in used tyres, used coconut kennels, broken pots etc were cleared and such items were disposed off properly.
- ix) In order to control of the spread of dengue fever in Panchayats, the Panchayat Unions have engaged 9,301 Mazdoors at Panchayat Union level and

intensive control measures have been taken.

- x) 3,044 fogging machines have been purchased by the Panchayat Unions / Village Panchayats using General Funds and these are used for fogging in Village Panchayats on rotation basis.
- xi) The District Collectors have appointed Zonal Officers for each Block in the cadre of Assistant Director to monitor the cleaning operations in the Village Panchayats.
- xii) Door to door canvassing had also been done to ensure water is stored in closed containers.
- xiii) The Secretary, RD&PR Department, Director, RD&PR and Additional Directors have inspected the dengue affected Districts during January and February, 2015 and monitored the action taken for cleaning, prevention and control of dengue fever in rural areas.
- xiv) State level review meetings were conducted by the Hon'ble Minister,

Municipal Administration and Rural Development on 14.1.2015 and 29.1.2015 at Chennai for the prevention and control of dengue fever. Similarly, regional meetings also were conducted by the Hon'ble Minister at Tirunelveli, Karur and Dindigul on 27.01.2015, 30.01.2015 and 31.01.2015 respectively and instructions were given.

2.13. Discretionary Functions

As per Section 111 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, Village Panchayats should make provisions for carrying out the following requirements, which are deemed to be the discretionary functions of the Village Panchayats subject to the limits of its resources:

- i) Planting and preservation of trees
- ii) Lighting of public roads and public places
- iii) Opening and maintenance of public markets
- iv) Control of fairs & festivals

- v) Opening and maintenance of cart stand and cattle sheds, public slaughter houses and reading rooms,
- vi) Establishment and maintenance of play grounds, etc.

2.14.Resources

Village Panchayat is the only body, empowered to levy taxes among the three tiers of Panchayat Raj Institutions. The Village Panchayats are entitled to get revenue from tax and non-tax sources as detailed below:

2.14.1.Tax Revenue

Village Panchayats are entitled to get tax revenue as

- i. House / Property Tax
- ii. Professional Tax
- iii. Advertisement Tax

2.14.2. House / Property Tax

Every building constructed in the rural areas is liable to pay House Tax / Property Tax to the concerned Village Panchayat as per provisions laid down in Section 172 of Tamil

Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 and G.O. Ms.No. 255, RD & PR Dept. dated 13.12.1999. Further, the buildings used for educational purposes by the Government aided Institutions, for conducting self financing unaided courses shall be subject to levy of house tax. Accordingly, from the year 2008-09, Village Panchayats fixed demand and are collecting property tax from the Self Financing Educational Institutions. The District wise house tax and property tax demand are as below:

Table 2.9.
District wise House tax and
Property tax Demand for 2014-15.
(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	House tax	Property tax from Self Financing Educational Institutions	Total
1	Kancheepuram	27.94	3.13	31.07
2	Thiruvallur	12.73	2.29	15.02
3	Cuddalore	7.78	0.55	8.33
4	Villupuram	5.62	0.44	6.06
5	Vellore	5.16	1.41	6.57
6	Tiruvannamalai	4.62	0.69	5.31
7	Salem	5.33	2.11	7.44
8	Namakkal	3.02	2.04	5.06
9	Dharmapuri	1.75	0.38	2.13
10	Krishnagiri	5.20	0.43	5.63
11	Erode	4.75	1.29	6.04
12	Tiruppur	7.44	0.49	7.93
13	Coimbatore	12.95	1.63	14.58
14	The Nilgiris	2.44	0.11	2.55
15	Thanjavur	5.44	0.46	5.90
16	Nagapattinam	2.69	0.31	3.00
17	Tiruvarur	2.24	0.13	2.37
18	Tiruchirapalli	6.32	1.10	7.42
19	Karur	4.18	0.53	4.71
20	Perambalur	1.81	0.65	2.46
21	Ariyalur	1.99	0.05	2.04
22	Pudukottai	4.16	0.77	4.93
23	Madurai	7.41	0.50	7.91
24	Theni	1.89	0.20	2.09
25	Dindigul	7.16	0.58	7.74
26	Ramanathapuram	4.35	0.21	4.56
27	Virudhunagar	7.48	0.79	8.27
28	Sivagangai	4.05	0.28	4.33
29	Tirunelveli	4.95	0.35	5.30
30	Thoothukudi	3.87	0.27	4.14
31	Kanniyakumari	2.90	0.42	3.32
	Total	179.62	24.59	204.21

2.14.3. Professional Tax

The Village Panchayats are empowered to collect professional tax in rural areas. Under

section 121 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1958, there was a provision to levy and collect profession tax payable by the employees from their salaries or wages and the employer has to deduct the same and remit to the concerned Village Panchayats. An amendment to section 198 A to Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 was issued incorporating a provision to levy tax on Profession, Trade and Employment. Accordingly, for the year 2014-15, an amount of Rs.91.72 crore has been fixed as demand.

2.14.4. 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
- iii) Market fee
- iv) Water charges
- v) Fee on cart stand
- vi) Social Forestry auctions

- vii) Fishery rentals
- viii) 2-C patta fee
- ix) Income from markets and fairs
- x) Fee from ferries
- xi) Fines and penalties

2.14.5. Licensing fee for layout and building plan approval

Tamil Nadu Panchayats Building Rules, 1997 prescribes the rules in respect of layout and building plan approval in respect of rural areas.

As per rule 3 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Building Rules 1997, the layout plan of a land is to be approved by the Village Panchayat president with the prior concurrence of the Director of Town and Country Planning or his authorized Joint Director or Deputy Director. The application for grant of layout approval by the applicant is to be made to the Village Panchayat President. The Village Panchayat President will then forward the application to Director, Town and Country

Planning for technical clearance. The Director, Town and Country Planning will issue technical clearance for the layout of sites subject to fulfillment of conditions by the applicant such as open space reservation, development charges, etc. to the Village Panchayat. After getting the technical clearance from the Director, Town and Country Planning, the President shall grant final approval for the layout of sites.

As per rule 4 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Building Rules 1997, Building Plan approval for a site is granted by the Village Panchayat President subject to certain conditions. Approval of residential buildings with plinth area upto 4,000 sq.ft and commercial buildings, plinth area upto 2,000 sq.ft is to be granted by the Village Panchayat President. For more than the above limit, the Village Panchayat will give approval with the prior concurrence of the Director of Town and Country Planning.

The Chennai Metropolitan Area comprises of Chennai District, a part of Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram Districts. The

Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) is the Authority for technical clearance for the layout and Building Plan in the Chennai Metropolitan Area which covers certain rural areas also situated around Chennai Corporation.

2.14.6. Dangerous & Offensive Trade License Fee

Dangerous & Offensive Trade licenses are issued by the Village Panchayats. The applicants who are willing to start a new trade which involves dealing with dangerous and offensive substances/material and any such machinery as defined in section 159 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 have to apply for the new license / renewal to the respective Village Panchayats.

Accordingly, licenses for 2,33,710 trade units have been given by the Village Panchayats during the year 2014-15 and the license fee from such trades is Rs.10.73 crore.

2.14.7. Water Charges

The Village Panchayats are empowered to levy water charges to individual house service

connections in rural areas. A deposit of Rs.1000/- has to be remitted by the individual to the Village Panchayat to get water connection. The individual has also to make payment of Rs. 30/- every month as water charges. Accordingly, a sum of Rs.64.58 crore has been fixed as demand for the year 2014-15 as detailed below:

**Table 2.10.
District wise water charges Demand for
the year 2014-15**

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Demand (Rs. in crore)
1	Kancheepuram	2.41
2	Thiruvallur	2.12
3	Cuddalore	1.45
4	Villupuram	0.31
5	Vellore	4.37
6	Tiruvannamalai	2.78
7	Salem	1.61
8	Namakkal	2.07
9	Dharmapuri	0.22
10	Krishnagiri	0.27
11	Erode	2.00
12	Tiruppur	3.62
13	Coimbatore	5.87
14	The Nilgiris	0.13
15	Thanjavur	1.87
16	Nagapattinam	1.03
17	Tiruvarur	1.91
18	Tiruchirapalli	5.63
19	Karur	2.14
20	Perambalur	0.89
21	Ariyalur	1.56
22	Pudukottai	1.12

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Demand (Rs. in crore)
23	Madurai	2.22
24	Theni	1.48
25	Dindigul	2.60
26	Ramanathapuram	0.99
27	Virudhunagar	1.97
28	Sivagangai	2.76
29	Tirunelveli	2.17
30	Thoothukudi	1.25
31	Kanniyakumari	3.76
Total		64.58

2.15. Grants

2.15.1. State Finance Commission Grant

The State Finance Commissions have been formed in Tamil Nadu regularly once in 5 years as mandated by 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India and section 198 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1994. Major responsibilities of the State Finance Commission are as below:

1. Distribution of the net proceeds of taxes, duties, tolls and fees leviable by the Government, between the State and the Panchayats.
2. Determination of taxes, duties, tolls and fees, which may be assigned to the Panchayats.

3. Grants to the Panchayats from the consolidated fund of the State.
4. Measures needed to improve the financial position of the Panchayats.

2.15.2. Fourth State Finance Commission

The Fourth State Finance Commission constituted by the State Government has given its report with the recommendations in the month of September, 2011 for the award period from 2012-17. The Government have accepted the recommendations of 4th State Finance Commission. Accordingly, action taken report on the recommendations of the Fourth State Finance Commission was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 14th May, 2013. The following are the major recommendations for which orders are issued by the Government.

- a) 10% of State's own Tax Revenue will be devolved to rural and urban Local Bodies.
- b) Devolution grant will be shared in the ratio of 58:42 between rural and urban Local Bodies.

- c) The rural grant is distributed among Village Panchayats, Block Panchayats and District Panchayats in the ratio of 60:32:8.
- d) In respect of Village Panchayats, funds are released based on total population, SC/ST Population as per 2011 census and the area of Village Panchayats in the ratio of 60:20:20. In respect of Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats, the funds are released 100% as per 2011 census population.
- e) Incentives will be given to the Village Panchayats which have 100% assessment of House Tax, 100% collection and periodical revision.
- f) Minimum Grant of Rs.5 lakh to each Village Panchayat per year from the year 2013-14.
- g) Minimum Grant of Rs.30 lakh per year to Panchayat Unions.
- h) Rs.150 crore for Solid and Liquid Waste Management in rural areas.

The Government have sanctioned Rs.4,968.07 crore as devolution grant to rural Local Bodies for the year 2014-15.

2.15.3. Constitution of Fifth State Finance Commission

The Government vide G.O.Ms.No.281, Finance (Finance Commission-IV) Department, dated 01.12.2014, have constituted Fifth State Finance Commission to review the financial position of the rural and urban Local Bodies namely Village Panchayats, Panchayat Union Councils, District Panchayats, Town Panchayats, Municipalities and Municipal Corporations. The Commission has the mandate to make recommendations as to:

- (A) the principles which should govern –
 - i. the distribution between the State and the said local bodies of the net proceeds of the taxes, duties, tolls and fees leviable by the Government which may be divided between them and the allocation between the said local bodies of their respective shares of such proceeds;

- ii. the determination of taxes, duties, tolls and fees which may be assigned to or appropriated by the said local bodies;
- iii. the grants-in-aid to the said local bodies from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

(B) the measures needed to improve the financial position of the local bodies and to suggest possible new avenues for tapping resources in rural and urban local bodies keeping in mind the local body tax structure in other States.

In reviewing the financial position of the local bodies, the Commission has been asked to assess the financial position of the local bodies as on 31st March, 2015. The Commission has been asked to make its report available by 31st May, 2016 covering the period of five years commencing from 1st April 2017.

2.15.4. Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund 2014-15

The State Government had ordered that 10% of the devolution to rural local bodies shall be deducted from the share of Village

Panchayats and allocated towards Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund (IGFF) for Village Panchayats and it shall be utilized on project/ scheme basis only. Out of this, 50% of the fund shall be allocated towards Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement Scheme (THAI) and from the remaining 50% of the fund, a part of the amount shall be retained by the Directorate of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj for providing basic amenities in the Districts and the balance shall be allocated to the Districts based on population.

During the District Collectors' conference held on 17th and 18th December, 2012, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced that the Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund to be released to the District Collectors will be increased to Rs. 5 crore from the year 2013-14. The Government have issued orders stating that the allocation of Rs. 5 crore can be shared as Rs.3 crore from rural Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund and Rs. 2 crore from urban Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund.

Accordingly, an amount of Rs.242.48 crore has been released to the District

Collectors as Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund for the year 2014-15. It has also been stated in the guidelines that priority should be given for the works as detailed below:

- a) Priority to the THAI habitations where there are gaps in provision of basic amenities such as water supply, street lights, roads, burial grounds, path way to burial grounds etc. The SC/ST habitations should be given more priority while considering THAI Villages.
- b) Priority to those Village Panchayats who are doing good work in making their Panchayat open defecation free by 2015.
- c) Settlement of long pending current consumption charges to TANGEDCO and water charges to TWAD Board.
- d) Priority for upgradation of Earthen and Gravel roads to BT standard, since the Government has declared to upgrade all the non-BT roads to BT standard.
- e) Permanent repair of Panchayat / Panchayat Union buildings as one time affair.

Totally, 3,665 works have been taken up in the Districts during the year 2014-15 as detailed below:

Table 2.11.

Details of works taken up under Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund 2014-15

Sl. No.	Category	No. of works taken up	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1	Anganwadi Centres	22	1.21
2	Bridges / Culverts	91	22.82
3	BT Roads	519	85.99
4	Buildings	104	11.63
5	CC Roads	492	20.43
6	Drainages	225	9.87
7	Water Supply Works	1,394	42.94
8	Other works	818	21.48
9	Payment to TANGEDCO		25.36
10	Payment to TWAD Board		7.19
Total		3,665	248.92

2.15.5. Central Finance Commission Grant

The Government of India has allocated a sum of Rs. 515.51 crore to rural Local Bodies as 13th Central Finance Commission Basic Grant for the year 2014-15. All the amount as basic grant has been distributed to the Village Panchayats on the basis of population to perform their basic functions such as operation and maintenance of water supply, street lights and sanitation, payment of current

consumption charges to TANGEDCO and water charges to TWAD Board.

2.15.6. Pooled Assigned Revenue

The assigned revenues due to rural Local Bodies from the proceeds of surcharge on stamp duty and entertainment tax are being pooled at the State level for apportioning the same to the Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions. Accordingly, the Government have sanctioned Rs.866.04 crore as Pooled Assigned Revenue for the year 2014-15 as detailed below:

- i) The two-third amount Rs.577.36 crore has been apportioned to the Village Panchayats and the Panchayat Unions in the ratio of 67:33 based on rural population as per 2011 census i.e. Rs.386.33 crore for Village Panchayats and Rs.190.53 crore for the Panchayat Unions respectively as untied amount.
- ii) The balance one-third amount Rs.288.68 crore has been earmarked for 'Fund for the Priority Schemes in Rural Areas' for implementing specific development

schemes in the rural areas and for Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement Scheme (THAI) in the ratio of 50:50.

2.15.7. Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue

The Committee under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is empowered to approve the works to be taken under the Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue. Major works such as construction of Panchayat Union Office Buildings, Village Panchayat Office Buildings, major bridges, cause ways, link roads, bus stands etc., are taken up under this component. Accordingly, during the year 2014-15, a total number of 318 works have been taken up at an estimate cost of Rs.140.63 crore, as detailed below:

Table 2.12.**Details of works taken up under Scheme component of Pooled Assigned Revenue in 2014-2015**

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Category	No. of works taken up	Amount
1	Panchayat Union office Buildings	7	16.48
2	Panchayat office buildings	76	9.21
3	Bus stands	2	1.91
4	Roads	200	66.95
5	Bridges	30	43.83
6	Other infrastructure works	3	2.25
Total		318	140.63

2.15.8. Income range of Village Panchayats

There are 12,524 Village Panchayats in the State. The Village Panchayats are categorized on the basis of income for the year 2014-15 as detailed below:

Table 2.13.**Income range of Village Panchayats**

Income Range	No. of Panchayats
Rs.5-7 lakh	145
Rs.7-10 lakh	852
Rs.10-20 lakh	6,341
Rs.20-50 lakh	4,369
Rs.50 lakh - 1 crore	697
Above Rs.1 crore	120
Total	12,524

2.16. Infrastructure to Village Panchayats**2.16.1. Office Buildings**

All the 12,524 Village Panchayats have permanent office buildings. Wherever the buildings are dilapidated due to age, new buildings are constructed after demolition of the old Buildings using State Government funds. Accordingly, 1481 Panchayat office buildings have been taken up at the estimate cost of Rs.128.75 crore under MGNREGS, Scheme component of Pooled Assigned Revenue, Infrastructure Gap Filling Fund and the RGPSA from 2011-12 to 2014-15. Repair and renovation works are also being undertaken periodically from the Local Body / State funds. Accordingly, 6,561 Panchayat Office buildings were renovated at the estimate cost of Rs.64.64 crore from 2011-12 to 2014-15.

2.16.2. Computers and Internet facilities

All the 12,524 Village Panchayats have been provided with the Computer with printer and UPS. The broadband connectivity is also provided to 10,010 Village Panchayats.

2.16.3. Village Panchayat Service Centre

Under MGNREGS, a total of 4,174 Village Panchayat Service Centres have been taken up during 2013-14 at the estimate cost of Rs. 547.63 crore. Similarly, 4,460 Village Panchayat Service Centres have been taken up during 2014-15 at the estimate of Rs.648.93 crore. These Service Centres are envisaged as Knowledge Resource Centres and as a place for the public to access information and undertake online transactions related to development process.

2.17. Panchayat Union

At the intermediate level, there are 385 Panchayat Unions (Block Panchayats) in the State. The Panchayat Union, otherwise called as Block Panchayat, is divided into territorial wards for every five thousand population. The Panchayat Union ward members are directly elected from territorial wards and the Panchayat Union Chairman is elected indirectly from among ward members.

Table 2.14.

Classification of Panchayat Unions based on Number of Village Panchayats

Range of Village Panchayats in Panchayat Unions	Number of Panchayat Unions
Less than 10	23
11-20	80
21-30	80
31-40	83
41-50	65
51 and above	54
Total	385

The District wise details of Panchayat Unions, Village Panchayats and area are given as below:

Table 2.15.
District-wise details of Panchayat Unions

Sl. No.	District	No. of Panchayat Unions	No. of Village Panchayats	Average No. of Panchayats per union	Rural Area (in Sq. km)	Average Area per Panchayat Union (in Sq. km)
1	Kancheepuram	13	633	49	3851.45	296.27
2	Thiruvallur	14	526	38	2859.84	204.27
3	Cuddalore	13	683	53	2942.24	226.33
4	Viluppuram	22	1,099	50	6509.43	295.88
5	Vellore	20	743	37	4022.30	201.12
6	Tiruvannamalai	18	860	48	4826.27	268.13
7	Salem	20	385	19	4561.41	228.07
8	Namakkal	15	322	21	3119.43	207.96
9	Dharmapuri	8	251	31	4407.43	550.93
10	Krishnagiri	10	333	33	4965.73	496.57
11	Erode	14	225	16	2626.99	187.64
12	Tiruppur	13	265	20	4545.50	349.65

Sl. No.	District	No. of Panchayat Unions	No. of Village Panchayats	Average No. of Panchayats per union	Rural Area (in Sq. km)	Average Area per Panchayat Union (in Sq. km)
13	Coimbatore	12	228	19	2534.24	211.19
14	The Nilgiris	4	35	9	1170.39	292.60
15	Thanjavur	14	589	42	3657.67	261.26
16	Nagapattinam	11	434	39	2400.31	218.21
17	Thiruvarur	10	430	43	2322.69	232.27
18	Tiruchirappalli	14	404	29	4028.00	287.71
19	Karur	8	157	20	2656.25	332.03
20	Perambalur	4	121	30	1609.54	402.39
21	Ariyalur	6	201	34	1710.17	285.03
22	Pudukkottai	13	497	38	4433.78	341.06
23	Madurai	13	420	32	3183.18	244.86
24	Theni	8	130	16	1159.89	144.99
25	Dindigul	14	306	22	4401.34	314.38
26	Ramanathapuram	11	429	39	4116.19	374.20
27	Virudhunagar	11	450	41	3282.08	298.37
28	Sivaganga	12	445	37	3075.90	256.33
29	Tirunelveli	19	425	22	4283.06	225.42
30	Thoothukkudi	12	403	34	4260.78	355.07
31	Kanniyakumari	9	95	11	626.14	69.57
	Total	385	12,524	33	1,04,149.61	270.52

The Block Development Officer (Block Panchayat) is the Executive Authority of the Panchayat Union. He is assisted by administrative and technical wings. According to section 112 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, Panchayat Union Council performs the following important functions:

1. Implementation of various Centrally Sponsored and State Schemes.

2. Construction, repair and maintenance of classified Panchayat Union roads and bridges, culverts and causeways on such roads.
3. Construction and maintenance of Elementary and Middle Schools.
4. Construction and maintenance of water bodies i.e. Minor irrigation tanks, ponds and ooranies under the control of Panchayat Unions.
5. Preventive and remedial measures for any epidemic.
6. Fairs and festivals classified by the Panchayat Union Council.
7. Opening and Maintenance of Panchayat Union Markets.

As per section 114 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, the Government may entrust schemes, programmes and activities for economic development, for execution and implementation.

There are 385 Panchayat Unions in Tamil Nadu. Orders have been issued by this

Government for bifurcation of Pennagaram Panchayat Union and Morappur Panchayat Union and formation of two new Panchayat Unions namely Eriyur and Kadathur in Dharmapuri District. On the same lines, Government orders have been issued for the division of existing Kattumannarkoil, Keerapalayam and Kammapuram Panchayat unions and formation of new Panchayat union with the headquarter of Srimushnam Panchayat Union.

Formation of new Panchayat Unions by bifurcating the existing Panchayat Unions in the Districts of Krishnagiri, The Nilgiris, Kancheepuram and Villupuram are in process at different stages. After issue of orders for bifurcation and formation of new Panchayat Unions, they will become functional after completion of the ordinary elections to Local Bodies in the year 2016.

2.18. Finance

1. The Panchayat Union Council cannot levy taxes.

2. Non-tax revenues, assigned/shared revenues such as a portion of the pooled assigned revenue, fees and charges, rentals, fines and penalties.
3. The Grants such as State Finance Commission Grant and the Development Grants released by the Central and the State Government as Schemes.

2.19. Infrastructure of Panchayat Unions

2.19.1. Office Buildings

All the 385 Panchayat Unions have permanent office buildings. Wherever the buildings are dilapidated due to age, new buildings are constructed in lieu of the old Buildings using State Government funds. Accordingly, 77 Panchayat Union Office Buildings have been taken up at the estimate cost of Rs.143.70 crore from the year 2011-12 to 2014-15.

2.19.2. Computers and Internet Facilities

All the 385 Panchayat Union Offices have been provided with computer, Printer, UPS and internet facility.

2.19.3. Block Panchayat Service Centre

To provide a platform to provide services by the different departments at Block level and also to help in the online transaction related to development process, 120 Block Panchayat Service Centres have been taken up under MGNREGS during 2013-14 at the estimate cost of Rs.32.88 crore. Similarly, 150 Block Panchayat Service Centres have been taken up during 2014-15 at the estimate cost of Rs.45.45 crore.

2.19.4. Panchayat Union Elementary and Middle Schools

There are 28,031 Elementary and Middle Schools under the control of Panchayat Unions in the State. The infrastructure facilities such as construction of class rooms, kitchen sheds, water supply, toilet facilities and compound

wall are provided under different Rural Development Schemes and General funds of Panchayat Unions. The District wise details of Elementary and Middle schools are detailed below:

Table 2.16.
Details of Panchayat Union Elementary and Middle Schools

Sl. No.	District	No. of Panchayat Union Elementary Schools	No. of Pt. Union Middle Schools	Total
1	Kancheepuram	737	284	1,021
2	Tiruvallur	839	242	1,081
3	Cuddalore	758	251	1,009
4	Villupuram	1,222	397	1,619
5	Vellore	1,156	401	1,557
6	Tiruvannamalai	1,190	306	1,496
7	Salem	975	345	1,320
8	Namakkal	649	148	797
9	Dharmapuri	785	313	1,098
10	Krishnagiri	1,091	286	1,377
11	Erode	743	283	1,026
12	Tiruppur	840	227	1,067
13	Coimbatore	665	216	881
14	The Nilgiris	215	65	280
15	Thanjavur	796	190	986
16	Nagapattinam	489	176	665
17	Tiruvannur	535	209	744
18	Tiruchirappalli	712	203	915
19	Karur	497	163	660
20	Ariyalur	343	117	460
21	Perambalur	170	59	229
22	Pudukkottai	1,001	294	1,295
23	Madurai	639	207	846
24	Theni	237	82	319
25	Dindigul	857	200	1,057
26	Ramanathapuram	756	155	911
27	Virudhunagar	600	150	750
28	Sivagangai	705	243	948
29	Tirunelveli	555	99	654
30	Thoothukkudi	476	112	588
31	Kanniyakumari	280	95	375
	Total	21,513	6518	28,031

2.19.5. Roads

In Tamil Nadu, the Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions own and maintain a total of 1,47,543.21 kms in rural areas. The District wise break up details of roads owned and maintained by the Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions are as below:

Table 2.17.
District wise details of Panchayat / Panchayat Union Roads

Sl. No.	District Name	Length in KM					Total
		Earthen	Gravel	WBM	BT	CC	
1	Kancheepuram	323.25	69.48	224.57	2,073.03	218.31	2,908.64
2	Tiruvallur	749.81	112.22	544.05	2,576.75	223.36	4,206.19
3	Cuddalore	1,252.74	201.23	910.29	3,048.13	183.09	5,595.48
4	Villupuram	2,337.89	629.01	886.18	3,879.58	268.09	8,000.75
5	Vellore	985.45	391.26	293.77	4,109.73	178.01	5,958.22
6	Tiruvannamalai	1,023.43	153.57	611.62	3,456.68	237.15	5,482.45
7	Salem	2,113.36	343.71	1,079.47	4,564.05	26.30	8,126.89
8	Namakkal	1,706.10	258.10	221.20	3,193.91	16.47	5,395.78
9	Dharmapuri	1,365.92	149.20	186.93	2,868.39	21.64	4,592.08
10	Krishnagiri	1,806.69	45.70	163.37	2,535.73	40.52	4,592.01
11	Erode	1,129.42	113.09	206.34	3,178.61	6.82	4,634.28
12	Tiruppur	2,367.22	228.93	132.70	3,695.11	8.51	6,432.47
13	Coimbatore	1,321.72	35.38	85.70	2,259.38	35.36	3,737.54
14	The Nilgiris	168.55	46.42	205.74	566.79	30.35	1,017.85
15	Thanjavur	2,280.00	118.78	657.75	4,811.01	285.24	8,152.78
16	Nagapattinam	936.35	195.50	537.92	3,666.19	190.21	5,526.17
17	Tiruvarur	1,865.97	120.99	729.35	3,910.74	198.16	6,825.21
18	Tiruchirappalli	1,501.74	211.11	510.45	3,881.62	30.08	6,135.00
19	Karur	1,562.68	265.50	127.41	2,657.69	9.44	4,622.72
20	Ariyalur	757.27	324.93	424.32	1,694.25	23.72	3,224.49
21	Perambalur	640.88	220.03	242.71	846.71	0.00	1,950.33
22	Pudukkottai	2,049.05	974.04	1,261.79	4,864.59	103.73	9,253.20
23	Madurai	549.43	112.96	121.94	1,763.08	25.12	2,572.53
24	Theni	408.00	27.20	112.89	1,111.48	3.40	1,662.97
25	Dindigul	1,600.63	584.56	137.17	3,404.57	16.34	5,743.27
26	Ramanathapuram	764.11	200.67	490.65	2,827.96	90.92	4,374.31
27	Virudhunagar	490.73	348.28	141.31	1,808.62	13.46	2,802.40
28	Sivagangai	1,024.62	324.38	367.58	3,366.29	49.46	5,132.33
29	Tirunelveli	847.84	208.29	258.71	2,940.96	57.42	4,313.22
30	Thoothukkudi	339.50	202.06	240.25	2,061.87	57.50	2,901.18
31	Kanniyakumari	152.68	8.66	78.60	1,236.78	193.75	1,670.47
	Total	36,423.03	7225.24	12,192.73	88,860.28	2841.93	147,543.21

2.19.6. Water Source Structures

One of the important asset of rural Local Bodies is the Ponds and Ooraries and Minor Irrigation Tanks in rural areas. The District wise number of ponds/Ooraries and MI tanks are as below:

Table 2.18.
District wise details of Ponds / Ooraries and MI Tanks

Sl.No	District	MI Tanks	Ooraries / Ponds	Total
1	Kancheepuram	1,100	1,240	2,340
2	Tiruvallur	649	2,059	2,708
3	Cuddalore	254	2,304	2,558
4	Villupuram	1,257	3,551	4,808
5	Vellore	633	854	1,487
6	Tiruvannamalai	1,250	2,027	3,277
7	Salem	242	375	617
8	Namakkal	152	422	574
9	Dharmapuri	555	628	1,183
10	Krishnagiri	1,172	1,211	2,383
11	Erode	19	597	616
12	Tiruppur	10	1,434	1,444
13	Coimbatore	9	709	718
14	The Nilgiris	0	225	225
15	Thanjavur	63	3,131	3,194
16	Nagapattinam	0	3,979	3,979
17	Tiruvarur	0	3,602	3,602
18	Tiruchirappalli	1,406	705	2,111
19	Karur	108	388	496
20	Ariyalur	477	1,615	2,092
21	Perambalur	138	753	891
22	Pudukkottai	3,824	1,795	5,619
23	Madurai	1,029	3,233	4,262
24	Theni	26	319	345
25	Dindigul	1,577	1,000	2,577
26	Ramanathapuram	818	2,499	3,317
27	Virudhunagar	300	1,730	2,030
28	Sivagangai	2,776	4,156	6,932
29	Tirunelveli	769	769	1,538
30	Thoothukkudi	397	1,148	1,545
31	Kanniyakumari	599	300	899
	Total	21,609	48,758	70,367

2.20. District Panchayat

In Tamil Nadu, there are 31 District Panchayats. District Panchayat has been constituted in each District as per section 24 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. The ward members are elected directly whereas the Chairperson is indirectly elected from among the ward members.

A Secretary in the cadre of Assistant Director from the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is appointed in each District Panchayat and is assisted by the supporting staff. The District Panchayat may constitute the following Standing Committees:

1. Food and Agriculture
2. Industries and Labour
3. Public Works
4. Education
5. Health and Welfare including Prohibition

The District Panchayat may constitute additional standing committees for such purposes as it deems fit. Each Standing

Committee shall elect its own Chairperson from among its members who are elected members of the District Panchayat. The Chairperson of the District Panchayat shall be the ex-officio member in all the Standing Committees.

2.21. Functions

1. Preparation of development plan for the District
2. Compilation of administration reports of Village Panchayats and Panchayat Union Councils in the District and preparation of Annual Report for the District.
3. Planning and review of Agricultural and Land Development, Animal Husbandry, Dairy, Poultry, Fisheries scheme and Rural Industries.
4. Planning and review of rural housing programme particularly housing for SCs/STs.
5. Identification of major water supply schemes.

2.22. Finance

The District Panchayat has no taxation powers. The State Finance Commission Grant is the main source of revenue. In certain cases, income from their own properties like

lands and buildings, constitute the major source of income. 8% of the 58% of the rural share of Devolution Grant is given to the District Panchayats, which is released on a monthly basis.

2.23. District Planning Committee

The Institution of District Planning Committee is envisaged in the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act 1992. Accordingly, the District Planning Committee has been constituted in all the 31 Districts. District Panchayat Chairperson is the Chairperson and District Collector is the Vice Chairperson of the Committee. MPs, MLAs and the representatives of Local Bodies are appointed as members subject to the norms and ceiling prescribed. The functions of the District Planning Committee are:

1. Collection, Compilation and Updation of information on the natural resources of the district to create a comprehensive database for decentralised planning.
2. Identification of priority needs

3. Determination of policies, programmes and priorities for development of the district.
4. Consolidating the plans of rural local bodies and urban local bodies for the preparation of district plan. This consolidated plan facilitates the State Planning Commission in the preparation of State Plan.
5. Monitoring and Evaluation of various developmental programmes in the district.
6. Encouraging the participation of Voluntary Organizations in the development process.
7. Advising the State Government with regard to the implementation of State Schemes.
8. Any other function that may be entrusted by the State Government.

2.24. Infrastructure to District Panchayats

2.24.1. Office Buildings

Out of 31 District Panchayats in the State, 28 District Panchayats have permanent office buildings. The Districts of Tiruvallur, Vellore and Virudhunagar do not have permanent office buildings for which the Government have issued orders sanctioning 3 buildings at the estimate cost of Rs.2.25 crore (Rs.75 lakh per building) under Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue for the year 2014-15.

2.24.2. Computers and Internet facilities

All the 31 District Panchayats have been provided with computer and printer with internet facility.

2.24.3. Vehicles

All the District Panchayat Chairpersons and the District Panchayat Secretaries have been provided with vehicle for close monitoring of the State and Central schemes implemented in rural areas.

2.25. Awards

The State Government and the Government of India have instituted various awards to motivate and to recognize the initiatives and efforts taken by the three tiers of Panchayat Raj Institutions. Different types of awards being distributed to the Panchayat Raj Institutions are as below:

- i) Award under Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar (PSP)
- ii) Rashtriya Gaurav Grama Sabha Puraskar
- iii) e-Panchayat Puraskar
- iv) State Award for Best Practice / Innovative Schemes

2.25.1. Award under Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar (PSP)

The Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India has constituted an award under Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar (PSP) earlier known as PEAIS to Panchayat Raj Institutions with a view to support, encourage and facilitate the State to devolve more

functions, functionaries and finances to the Panchayats and build their capacities.

The Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India has given award to 6 best Village Panchayats, 2 best Panchayat Unions and one District Panchayat with a cash prize of Rs.1.22 crore at the rate of Rs.7 lakh for Village Panchayat, Rs.20 lakh for Panchayat Union and Rs.40 lakh for District Panchayat for the year 2012-13.

Similarly, for the year 2013-14, 6 Village Panchayats, 2 Panchayat Unions and 1 District Panchayat have got award at the rate of Rs.8 lakh for Village Panchayat, Rs.25 lakh for Panchayat Union and Rs.50 lakh for District Panchayat.

Similarly, for the year 2014-15, 6 Village Panchayats, 2 Panchayat Unions and 1 District Panchayat have got award at the rate of Rs.8 lakh for each Village Panchayat, Rs.20 lakh for each Panchayat Union and Rs.30 lakh for District Panchayat.

2.25.2. Rashtriya Gaurav Grama Sabha Puraskar

The Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India has constituted the Rashtriya Gaurav Grama Sabha Award from the year 2012 with a view to recognize and encourage the Gram Panchayats for outstanding performance through effective Grama Sabha.

For the year 2011-12, Methalodai Village Panchayat of Thirupullani Block in Ramanathapuram District was awarded with the cash prize of Rs.5 lakh. For the year 2012-13, Nedungunam Village Panchayat of Peranamallur Block in Tiruvannamalai District was awarded with cash prize of Rs.10 lakh by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India. For the year 2013-14, Karuthanendal Village Panchayat of Bhogalur Block in Ramanathapuram District was awarded with cash prize of Rs.10 lakh by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India.

For the year 2014-15, Bearhatty Village Panchayat of Coonoor Block in The Nilgiris District has been awarded with the cash award

of Rs.10 lakh by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India.

2.25.3. e-Panchayat Puraskar 2014

E-Panchayat is one of the Mission Mode Projects under National e-Governance plan to transform the functioning of Panchayat Raj Institutions making them more transparent, accountable and effective organs of decentralized self-governing institutions. The Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India has developed 10 Panchayat Enterprise Suite (PES) applications. **Tamil Nadu has also been given the e-Panchayat Puraskar for the year 2014.** The award was given by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on April 24th, 2015.

2.25.4. Award for Best Practices / Innovative Schemes (Habitation wise Drinking water Supply Online Monitoring)

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department has taken initiative to monitor drinking water supply to all the habitations in rural areas. Accordingly, an online module has

been created and rolled out in TNRD website for monitoring the supply of water to the habitations on daily basis, for which the State Government have honoured the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department with the Award for the Best Practices / Innovative Schemes. **The Hon'ble Chief Minister has given Award to the Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration and Rural Development on the Independence day, 2014.**

3. STATE SCHEMES

3. State Schemes

3.1. Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme

In order to ensure effective delivery mechanism, the strategy of Rural Development has mainly focused on poverty alleviation, better livelihood opportunities, provision of basic amenities and infrastructure facilities through various innovative programmes. Normally, "Village Panchayat" is being taken as the basic unit of development for implementation and allocation of funds. This Government has committed to take up the planning, financing and implementation of the rural development schemes a step further i.e., to the level of habitation in the Village Panchayat. With the objective of equitable distribution of resources to all habitations, this Government has introduced the flagship programme called **Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme** from 2011-12 onwards to overcome the bottlenecks in the uneven distribution of resources and to provide minimum basic infrastructure facilities to all the habitations.

Tamil Nadu is the only State focusing on 'Habitation' as the unit of development and no other State in the Country is implementing such an innovative scheme.

There is an average of about 6 habitations in each Village Panchayat in Tamil Nadu with 79,394 habitations in 12,524 Village Panchayats. However, the number of habitations in the Panchayats varies from district to district. The average number of habitations in a Village Panchayat in The Nilgiris District is 37 whereas it is only 3 in Villupuram District. Uniform allocation of funds to all the Village Panchayats, having varied number of habitations, has led to disparity in development, disproportionate distribution of assets and uneven progress. Hence, to remove the above lacunae and to have a balanced distribution of funds and assets creating the basic infra-structure, "Habitation" has been taken as the basic unit for implementation of Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement Scheme (THAI Scheme). There are 12,524 Village Panchayats in the State spread across the 31 Districts (except Chennai). In some

Village Panchayats the population is even below 500, while some others have population exceeding 10,000 in Tamil Nadu.

On the basis of number of habitations, the Village Panchayats are classified as below:

Table 3.1.

Classification of Village Panchayats based on the number of habitations

Sl. No.	Habitation range	No.of Village Panchayats
1	Below 5	6,241
2	5-15	5,434
3	16-25	637
4	26-50	189
5	Above 50	23
Total		12,524

3.1.1. Fund allocation

There is a positive correlation between the population of a Village Panchayat and the number of habitations within it. The requirement of a Village Panchayat will be more if it has more number of habitations. Taking this into consideration, the Village Panchayats have been grouped into 5

categories based on the number of habitations for the purpose of allocation of funds. Thus, Village panchayats with more number of habitations with a larger population shall receive more funds. The following table also exhibits the same facts.

Table 3.2.

Fund requirements for THAI Scheme

Sl. No	Habitation Range	No. of Village Panchayats	Total Population (As per 2001 Census)	Average Population per Panchayat	Allocation per Panchayat (Rs. in lakhs)		
					Minimum Grant	Additional Fund	Total Fund
1	Below 5	6,241	1,25,34,047	2,008	20	0	20
2	5-15	5,434	1,73,92,688	3,201	20	10	30
3	16-25	637	35,53,429	5,578	20	20	40
4	26-50	189	15,57,132	8,239	20	30	50
5	Above 50	23*	3,07,557	13,372	20	30	50
Total		12,524	3,53,44,853	2,822	-	-	-

* There are 23 Village Panchayats with more than 50 habitations. Further requirements of these habitations have been identified and dovetailed with various Rural Development Schemes during 2014-15.

In 2011-12, the scheme was implemented with an annual allocation of Rs.680 crore. Considering the importance of fulfilling the infrastructural gaps in rural habitations, the Government has enhanced the allocation to Rs.750 crore from the year 2012-13. The additional amount of Rs.70 crore is earmarked for improving connectivity in the vicinity of THAI villages.

3.1.2. Scheme Components

Works under THAI Scheme are grouped under the following 3 categories

Table 3.3.

Works taken up under THAI Scheme

Sl. No	Minimum Basic Requirements	Additional Requirements	Other Works
1.	Water Supply	Anganwadi Centres	Any other permitted works
2.	Street Lights	Public distribution Shops	
3.	Roads	SHG Buildings	
4.	Burial / Cremation ground	Threshing Floors	
5.	Pathway to Burial / Cremation Ground	Play Grounds	

3.1.3. Minimum Basic Requirements

3.1.3.1. Water supply

Habitations with below 40 Lpcd water availability have been identified and water supply works like provision of power pump, extension of pipeline, augmentation of existing source are being taken up so as to increase water supply.

3.1.3.2. Street lights

With the aim of providing street lights at regular intervals of 30 meters, new streetlights are provided in the new habitations, extension areas, Adi-dravidar & Tribal habitations and IAY housing colonies, based on the actual need. Additional street lights, including Solar powered lights, are being provided in the areas where the existing coverage is inadequate.

3.1.3.3. Roads

a) Cement Concrete Roads

In residential units which are Streets or lanes prone to water logging, part of the uncovered portion where a portion of the street

has already been covered with cement concrete roads are taken up on priority.

b) Link Roads

As a measure to provide All Weather Roads, bus-plying roads, upgradation of WBM roads to BT standard, Link roads connecting two or more habitations in the same Panchayat and upgradation of earthen/gravel roads are taken up.

3.1.3.4. Cremation / Burial grounds

Based on need, provisions for cremation shed / waiting shed in burial grounds are being provided with approach road, compound wall, water facility and lights.

3.1.3.5. Pathway to burial ground

Wherever the pathway is already available, improvement of the existing pathway is taken up and wherever pathway is not available, top priority is given to provide approach road or pathway.

3.1.4. Additional Requirements

Wherever essential, the additional requirements like Public Distribution Shops,

Anganwadi Buildings, SHG Buildings, Threshing Floors and Play grounds are being provided.

- The additional requirements and other permitted works are taken up based on need and necessity.
- Apart from THAI, funds from various schemes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and schemes of other Departments are also dovetailed to bridge the infrastructure gap in the Habitations.

3.1.5. Scheme Implementation From 2011-12 to 2014-15

To ascertain the availability of basic needs and to assess further requirement of basic infrastructure in these habitations, a unique detailed survey has been conducted for the first time in the country assessing the actual availability of facilities at the habitation level and the actual needs to be fulfilled at the micro level for which an online database has been created in www.tnrd.gov.in.

The survey consists of the following set of 12 formats which assessed the availability of

basic needs of water supply, street lights, roads and other infrastructure facilities and further requirements at the habitation level.

1. Basic details of the habitation
2. Water supply
 - (a) Over Head Tanks
 - (b) Mini Power Pumps
 - (c) Ground Level Reservoirs
 - (d) Hand Pumps
3. Street Lights
4. Streets and Lanes
5. Burial / Cremation grounds
6. (a) All Buildings belonging to Government / Local Body Institutions (except School Buildings)
(b) All School Buildings belonging to Government / Local Body Institutions.
7. Ponds and Ooraries
8. Playgrounds
9. Bus stands

10. Shandies

11. Details of Self Help groups

12.(a) Village Panchayat roads

(b) Panchayat Union roads.

A detailed survey has been conducted in 25,335 habitations of 2,020 Village Panchayats for the year 2011-12, 18,581 Habitations of 2,250 Village Panchayats for the year 2012-13, 15,115 habitations of 2500 Village Panchayats for the year 2013-14 and 12,095 habitations of 2,741 Village Panchayats for the year 2014-15. Based on the survey, a detailed action plan has been drawn and the minimum basic requirements, additional essential requirements and other requirements have been fulfilled with the available funds under THAI Scheme.

Apart from THAI scheme, works have been dovetailed by utilizing funds of various Rural Development schemes like MLACDS, MPLADP, 13th Finance Commission Grant etc. Dovetailing of funds from other departments is also being done to fulfill the entire needs of the village.

3.1.6. Yearwise Scheme Implementation

- The scheme has been programmed to be implemented in V phases from 2011-12 to 2015-16.

Table 3.4.

Year wise Scheme Implementation

Year	No. of Village Panchayats	No. of Habitations	Fund Allocation (Rs. in crore)
2011-12	2,020	25,335	680.00
2012-13	2,250	18,581	750.00
2013-14	2,500	15,115	750.00
2014-15	2,741	12,095	750.00
2015-16	3,013	8,268	750.00
Total	12,524	79,394	3680.00

- From 2011-12 to 2014-15, the scheme has been implemented in 71,126 habitations of 9,511 Village Panchayats.
- All the 79,394 Habitations in all 12,524 Village Panchayats will be provided with essential basic amenities by the end of 2015-16.

3.1.7. Achievements

Table 3.5.

Achievement from 2011-12 to 2014-15 in fulfilling the basic amenities

(works in number)

Sl. No.	Category of Works	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Basic Requirements					
1	Water Supply	7,754	11,367	12,068	11,462
2	Street Lights	21,590	21,998	23,283	21,224
3	Roads	14,780	8,327	8,306	7,736
4	Burial /Cremation Ground	3,359	3,549	3,907	3,711
5	Pathway to Burial / Cremation Ground	388	1,137	1,325	1,319
Additional Requirements					
1	Anganwadi Centres	54	26	9	8
2	Public Distribution Shops	57	17	17	9
3	SHG Buildings	14	5	3	1
4	Thrashing Floor	161	84	30	35
5	Play Ground	7	3	1	6
Other Requirements					
1	Other works	1,206	669	272	415
Total		49,370	47,182	49,221	45,926

3.1.8. Scheme Implementation during 2015-16

- THAI Scheme will be implemented in 8,268 habitations of 3,013 Village Panchayats with an allocation of Rs.750 crore.
- Detailed Survey has been conducted already in these habitations and online

data base has been created. The list of works are finalized and duly approved by the Grama Sabha held on 26.1.2015.

- The works are being executed in all 3013 Village Panchayats.

3.2. Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS)

The Government of Tamil Nadu had launched a landmark scheme called 'Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme' during the year 2011-12 with the objective of construction of houses measuring about 300 sq.ft. at an unit cost of Rs.1.80 lakh, which is entirely funded by the State Government.

Accordingly, this Government had ordered for construction of 3 lakh Solar Powered Green Houses vide G.O.(Ms) No.46, RD&PR (SGS-I)Dept. dt.17.08.2011 for the next five years period starting from 2011-12 with an annual target of 60,000 houses.

Considering the request of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the people the Honourable Chief Minister announced on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 9.4.2013,

that the unit cost of the house under CMSPGHS would be enhanced from Rs.1.80 lakh to Rs.2.10 lakh from the year 2013-14. Out of the total cost, the cost of construction will be Rs.1.80 lakh and Rs.30,000 is earmarked for installation of Solar Powered Home Lighting System which is being done directly by the Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) in co-ordination with the Project Directors of District Rural Development Agencies.

The 'Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme' ordered by the Honourable Chief Minister is a flagship scheme of the Government of Tamil Nadu, which fulfills the housing needs of the rural poor. This is the first time in the country that houses are constructed with an area of 300 sq.ft with Solar Powered Home Lights.

3.2.1. Salient features of the Scheme

- All the people living below poverty line in rural areas are eligible for Solar Powered Green Houses.

- Each house is built with an area of 300 square feet at an unit cost of Rs.2.10 lakh fully funded by the State Government.
- Each house consists of a living room, bed room, kitchen, toilet and verandah apart from a provision for Rain Water Harvesting structure.
- Each house is provided with 5 solar powered Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL), one each in bed room, living room, kitchen, toilet and verandah. Each beneficiary is given the option to have an electric connection powered by TNEB, which will be metered.
- The Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department is entrusted with the construction of houses and Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) is the implementing agency for solar lighting component.
- The Green Houses are constructed either in situ or in the land owned by the

beneficiary elsewhere in the Village Panchayat. No land acquisition is envisaged under this scheme. Only people with patta or valid title for their sites are eligible under this scheme.

3.2.2. Eligibility of the Beneficiaries

The beneficiary should;

- Reside within the Village Panchayat
- Find a place in the BPL permanent wait list of the Village Panchayat
- Own a site of not less than 300 sq.ft. area
- Have clear patta for the site in the name of the head of the family or any other member of the household
- Not own any other pucca concrete house in the village or elsewhere
- Not have been benefited under any other housing scheme of the Government.

3.2.3. Mode of Selection of Beneficiaries

- A permanent wait list of BPL for each Village Panchayat should be drawn and

the poorest of the poor should be selected.

- Out of the total allocation of 60,000 houses in a year, 29% are allotted to SC community i.e, 17,400 houses, 1% is allotted to ST community i.e, 600 houses and the remaining 70% are allotted to others i.e, 42,000 houses.
- 3% of the District wise allocation should be exclusively reserved for differently abled persons.
- While preparing the list of beneficiaries, priority should be given to differently abled, widows, destitute and deserted women, women headed families, Ex-servicemen and retired members of the Paramilitary forces, families living in rural areas falling under Below Poverty Line category having severely malnourished children (as identified by the ICDS Department), transgenders, HIV/AIDS/TB affected who are certified by the Deputy Director (Health Services) concerned and victims of natural calamities such as fire, flood, etc.,

Priority shall also be given to households having a mentally challenged person in the family.

- Any eligible poor person whose name does not figure in the BPL list can apply to the Block Development Officer and an Assistant Director level officer of RD&PR Department may verify the fact and with the concurrence of the District Collector, his/her name may be included in the BPL list and approval of Grama Sabha shall be obtained for the same. In the event of inclusion, his/her name will become a part of the permanent wait list and considered for selection accordingly.
- The Village Panchayat should draw a list of eligible beneficiaries living below poverty line under this scheme and place it before the Grama Sabha for its approval.
- The details regarding selection of beneficiaries, allocation of houses, supply of materials and other guidelines regarding the implementation of the scheme are detailed in G.O.(Ms)No.64,

RD&PR (SGS-1) Dept., dated 24.04.2015 which can be accessed through RD website http://tnrd.gov.in/scheme/st_cmspghs.php

3.2.4. Implementation of CMSPGHS

During the year 2014-15, 60,000 houses have been taken up and completed at a total estimated cost of Rs.1,260 crore.

For the year 2015-16 also, 60,000 houses have be taken up under the scheme at a cost of Rs.1,260 crore.

All the 3,00,000 houses proposed to be constructed from 2011-12 to 2015-16 will be completed during 2015-16.

Table 3.6.

Implementation of CMSPGHS

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Year	No. of houses taken up	Allotted amount
1	2011-12	60,000	1,080.00
2	2012-13	60,000	1,080.00
3	2013-14	60,000	1,260.00
4	2014-15	60,000	1,260.00
5	2015-16	60,000	1,260.00
	Total	3,00,000	5,940.00

3.3. Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme for Weavers

The Government had issued orders for the construction of 10,000 houses for the weavers in rural areas during 2013-14 in G.O. (Ms). No. 231, Handloom, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadhi (T2) dated 22.10.2013. The fund for the scheme is allotted by Handloom, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadhi Department and implemented through Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

The plinth area of each house is 365 sq.ft. and the unit cost of each house is Rs.2.60 lakh. Out of this Rs.2.30 lakh is earmarked for construction of house and Rs. 30,000 is allotted for installation of solar home lighting system. Totally 10,000 houses have been taken up at a cost of Rs.260 crore under the scheme.

3.4. Rural Infrastructure–Roads

Rural roads are considered as an entry point for poverty alleviation, since lack of access is accepted universally as a fundamental factor in prolongation of poverty.

There is a direct linkage between lack of connectivity and poverty. Poverty is not only indicative of low level of per capita income, but also indicative of conditions such as mal-nutrition, ill-health, literacy and lack of access to basic services.

There is a direct link between investments in rural roads and the improved well-being of the poor. Improved infrastructure of roads and transport services would make trading in rural areas more efficient thereby reducing cost of inputs and contributing to increased agricultural output and rural development. Better road connectivity not only increases the income levels of villagers but also provides access to health, education and other services. Roads also push the pace of growth through changes in socio-economic attitudes of people by facilitating the dispersal of knowledge and reduction of inequalities. Better roads provide better access for the Government to reach out to the poor and vice-versa.

This Government, considering the importance of ensuring connectivity to serve as an effective development tool in the goal

against eradicating poverty, has already announced that **“Every village with the population of more than 500 will have a black topped road and other habitations will have an all-weather road”**.

The objective of the Government is not only to provide connectivity, but also to ensure sustenance and permanence for the people to benefit from the outcomes across all weather conditions.

In keeping with the long term vision, the Government has taken a series of initiatives for the holistic improvement of the rural road network which include the following:

- i. Consolidation of road network data by updating judiciously all the roads in rural areas, assigning each Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union road with a unique ‘Road Code’, identifying the details of Bus plying roads and assigning a unique “Bus Route Code” and uploading the entire list of roads in the website *tncrd.gov.in* along with the road inventory data.

- ii. The state has been channelling funds from various schemes for providing connectivity to unconnected Habitations, upgradation of Non-BT roads into BT roads based on various indicators like length, utility services connected, Habitations indirectly connected etc., upgradation and strengthening of Bus Plying Roads and Periodic Maintenance of existing BT roads.
- iii. The next phase of the Government’s focus would be to stabilise the road network, ensure optimum funding for new construction and maintenance of existing roads, ensure proportionate distribution of funds based on length of road network, evolve a clear policy for the improvement and maintenance of rural roads, create scientific tools for better road management and adopting new technologies and materials in road construction.

3.4.1. Rural Road Network

The updation of the list of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads is a

continuous process. The department has created a dedicated module for uploading the list of roads in *tnrd.gov.in* website, into which the entire road list has been uploaded. The current status of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads is as given below:

Table 3.7.

Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads

Sl. No	Type of Surface	Village Panchayat Road	Panchayat Union Road	Total
		Length (Km)		
1	Black topped	60,211	28,649	88,860
2	Cement concrete	2,569	273	2,842
3	Double layer WBM	2,468	330	2,798
4	Single Layer WBM	8,722	672	9,394
5	Gravel	6,874	352	7,226
6	Earthen	35,114	1,309	36,423
	Total	1,15,958	31,585	1,47,543

The online road register provides the complete profile and history of the village panchayat and panchayat union roads which include road inventory data like name of the

road, surface type, category of road, geometrics, utilities connected, details of previous improvements, technical information like soil condition, traffic etc. This data will form the basis for establishing a sound road management system. As a first step, the department will bring all the village panchayat and panchayat union roads into GIS platform in a phased manner and the department has already commenced preliminary works in this regard.

3.4.2. Upgradation of Non-BT roads as BT Roads

The priority of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department has been to upgrade the important Non-BT roads as BT roads. The upgradation of Non-BT roads to BT roads were taken up based on priority considering various factors like connectivity, utility services connected etc. In the last 4 years, 19,875.39 Km length of Non-BT roads have been taken up for upgradation at a cost of Rs.3,778.36 crore. The funds required for Upgradation of Non-BT roads to BT roads were met by channeling funds from various schemes

like THAI, NABARD-RIDF, RIS, SFC, PMGSY, SCPAR, General Funds of Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions etc.

3.4.3. Strengthening of damaged BT roads

In the last 4 years, 7,939.25 Km length of roads have been taken up under this category at a cost of Rs.1,719.82 crore.

3.4.4. Maintenance and renewal of the existing BT roads

In the last 4 years, the department has taken up 11,392.14 Km length of BT roads under this category at a cost of Rs.1,133.93 crore.

3.4.5. Construction of Bridges

The bridges on Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads were being constructed through Highways department. However, in the last 4 years, this department has been taking up construction of major bridge works under various schemes. In the last 4 years, the

department has sanctioned 263 bridges at a total cost of Rs.349.21 crore as given below:

Table 3.8.

Details of bridges taken up since 2011-12

Year	No. of Bridges	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2011-12	30	45.74
2012-13	27	31.22
2013-14	93	116.40
2014-15	113	155.85
Total	263	349.21

3.4.6. NABARD – Rural Infrastructure Development Fund

In order to assist the State Governments in the development of rural infrastructure, GoI announced the setting up of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) under NABARD for financing rural infrastructure projects implemented by the State Governments. Major investments covered under this Fund include Agriculture and allied sectors, Social sectors, Rural Connectivity etc.

Under NABARD-RIDF, upto tranche XVI, 4,305 road works for a length of 10,577.42

Km have been taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.1,321.17 crore and all the works have been completed.

Table 3.9.

Details of Road works taken up under NABARD-RIDF since 2011-12

Year	No. of works	Length (km)	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2011-12	958	2,598.65	451.77
2012-13	381	1,000.46	198.07
2013-14	185	367.63	100.00
2014-15	616	1,184.03	339.91
Total	2140	5,150.77	1089.75

3.4.7. Rural Infrastructure Scheme (RIS) - Roads

This scheme seeks to bridge the existing gap in infrastructure in rural areas in terms of rural connectivity and to stabilize the assets already created under MGNREGS so as to make them more durable. Out of the overall allocation under this scheme, 60% is provided for upgradation of roads and 40% is utilised for stabilizing MGNREGS works.

Table 3.10.

Details of Road works taken up under RIS since 2011-12

Year	No. of works	Length (km)	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2011-12	1,348	1,638.33	150.00
2012-13	1,361	1,259.27	166.67
2013-14	746	744.51	150.00
2014-15	705	676.81	150.00
Total	4,160	4,318.92	616.67

3.4.8. Rural Roads Maintenance Scheme (RRMS)

The Government announced a new scheme called the Rural Roads Maintenance Scheme for the periodic maintenance of Panchayat and Panchayat union roads.

During 2013-14, an allocation of Rs.400 crore was made by dovetailing Rs.150 crore from 13th Finance Commission Grant and Rs.250 crore from State Finance Commission Grant.

Under this scheme, 2,004 roads have been taken up covering a length of 3,977.28 Km and all the works have been completed.

During 2014-15, an allocation of Rs.300 crore was made for the periodic maintenance of 2,805.41 Km length of roads.

3.4.9. Bus plying Roads Improvement Scheme (BPRIS)

Quality roads with comfortable riding surface are a pre-requisite for bus and road transport operators to offer their services. Public transport being the most preferred mode of movement for the rural people, it is important to improve the bus plying roads. In order to achieve this objective, the Government announced a new scheme called the “**Bus Plying Roads Improvement Scheme (BPRIS)**” for the improvement of the damaged Bus Plying Roads.

During 2014-15, an allocation of Rs.300 crore has been made under this scheme out of which 1,399.28 Km length of 612 Bus plying roads have been taken up for improvement.

3.4.10. Laying of BT Roads with Plastic Waste

Government had provided special funds for laying of roads using Plastic waste under Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy Development Fund (EPREDF). In order to augment the efforts of the Government to eliminate plastic waste, Rural Development Department has taken up laying of roads using plastic waste under NABARD-RIDF, 13th Finance Commission Grant, Rural Infrastructure Scheme and Rural Roads Maintenance Scheme.

In the last 4 years, 9187 Km length of BT roads have been laid using plastic waste.

The shredded plastic waste required for laying the BT Roads is procured through the 30 Collection and processing centres, established at a cost of Rs. 120 lakh under Environment Protection and Renewable Energy Development Fund (EPREDF).

3.4.11. State Infrastructure and Amenities Fund

Infrastructure and Amenities Fund is operated and maintained by the Director of

Town & Country Planning. Infrastructure and Amenities charge is collected from residential, commercial and industrial buildings since 2007. This fund is utilised to implement projects to ensure sustainable development through provision of amenities like water supply, roads, sewage facilities, etc.

For the first time, 56 bridges have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.73.66 crore in 9 districts under State Infrastructure and Amenities Fund.

3.4.12. Scheme wise allocation for road works

The scheme wise details of funds allocated for road works and the length of roads taken up in the last 4 years is given below:

Table 3.11.

Scheme wise Details of Road Works taken up in the last 4 years

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme	Length (in Km)	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1	Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvements Scheme (THAI)	5,808.27	888.08
2	NABARD-Rural Infrastructure Development Fund	5,150.77	1,089.75
3	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)	2,818.28	1,160.78
4	Rural Infrastructure Scheme (RIS)	4,318.92	616.67
5	Bus Plying Roads Improvement Scheme (BPRIS)	1,399.28	300.00
6	Environmental Protection and Renewable Energy Development Fund (EPREDF)	429.87	37.50
7	State Finance Commission Grants (SFC)	1,552.46	304.30
8	Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue (SCPAR)	817.33	294.19
9	13 th Finance Commission Grants	6,573.13	622.00
10	Rural Road Maintenance Scheme (RRMS)	3,649.19	381.07
11	Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLA-CDS)	980.85	154.59
12	Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MP-LADS)	488.42	76.60
13	Others (IGFF, BRGF, SSS, SBGF, General Fund, VP surplus fund, etc.)	5,245.83	1,056.98
Total		39,232.60	6,982.51

3.4.13. Quality Control

Quality Control is essential to ensure that the outcomes are achieved to the desired standards. At every pre-designated point, necessary quality control measures need to be ensured. In order to achieve this, it is important to institute a Quality Assurance mechanism.

At present, the State Quality Monitors (retired engineers) function as independent QC monitors. These SQMs are deputed to inspect the works on a monthly basis. The Action Taken Reports on the observations made by the SQMs are reviewed periodically. An online Quality Control module will be established for uploading the observations of the SQMs in order to have more transparency in the current system.

Establishing Quality Control Laboratories with required testing equipments is a basic requirement of any QC arrangement. The department has established district level QC labs in all the 31 districts and these labs are strengthened periodically.

3.5. Use of Solar Power to street lights in Village Panchayats and Panchayat Union Office buildings.

The energisation of street lights with solar power scheme was introduced by the Government in the year 2011-12 under which existing street lights in the Village Panchayats will be replaced with solar powered street lights with an objective of reduction in the maintenance expenditure and promoting the concept of renewable energy in rural areas. This programme is implemented in the Village Panchayats on experimental basis. Initially, 1 lakh street lights in 1,000 Village Panchayats are taken up for replacement with solar power over a period of 5 years upto 2016. Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) is the implementing agency for energisation of street lights with solar power. During the year 2011-12 and 2012-13 total of 40,000 street lights have been taken up so far to energise with solar power at the cost of Rs.90.12 crore.

Similarly, the Government had issued orders sanctioning Rs.6.05 crore for energisation of 85 Panchayat Union Offices

with Solar Power in the year 2013-14. The Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) has finalised the tender and selected companies for energisation with roof top solar power. The District Rural Development Agencies at District level are implementing the scheme through the Block Development Officers.

3.6. Comprehensive School Infrastructure Development Scheme

Comprehensive School Infrastructure Development Scheme (CSIDS) was launched by this Government during 2011-12 with the objective of providing basic infrastructure facilities like New Buildings, Kitchen sheds, Water supply, Toilets, etc., in the Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools in rural areas. Repairs and renovation of the existing facilities are also being taken up under this Scheme, wherever necessary. This Scheme is also being implemented in the Panchayat Union schools located in Town Panchayats and Municipalities.

Strength of the students in the school is the basis for taking up new buildings. These

new buildings are constructed with RCC roof along with weathering course. The space available in school premises is used for new construction and if adequate space is not available, a new floor is added to the existing RCC Building after assessing its structural stability.

New kitchen sheds are taken up in those schools where kitchen sheds are not available and the existing damaged kitchen sheds are taken up for repair and renovation. Additional rooms/store rooms may also be constructed under the scheme for stocking the commodities.

Existing water supply system in the schools which are in damaged condition are taken up for repairs. Extension of pipelines are provided wherever necessary. New water supply connection from the existing Panchayat water source or a new bore well is also provided wherever necessary.

This Government ensures that all the Panchayat Union Schools have adequate toilet facilities for girls and boys. Incinerators are

provided in the toilets for the benefit of girl students.

As a measure to maintain the school environment clean and to ensure safety of the students, compound wall construction was also allowed from 2012-13 onwards.

Selection and finalization of works are undertaken by the Committee constituted at the Block level. This Committee inspects each and every school along with the already available THAI survey "Base list" for ascertaining the actual infrastructural needs of the schools.

3.6.1. Scheme implementation from 2011-12 to 2014-15

An amount of Rs.100 crore each has been allocated every year from 2011-12 to 2014-15. The basic requirements viz, buildings, kitchen sheds, toilets, water supply and compound wall facilities have been extended to all THAI villages of 2011-12 (2,020 Village Panchayats), 2012-13 (2,250 village Panchayats), 2013-14 (2,500 Village

Panchayats) and 2014-15 (2,741 Village Panchayats) in a comprehensive manner.

10,418 works were taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.87.40 crore, during 2011-12. 9,069 works were taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.95.33 crore, during 2012-13. 10,040 works were taken up at an estimate cost of Rs.99.91 crore during 2013-14 and 10,054 works were taken up at an estimate cost of Rs. 115.96 crore during 2014-15.

3.6.2. Scheme implementation during 2015-16

An amount of Rs 100 crore has been allocated for the implementation of the scheme during the year 2015-16.

3.7. Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS)

In order to identify and execute the essential infrastructure works in the Assembly Constituencies, Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme

(MLACDS) is being implemented in the State. The MLAs identify the infrastructure gaps in the constituencies and propose the works to be executed in the constituencies. The scheme is implemented both in Rural and Urban areas. From the year 2011-12, the fund allocation under the scheme was increased from Rs. 1.75 crore to Rs.2.00 crore per constituency per annum.

The District Collectors are empowered to accord administrative sanction for the chosen works and also identify the implementing agency. An amount of Rs.1.10 crore is earmarked for priority works, exclusively fixed by the Government and out of the remaining Rs. 90 lakh the MLAs can choose works of their choice in tune with the guidelines of the scheme.

3.7.1. Salient Features

3.7.1.1. Works to be taken up under Tied Component of Rs. 1.10 crore

1. Infrastructure to Schools (Corporation / Municipality/ Panchayat Union / Government Schools only) in Rural and Urban areas. : Rs.25 lakh

2. Construction of Anganwadi Buildings/ Noon Meal Centres / Noon Meal Kitchen Sheds, Modernization of Anganwadi/ Kitchen Centres in rural and urban areas. : Rs.20 lakh
3. Water Supply works : Rs.15 lakh
4. Any other permissible work not falling within the 'Negative list / Prohibited works according to the choice of MLA as detailed below : Rs.50 lakhs

In Rural & Urban Areas

1. Installation of Solar Street Lights in rural areas/ Roof top solar power in Government buildings/LED street lights in rural areas.
2. Upgradation of Gravel / WBM Roads to BT Standard
3. Renewal of badly worn-out BT roads (laying of BT layer only with filling up of potholes, if necessary)
4. Laying of Cement concrete Roads
5. Provision of rooms, buildings and / or compound walls for Government and Local Body Hospitals, Primary Health

Centres, Government Veterinary Hospitals, Government Schools, Panchayat Union Schools, Adi Dravidar Schools, Kallar Reclamation Schools, Government Colleges, Government Hostels, Government ITIs and Government Polytechnics.

6. Provision of infrastructure facilities to Government Special Schools for the differently-abled and Government Orphanages.
7. Construction of Bridges.
8. Provision of additional Burial Grounds / Cremation Grounds to the Village Panchayats, such facilities and provision of infrastructure and compound wall facilities to the burial grounds / cremation grounds in urban areas.
9. Provision of compound wall / fencing in the burial grounds belonging to public wakfs registered with wakf Board. Since the wakf Board does not have any Engineering wing, this work may be

entrusted with the Local Bodies concerned.

10. Construction of Public Distribution Shop Buildings.
11. Construction of building for physical fitness centre / Gymnasium along with required equipments, which will be asset of the concerned local bodies.

In Rural areas in addition to the above works, Construction of Integrated Sanitary Complexes for women and men can be taken up

In urban areas in addition to the above works, Provision of Concrete Pavements with storm water drains, Formation of new Public Parks, Construction of Public Toilets and Purchase of Jetrodding machines and hydraulically operated sewerage machines may also be taken up.

3.7.1.2. Works to be Taken Up Under Untied Component of Rs.90 lakh.

Any works not falling within the following 'negative list / prohibited works' can be taken up under the Untied component of

MLACDS. (Construction of Bus Passengers Shelters is permitted under this component)

3.7.1.3. Negative list / Prohibited works

1. Construction of Office and Residential buildings belonging to Central and State Government, including Public Sector Undertakings, Co-operatives and Societies. **Exception:** i) Construction of Direct procurement Centres, Milk Producer's Co-operative Societies, Bulk Chilling Centres. ii) Orders have been issued for the construction of compound wall to 84 MLA Offices @ total estimated cost of Rs.213.15 lakh vide G.O.Ms No. 179 RD & PR (SGS-I) dt. 19.12.2013.
2. Assets for individual /family benefits (Exception: Construction of new houses in Town Panchayats as per IAY norms)
3. All renovation, maintenance and repair works : **Exception:** Repair of houses constructed under Government schemes up to 31.12.2005 including houses of IAY, TAHDCO, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board can be taken up for an

amount not exceeding Rs.50,000 per house. However, permission letter should be obtained from the TNSCB / TAHDCO before taking up the repair works.

4. Purchase of all movable items, equipments and furniture **Exception:** (i) Purchase of furniture and equipments for Government Schools, Panchayat Union Schools, Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools, Kallar Reclamation Schools, Government Colleges, Government Hostels, Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centers, Government Veterinary Hospitals, Government ITIs. and Government Polytechnics. (ii) Purchase of aids and appliances for differently abled persons (iii) Purchase of CP Chair for Polio and stroke attacked persons and purchase of mentally challenged Learning Kits for mentally challenged children learning in their special schools (iv) Purchase of physical exercise equipments to be installed in the physical fitness centre / Gymnasium. (v) Purchase of equipments for installation of

solar photovoltaic items in the existing Government buildings.

5. Any work in Government aided and self financing Schools and Colleges.
6. All works involving Commercial establishments/units.
7. Grants and loans, contribution to any Central and State / UT Relief Funds.
8. Acquisition of land or any compensation for land acquired.
9. Reimbursement of any type of completed or partly completed works or items.
10. All revenue and recurring expenditure.
11. Works within the places of religious worship and on lands belonging to or owned by religious faiths / groups.
12. Desilting of Ponds, Ooraries, rivers, tanks, canals, channels and the like.
13. Gravel / WBM Roads (Roads up to BT standard only should be taken up)
14. Installation of High Mast Lights.

An overall allocation of 21% of the total allocation under MLACDS should be made for the areas predominantly inhabited by SC/ST persons in rural and persons living in slums in urban areas.

3.7.1.4. Implementation of MLACDS

In 2014-15, a sum of Rs.470 crore has been allocated under the scheme and 15,304 works have been taken up.

For the year 2015-16 also, an allocation of Rs.470 crore has been made under this Scheme.

3.8. Self Sufficiency Scheme

Public participation is a pre-requisite for ensuring the sustainability of the community assets created. Self Sufficiency Scheme is being implemented by the Government from 2011-12 onwards to encourage increased public participation in creation and maintenance of community infrastructure.

Self Sufficiency Scheme is being implemented both in rural and urban areas.

3.8.1. Public participation

The minimum public contribution for any of the identified work should be one-third of the estimate amount.

3.8.2. Selection of Works

1. The need for taking works under "Self Sufficiency Scheme" may originate from individuals, groups, institutions, public or private companies or from the community.
2. Request in the form of an application indicating the works to be taken up with consent for contributing one-third of the amount by the public has to be given to the District Collector.
3. The District Collector shall ascertain the actual need and feasibility of the work to be taken up, with reference to the norms of the scheme. After justifying the need, the Collector will call for the detailed estimates from the implementing agency. Then, the applicant has to deposit the prescribed amount by means of Demand Draft to the District Collector

or Project Director, District Rural Development Agency for sanction.

4. The contributions given by the Local Bodies and Universities shall not be accepted under this scheme.
5. The permission of the Local Body or the Department concerned, if required, shall be obtained before according administrative sanction.
6. If the assets to be created have to be maintained by the Local Body/ Department, their concurrence shall be obtained.
7. If requests are received for various works but amount available is limited under the scheme, the District Collector shall give priority for the works which are of maximum benefit to the community.

3.8.3. Execution of works

Execution of works will be done by the Local Bodies or the Departments concerned as per the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act 1998.

To facilitate larger participation of the people in this Scheme, if the public or contributors opt to execute the work themselves or through their agency, willingness should be given by them in writing while applying for the work under Self Sufficiency Scheme. The District Collector will examine the request and permit the contributors or the agency to execute the works if the public contribution is 50% or more than the estimate of the work. But in case of Desiltation of PWD tanks and desilting of Tanks under the control of Municipalities and Town Panchayats, even if the public contribution is 50% or more, the work should be executed only through tender.

3.8.4. Scheme Implementation from 2011-12 to 2014-15

An amount of Rs.100 crore is allocated every year, to take up works under the scheme. Out of the total amount, Rs.25 crore is earmarked and vested with the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj for providing additional funding to the districts and for sanction of special schemes. Out of the

balance amount of Rs.75 crore, after earmarking Rs.1 crore (i.e. 1% allocated for IEC), Rs.74 crore is being released to the Districts and Chennai Corporation on the basis of population.

From 2011-12 to 2014-15, a total of 8,965 useful community assets have been created.

Table 3.12.
Community assets created from 2011-12 to 2014-15

Sl. No.	Category	No. of Works			
		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
1	Construction of School Buildings & Libraries	87	42	31	12
2	Purchase of Furniture to Govt. & Pt. Union Schools	92	90	57	30
3	Purchase of Computers to Schools	127	25	22	23
4	Construction of Bridges & Culverts	93	60	119	53
5	Construction of Anganwadi & Kitchen Sheds	21	32	23	17
6	Creation of Water Supply sources	377	315	337	165
7	Up gradation of Roads	635	381	244	572
8	Construction of Community Centres & Public Distribution System Shops	64	39	69	111
9	Construction of Threshing Floors	8	3	11	8
10	Construction of Public Health Centres	5	4	6	0
11	Other Works	1056	1240	1110	1149
	Total	2565	2231	2029	2140

3.9. Sanitation Programmes

3.9.1. Initiatives of State Government

The Government of Tamil Nadu have pioneered the sanitation revolution in the State through various initiatives. The Integrated Women Sanitary Complexes constructed in all the then existing 12,618 Village Panchayats at the rate of one Complex in each Panchayat during 2001-04 provided access to basic sanitation facilities for rural women and children. Clean Village Campaign introduced in 2003 provided a momentum to the sanitation coverage. In view of low unit cost at that point of time, the State Government provided an additional State share of Rs.1,500 per unit, for Individual Household Latrines in April, 2012. Similar to the sanitation facilities created for rural women, construction of Integrated Men Sanitary Complexes was also taken up in 2012-13. State Level Massive Information Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign launched in July, 2013 and the Inter-Personal Communication (IPC) through the field functionaries of various Government

Departments provided impetus in demand generation and household sanitation coverage.

The involvement of Community Based Organisations like VPRC / PLF at Village level in the construction and usage Monitoring of IHHL has brought about a paradigm shift in the Sanitation coverage. Introducing 'Thooimai Kaavalar' in Solid Waste Management activities in the selected 2,000 Village Panchayats have brought a visible impact in the maintenance of Cleanliness in these Villages.

3.10. Renovation of Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women

This Government has been according top priority in the provision of sanitary facilities for women in the rural areas. Lack of sanitary facilities has severe health consequences, especially on women and they suffer in silence. Absence of sanitary facilities is primarily due to both poverty and cultural inhibitions, which had to be overcome. Therefore, it was of paramount importance to ensure privacy and safety to women, besides improving general hygiene and health to the rural people.

Responding to the sanitation needs of women, the Government in 2001 decided to build Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women in all the then existing 12,618 Village Panchayats in the State, at an approximate area of 750 sq.ft. each. It was ensured that the selected sites were easily accessible to the rural women. Each complex had 14 water closets, 2 bathrooms, 1 pump room with pump set, 1 water tub and stone-paved washing facilities. Adequate water supply for washing and bathing requirements were also provided. The total users were identified and grouped for the purpose of allocation of individual toilets within the complex. The Village Panchayats provided electricity connection for water supply and lighting and the allotted families maintained the upkeep of the complex. The complexes were provided with incinerators for disposal of the sanitary napkins of the user women.

Between 2001 and 2004, all the Village Panchayats in the State were covered under the Scheme. However, most of the Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women were rendered

unusable due to lack of attention for its maintenance during 2006-11.

As per the directions of the Honourable Chief Minister, 12,796 sanitary complexes which were in the State of disuse have been renovated at a cost of Rs.170 crore during 2011-12, thereby restoring the basic facilities for the rural women.

3.11. Maintenance of Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women

In order to ensure regular maintenance and usage of the Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women, User Groups have been formed for all the renovated Complexes from among the women Self Help Group members with the assistance of the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women. These User Groups have also been trained to take up day to day maintenance of Complexes.

The expenditure towards current consumption charges for water supply and lighting, minor repair/maintenance work like maintenance of pump sets and cleaning of

septic tanks are met out by the Village Panchayats from their General Fund.

To monitor the maintenance of Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women, the District Collectors have constituted the District Level and Block Level Monitoring Committees. The above Committees deliberate on the functioning status of the complexes and take necessary follow up action.

Software for monitoring the functional status of the complexes on daily basis has been developed with the assistance of National Informatics Centre, Chennai. The functional status is collected from the Sanitary Worker attached to each Complex by the Block Staff and the status report is entered in the online data entry screen of www.tnrd.gov.in at Block level. The online reports are monitored at District level and State level and appropriate follow up action is taken, wherever necessary.

3.12. Integrated Men Sanitary Complexes

Based on the demand raised by rural men for creation of sanitation facilities similar to Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women,

the Honourable Chief Minister ordered the provision of Integrated Men Sanitary Complexes (IMSC), at the rate of two Complexes per Block during 2012-13. In Tamil Nadu, 770 Integrated Men Sanitary Complexes were constructed at a cost of Rs.35 crore.

The sites for construction of IMSCs were identified by the District Collectors taking into account the various parameters and local requirements like prevalence of open defecation, predominance of houses without toilets, availability of water supply, etc. The total area of the Complex is 570 sq.ft. Each complex has 8 toilets in which one toilet is provided with western closet for the benefit of the aged/differently abled and one is a baby friendly toilet. Separate area for bathing, water tub and stone-paved washing facilities are also provided. Exclusive water supply is ensured in each Complex for sustainability and usage. User Groups are formed and are involved from the construction stage itself. Similar to the maintenance of Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women, these User Groups will take up the day to day

maintenance. Periodical maintenance is done by the Village Panchayats concerned. Corporate bodies and NGOs are also encouraged to take part in the maintenance of these complexes along with the User Groups.

During 2014-15, IMSCs have been taken up on need basis in 429 Village Panchayats.

3.13. Bio-digester linked Community Green Sanitary Complexes

The Government have ordered construction of 25 Bio-digester linked Green Community Sanitary Complexes in Rural areas and allocated Rs.113 lakh at the rate of Rs.4.50 lakh per Complex for the year 2013-14. In Green Sanitary Complexes, the Human excreta are let into Bio-digester where it is digested through anaerobic microbial process and only clean water is let out which can be recycled for flushing purpose.

The District Collectors concerned have identified sites in areas with high prevalence of open defecation, bus stands, tourist places, etc. and have completed the construction of Complexes in 25 places. The Bio-digesters

have been installed in these complexes by qualified technology holders.

This innovative method of waste disposal taken up on pilot basis is environmental friendly, conserves water, enables easy maintenance and sustainable.

3.14. Clean Village Campaign

This Government launched "Clean Village Campaign" in 2003 in order to create a momentum to bring about a sanitary revolution in the State. The Clean Village Campaign encompassed all activities taken up in the village for environmental sanitation. The Village Panchayats which were free from open defecation and with clean environment were eligible to be nominated for a cash award of Rs.5 lakh by the State. The Government disbursed awards every year to 15 such Village Panchayats as a "Cash and Recognition Incentive".

The Award which was shelved in 2006 was revived and re-introduced in 2011-12 with an annual allocation of Rs.1.55 crore for giving cash award of Rs.5 lakh for 31 selected Village

Panchayats, at the rate of one Village Panchayat from each district.

31 Village Panchayats each have been selected for the Award for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13. For the year 2013-14, proposals were received from all the 31 District Collectors. These proposals are being scrutinized and 31 Village Panchayats will be selected for the Award. Similar exercise is being carried out for 2014-15 also.

3.15. State Level Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign to achieve open defecation free status

The Government vide G.O.(D) No.147 Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (CGS-1) Department, dated 3.4.2013 ordered the Rollout of massive State Level Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign to achieve open defecation free status for Tamil Nadu and approved various IEC materials developed with the support of UNICEF through a specialized media agency. The Campaign was rolled out in July, 2013 and being conducted in a phased manner. Reinforcement

of Sanitation awareness messages are being done through Inter-Personal Communication (IPC) materials such as Leaflets, Wall Paintings, Brochures, Flip Charts, etc. The District Collectors are involving the various stakeholders like, PRI functionaries, Self Help Groups, Panchayat Level Federations, Village Poverty Reduction Committees, Bharat Nirman Volunteers, School Students, etc., in this massive campaign so that the message of sanitation is taken to every rural household in order to generate the desired positive impact of attaining open defecation free Tamil Nadu.

3.16. Strategies adopted by the Government in the coverage of Individual Household Latrines

In order to expeditiously achieve the Honourable Chief Minister's Vision of Total Sanitation, all the three wings of the RD&PR Department viz, DRDA, MaThi and PVP have jointly taken up the cause of sanitation promotion through these field functionaries. The Community Based Organisations at Village level i.e. VPRC / PLF have been involved in Inter Personal Communication in order to bring

about the required behavioural change among the community. In this regard, the Government of Tamil Nadu have issued detailed guidelines for Planning and Implementation of IHHL works and usage monitoring which is the first of its kind vide G.O.(Ms) No.46, RD&PR (CGS.1) Department, dated 26.03.2015.

The guidelines provide the strategies for motivation, planning, implementation, incentivising and monitoring the sanitation programme at Village Panchayat level. The following are the broad objectives of the guidelines:

- To accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas in order to achieve the goal of open defecation free Tamil Nadu in a time bound manner.
- To actively involve the various stakeholders such as PRI representatives, Self Help Groups, Village Poverty Reduction Committee, Panchayat Level Federation, field functionaries of various Government

departments, etc., in the eradication of open defecation.

- To sustain the practice of safe sanitation through continuous Behavioural Change activities.

The above guidelines have enabled to broad base the delivery system with the involvement of Community Based Organisations (CBOs) at the village level such as Village Poverty Reduction Committees (VPRCs) and Panchayat Level Federations (PLFs) of Women Self Help Groups. Since construction of toilet and its usage by those households presently defecating in open requires behavioural change through Inter-Personal Communication, it is felt that the members of VPRC/PLF are in a better position to use their peer group influence in a big way to achieve the objective of open defecation free villages.

In order to facilitate effective implementation of the scheme, the following actions have been taken and are being closely followed-up:

- In order to motivate the VPRC/PLF and achieve their fullest co-operation in sanitation promotion, a personalised message has been sent by all the District Collectors to each and every 12,524 VPRC/PLF in their respective district.
- A basic orientation training has been given to the Community Resource Persons (Sanitation) / Community Professionals (Sanitation) engaged by the VPRC /PLF. Similar training has also been given to the Village Panchayat Presidents, Village Panchayat Secretaries and Members of VPRC/PLF.
- A Master Register containing the Village Panchayat wise Households without toilets, as on 1.4.2015, has been downloaded from the baseline survey database of our website and handed over to the VPRC/PLF concerned, for targeted follow up.
- An one time grant of Rs.10,000 has been given to all the 12,524 VPRC/PLF for IPC activities.

- VPRC/PLF have been asked to conduct meetings at village level to promote sanitation message among their own members and other Self Help Group members every month.
- Since Panchayats have now been empowered to issue work orders to the IHHL beneficiaries, a comprehensive Model Work Order has been given to the Panchayats which will enable them to act quickly once the applications are received and also follow-up during construction.
- Technical aspects of toilet construction has been ensured by prescribing the type design and detailed estimates. Further, a short video film on technical aspects of toilet construction has been developed with the support of UNICEF. Actual construction of toilets with different models namely leach pit model (both honey-comb design & circular ring design) and septic tank models have been shot in the film for easier

understanding. This has benefited both technical and non-technical persons involved in the scheme implementation.

- In order to expedite the release of subsidy to the beneficiary in two instalments, the procedure for measurement by the technical authority (Overseer) has been simplified with the introduction of Valuation Certificate. The Overseers visit the Village Panchayats under their jurisdiction every Friday and issue the Valuation Certificates as per the progress. This has simplified the payment process.
- To enable the poorest of poor beneficiaries who find it difficult to start the work due to lack of money, the VPRC/PLF have been permitted to provide an advance of Rs.5,000 from their own funds. They have been asked to cover atleast 10% of such beneficiaries.
- Innovations have been encouraged in the implementation of the Scheme. Some

districts have reported innovations such as production of pre-fabricated circular rings, roof slab, junction chamber through Self Help Group members. Metal frames are being used for marking the sites. This has helped in standardising and speeding up the construction process.

- Two stage photos of construction of IHHL, i.e, one at basement stage and the second at completion stage has been made mandatory for release of incentive to the beneficiary. The photographs have to be taken with the Beneficiary and any one of the specified person standing together at the site. This has strengthened the transparency process in construction as well as in reporting.
- In order to ensure quality of construction and sustainability of functional toilets, frequent inspections are undertaken by senior officials at the District Level and Block Level. State Quality Monitors are

also deputed for exclusive inspections of IHHLs.

- An incentive amount of Rs.300 per IHHL for VPRC / PLF will be given in two phase. In 1st phase incentive Rs.200 per IHHL shall be released after 6 months after completion and usage. In 2nd phase Rs.100 per IHHL shall be released after completion of one year provided for the continuous usage by Household.
- The District level Officials of DRDA, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW) and Pudhu Vaazhvu Project have been brought on board in the implementation of the Scheme.

It has also been proposed to saturate 4,231 Village Panchayats and make them open defecation free during 2015-16.

3.17. Solid Waste Management Scheme in Rural areas

During 2014-15, Government had sanctioned Rs.44.10 crore for the purchase of 17,638 tricycles for the clearance of garbage in

12,524 Village Panchayats and also sanctioned Rs. 110 crore for the implementation of Solid Waste Management in rural areas.

In order to expedite the process of covering more number of villages the Government have issued detailed guidelines in G.O.Ms No.47, RD&PR (CGS-I) Department dated 26.3.2015 for establishment of Solid Waste Management Systems with recycling and waste disposal facilities. Initially, 2,000 Village Panchayats that had fulfilled any one or more of the following criteria have been identified for implementing of the scheme

- i. Village Panchayats with more than 10,000 Population;
- ii. Village Panchayats in Peri-Urban areas (Adjacent to Corporation / Municipality / Town Panchayat);
- iii. Village Panchayats of Tourism and Pilgrim importance;
- iv. Village Panchayats with major Bus stands and Railway stations handling floating population;

- v. Village Panchayats with larger Industrial / Commercial establishments / Educational institutions;
- vi. Village Panchayats along 4 way lane roads, OMR, ECR and National highways;
- vii. Village Panchayats with Big Shandies; or
- viii. Village Panchayats functioning as Block & Taluk head quarters.

3.17.1. Salient Features of the Scheme:

The important features of the Guidelines are given below:-

- Village Panchayat is the unit for implementation, wherever there is only one habitation. Each Habitation or cluster of habitations can be the unit, in bigger Panchayats.
- Solid waste is segregated into biodegradable and non-biodegradable before disposal.

- Two Pits for Composting and one for Sanitary Landfill are dug up under MGNREGS.
- MGNREGS workers are engaged for SWM activities at the rate of one worker per 150 households in the selected Panchayat.
- The workers called as Thooimai kaavalar (தூய்மைக் காவலர்) are engaged in door to door collection of waste, segregation, transporting to dumping site, etc.
- Wages for first 100 days are paid from MGNREGS funds and wages beyond 100 days in the year are to be paid from Solid Waste Management funds.
- Tricycles, implements for cleaning, Jackets, Gloves, Cap, etc., for Thooimai kaavalar, Shredding Machine and Cleaning Machine have been provided under the Scheme.
- Village Poverty Reduction Committee / Panchayat Level Federation act as a Nodal agency to supervise the Thooimai Kaavalars.

The district wise number of Village Panchayats identified for establishment of Solid Waste Management Systems (SWMS) as per the above criteria is given in the following Table:

Table No. 3.13.

Village Panchayats identified for Implementation of Solid Waste Management Systems

Sl. No.	District	No. of Village Panchayats
1	Kancheepuram	198
2	Tiruvallur	130
3	Cuddalore	64
4	Villupuram	120
5	Vellore	140
6	Tiruvannamalai	86
7	Salem	58
8	Namakkal	74
9	Dharmapuri	44
10	Krishnagiri	30
11	Erode	68
12	Tiruppur	90
13	Coimbatore	100
14	The Nilgiris	11
15	Thanjavur	80
16	Nagapattinam	56
17	Tiruvarur	40
18	Tiruchirappalli	88
19	Karur	22
20	Ariyalur	25
21	Perambalur	20
22	Pudukkottai	74
23	Madurai	56
24	Theni	20

25	Dindigul	60
26	Ramanathapuram	44
27	Virudhunagar	60
28	Sivaganga	38
29	Tirunelveli	42
30	Thoothukudi	50
31	Kanniyakumari	12
Total		2,000

3.18. Socio Economic Development Programme

In the year 2003-04, Socio Economic Development Programme was launched in the backward districts of Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri to curb Naxalite activities. During the year 2014-15 Rs.700 lakh and Rs.50 lakh had been allotted to Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri Districts respectively.

Under this Scheme, works such as construction of Green houses, Aavin Parlours, purchase of power sprayers to poor farmers, purchase of medical equipments for primary health centres, Extension of pipeline from Hogenakkal water supply scheme, modernization of Anganwadi buildings, etc., and various training programmes have been taken up during 2014-15.

For 2015-16 also, a sum of Rs.7.50 crore has been allotted for this scheme.

3.19. Thane Housing Scheme

The cyclonic storm "Thane" which hit the State in December 2011 had damaged lakhs of houses and also affected the livelihoods of lakhs of families. The Government of Tamil Nadu, on the instruction of Honourable Chief Minister, acted swiftly and ordered for a wide range of immediate restoration measures and completed the immediate relief works in record time. However, there was a need to provide permanent houses for the people who had lost their huts which were completely damaged by "Thane" cyclone.

Hence, the Government had launched a '**Thane Housing Scheme**' for the benefit of the people affected by the most severe cyclonic storm in the rural areas of Cuddalore and Villupuram Districts. The Government ordered for the construction of 1 lakh concrete houses at a cost of Rs. 1,000 crore to replace damaged houses in the Thane Cyclone affected Districts of Cuddalore and Villupuram.

3.19.1. Salient features of the Scheme

- Rural families which have been affected by THANE cyclone are eligible for Housing assistance.
- Each house has an area of 200 square feet.
- Every house has a living room, kitchen and toilet including provision for rain water harvesting structure. The toilet component would be provided separately under Swatchh Bharat Mission (SBM) Funds.
- The unit cost is Rs. 1 lakh per house and fully funded by the State Government.
- Construction of houses is being done by the beneficiaries themselves.
- Houses are constructed either in situ or in the land owned by the beneficiary elsewhere in the Village Panchayat. No land acquisition is envisaged under this Scheme.
- Country bricks, Fly ash bricks and Hollow block bricks can be used for construction

as desired by the beneficiaries based on Public Works Department approved data.

Out of the total 1 lakh houses sanctioned at a cost of Rs.1,000 crore, 90,000 houses are allotted to Cuddalore District and 10,000 houses are allotted to Villupuram District.

4. CENTRAL SCHEMES

4. Central Schemes

4.1. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is the only anti-poverty programme which has the legal backing. The core objective of this scheme, as per the revised schedule-I of the MGNREG Act, are;

- a) Providing not less than one hundred days of unskilled manual work as a guaranteed employment in a financial year to every household in rural areas as per demand, resulting in creation of productive assets of prescribed quality and durability;
- b) Strengthening the livelihood resource base of the poor;
- c) Proactively ensuring social inclusion
- d) Strengthening of Panchayat Raj institutions

In Tamil Nadu, the scheme was first notified on 2.2.2006 in 6 districts of the State

and the scheme was extended to all the remaining districts, in a phased manner.

4.1.1. Salient features of the Scheme

1. Provision of 100 days of guaranteed wage employment for all registered households in the Village Panchayat, whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled labour.
2. The Central Government bears 100% wage cost of unskilled manual labour. Material cost including wages of skilled and semi-skilled workers is borne by Central Government and by State Government in the ratio of 75:25.
3. No contractors or labour - displacing machineries are allowed.
4. The wage and material components have to be maintained at 60:40 ratio at Village Panchayat level.
5. Out of the total works sanctioned, 50% should be allotted to Village Panchayats.
6. Adult members of rural households willing to do unskilled manual work may register

orally or in writing with the Village Panchayat.

7. The Village Panchayat will issue a job card within 15 days and will issue a dated receipt, which will stand as a guarantee to provide employment within 15 days.
8. If the distance of worksite exceeds 5 kms, additional wage of 10% of existing wage rate is payable to meet the cost towards the additional transportation and living expenses. However, in Tamil Nadu, worksites are being fixed in such a way that works are available within a radius of 2 kms.
9. The wages for unskilled labour have been fixed based on the Rural Schedule of Rates. As per the revised Schedule-I of MGNREG Act, the Schedule of Rates for wages of unskilled labourers is so fixed that an adult person working for eight hours which include an hour of rest (i.e., 7 hours of work) will earn wages equal to wage rate.

10. Wages are equal to both men and women and the notified wage rate for 2015-16 is Rs.183 per day.
11. Disbursement of wages is normally done on weekly basis and should be paid within 15 days.
12. One third of the beneficiaries should be women.
13. Work site facilities such as drinking water, first aid kit, shade etc., are being provided.
14. Grama Sabha conducts the social audit in respect of MGNREGS through Village Social Auditors.
15. A Toll free Help line (1299) has also been provided in each district as part of Grievance redressal mechanism.
16. Under Section 12 of the MGNREG Act, Government of Tamil Nadu has constituted the State Employment Guarantee Council to advise, evaluate and monitor the implementation of the scheme.

4.1.2. Permissible Works

The permissible works as per the GoI Operational Guidelines are as follows:

Table No.4.1.
Permissible works as per the GoI Operational Guidelines

Category A	Category B	Category C	Category D
PUBLIC WORKS RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	INDIVIDUAL ASSETS FOR VULNERABLE SECTIONS	COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NRLM COMPLIANT SELF HELP GROUPS	RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water conservation and Water Harvesting Structures Water management shed Micro and Minor irrigation Renovation of traditional water bodies Afforestation Tree plantation Horticulture activities Land Development works in common lands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dug wells Farm Ponds Other water harvesting structures Horticulture, Sericulture, Plantation & Farm forestry Development of fallow or waste lands Meeting the expenditure on unskilled labour of the houses under State and Central Government housing schemes Shelters for Cattle, Goat, Poultry & Piggery. Fodder troughs Fish drying yard Storage facilities Promotion of fisheries in water bodies on public land Individual Household Latrines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common work sheds for livelihood activities of Self Help Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural sanitation related works Rural road connectivity to unconnected villages Construction of play fields Disaster Preparedness and Restoration of roads Public infrastructure including flood control and protection works Construction of buildings for Gram Panchayats Construction of Buildings for Women self-help groups' federations, Cyclone shelters Anganwadi centres Village shandies and crematoria at Village/Block level Construction of Food Grain Storage structures Production of building material required for construction works under the act as part of the estimate of such construction works. Maintenance of rural public assets created under the act

Every District Programme co-ordinator should ensure that out of the total fund allocation, 60% of the works have to be directly linked to agriculture and allied activities.

4.1.3. Special efforts taken up from 2011-12 to 2014-15

- From October 2011 onwards, more number of works in the same Village Panchayat have been permitted which resulted in manifold increase of the participation of workers.
- During 2012-13, as a measure to mitigate the drought situation, the number of days of employment provided to a family had been increased from 100 to 150 days. During the period from 21.02.2013 to 31.03.2013, nearly 12.73 lakhs households were provided employment beyond 100 days. These households received an additional wage of Rs.271 crores.
- With the help of Institute of Remote Sensing (IRS), Anna University,

resource map has been made available for all Districts. As a measure to restore the original capacity of the water bodies and to increase the water recharge, most of the works have been selected based on these satellite maps.

- Concerted efforts have been taken up by the Department to increase the average wage rate which includes revision of Rural Schedule of Rates based on detailed Time and Motion Study.
- Provision of land development activities on the lands belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Small and Marginal farmers etc. has been permitted from 2012-13 onwards.
- Afforestation activities have been taken up in the identified Government/ Common Lands, Village Panchayat lands and also on individual lands of the farmers so as to increase the green cover.
- Avenue plantation on both sides of Panchayat / Panchayat union roads and the roads laid under PMGSY/ NABARD and

also on Highways roads has been taken up.

- To enable the Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions to take up afforestation activities, raising of nurseries by the Panchayats/ Panchayat Unions themselves have been encouraged.
- As an initiative to empower rural people, the construction of Village Panchayat Service Centres and Block Panchayat Service Centres have been taken up. So far, construction of 8,634 Village Panchayat Service Centres and 270 Block Panchayat Service Centres have been taken up.

4.1.4. Innovative efforts taken up

4.1.4.1 Special works for Differently-Abled

- In order to implement the Provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 in MGNREGS, the Government of Tamil Nadu has ordered for special provisions for the differently-abled. The

Government order provides either Special Activities for the differently-abled workers or Special provisions for undertaking earthwork related activities.

- The Special provisions include, Waterman / Waterwoman at the worksite, Caretaker to look after children, assistance to the worksite supervisor in pre-marking, Clearing uprooted jungle from the site (Only Scrubs, Light Jungle), Watering (wetting) the area to be desilted (especially in summer), Compacting the earth deposited on the bund and Benching, leveling, Sectioning and sloping of the bund.
- The Differently-abled, who are able to carry out physical work can be utilized for earth work related activities like jungle clearance, desilting work, planting and refilling, watering etc. In terms of earthwork, the differently-abled workers are required to make 50% outturn only or work continuously for 4 hours only.

- These special efforts of Tamil Nadu towards the differently-abled have been appreciated by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and other states have been asked to replicate the example of Tamil Nadu.
- Based on the Tamil Nadu Model, wherein Special Rural Schedule of Rates have been fixed for differently-abled population with special categories of work, an amendment had been carried out in Schedule-I of MGNREG Act incorporating separate Schedule of Rates for the people with disabilities.

During the past 3 years (from 2012-13 to 2014-15), 102.12 lakh person days have been generated for which Rs.151.64 crore has been paid as wages.

4.1.4.2 Formation of Farm Ponds

Formation of 15,000 farm ponds have been taken up on the lands of farmers belonging to SC/ST, Small and Marginal farmers of 8 Delta Districts and all works have been completed. Based on the positive

response from the farmers, farm ponds have also been taken up in 23 non-delta districts and 32,875 farm ponds have been completed.

4.1.4.3. Convergence with Other Departments

To improve livelihood of rural households and to promote land development activities, Convergence of MGNREGS with Departments like Agriculture, Horticulture, TAWDEVA, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Forestry, Sericulture, Social Welfare, Highways, PWD and Civil Supplies have been undertaken. Massive Tree Plantation Programme in convergence with Forest department, Fish culture activities in convergence with Fisheries Department and construction of farm ponds in Government Silk Farms in convergence with Sericulture Department have been taken up.

4.1.5. Payment of Wages through Banks / e-FMS

Payment of wages to MGNREGS workers have been initiated through the electronic Fund Management System (e-FMS) during the year

2013-14 in order to undertake payments without any delay.

e-FMS is an automated system through which the wages will be credited to the individual workers' accounts from the State itself through the Nodal Banks.

e-FMS was first piloted in Kattankolathur Block of Kancheepuram District on 17.06.2013 for 4 Village Panchayats. This has been gradually rolled out in all the 12,524 Village Panchayats of 385 Blocks, and from 1.4.2014 onwards the wages of all the workers in the State are being credited only through e-FMS.

4.1.6. Aadhaar Seeding for all MGNREGS Workers' accounts

To enable the crediting of wages to MGNREGS workers' accounts using Aadhaar Payment Bridge System, the seeding of the Aadhaar numbers of all MGNREGS workers has been undertaken in NREGA website. The link with Aadhaar numbers is expected to sanitise the database of MGNREGS apart from allowing faster and more transparent transfer of wages to workers.

4.1.7. Achievements from 2011-12 to 2014-15

From 2011-12 to 2014-15, this Government was able to generate 136.94 crore persondays.

Tamil Nadu excelled in the performance of MGNREGS at National level during 2014-15 as detailed below:

Table 4.2.
Performance of Tamil Nadu at
National level during 2014-15

1.	Persondays Generation	:	With the generation of 26.79 crore persondays of employment, Tamil Nadu stands FIRST in the country.
2.	Expenditure on wages	:	With the expenditure of Rs.3272.12 crore on wages, Tamil Nadu stands FIRST in the country.
3.	Women Participation Rate	:	In percentage terms, Tamil Nadu occupies third Place in the country (85%) after Kerala & Puduchery. But in absolute terms, Tamil Nadu stands FIRST with 22.87 crore persondays generated by women as against 5.42 crore generated by Kerala.
4.	Provision of employment	:	With regard to the provision of employment of Households, Tamil Nadu Stands FIRST by providing employment to 56.57 lakh Households during 2014-15.

4.1.8. Awards for MGNREGS

a) National Award for the State

Awards for the Best performing States have been initiated for the first time under 3 categories during the year 2012-13 by Government of India. Out of these, **Tamil Nadu had bagged the Best Performing State Award in the category of Social Inclusion.** Further, Tamil Nadu is the only State to have been awarded under this category.

b) National Awards for Districts and Village Panchayats

Every year Government of India identifies and provide awards to best performing Districts and best performing Village Panchayats under MGNREGS at the National level. Awards received for Best performance during the years from 2011-12 to 2013-14 are as follows:

Table 4.3.
National Awards for Districts and Village Panchayats

Year	District Award	Village Panchayat Award
2011-12	1.Thanjavur 2.Tiruchirapalli	1. Kadambadi Village Panchayat, Sulur Panchayat Union, Coimbatore District
2012-13	1.The Nilgiris	1. Thanikkottagam Village Panchayat, Vedaranyam Panchayat Union, Nagapattinam District.
2013-14	1.Theni	1. F.Keelaiyur Village Panchayat, Manapparai Panchayat Union, Tiruchirapalli District.

For the year 2014-15, the proposal will be sent during October 2015 and after due scrutiny and field visit, District/Village will be selected and the award will be given on 2.2.2016.

4.1.9. Scheme implementation in 2015-16

Labour Budget has been approved for generating 37.29 crore persondays during 2015-16. In financial terms, Rs.6824.07 crore will be provided for wage expenditure.

It has been proposed to take up the following major activities during 2015-16

- Construction of 7.50 lakh Individual Household latrine (IHHL) in 4,231 Village Panchayats on a saturation mode including the IHHL in the IAY houses and Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green Houses (CMSPGHS).
- Compost-pits in 2,000 Village Panchayats as part of Solid Waste Management (SWM) and engaging MGNREGS workers in the SWM activities.
- Plantation activities on 1,000 hectares of land belonging to Small, Marginal and SC/ST farmers will be taken up.
- Convergence with IAY and CMSPGHS with the provision of 90 persondays per house for construction through workers under MGNREGS.

4.1.10. Social Audit

Social Audit is an audit by the people rather than by officials or external agencies. In addition to financial aspects, it looks at processes and social, equity & performance aspects. It is an Information, Education & Communication (IEC) tool, which enforces

transparency and accountability and promotes participation of stakeholders in all stages (planning, design, implementation and evaluation) of development initiatives. Recognizing its importance, MGNREGA mandated Social Audit by the Grama Sabha and the MGNREG Audit of Scheme Rules 2011 laid down the procedure for systematic conduct of Social Audit.

Establishment

1. Based on the MGNREG Audit of Scheme Rules 2011, the Government of Tamil Nadu issued orders in G.O.(Ms.)No.64, RD&PR Department dated 27.7.2012, for the formation of an independent Social Audit Unit and specified the necessary staff along with their roles & responsibilities.
2. One Director in the cadre of Additional Director, two Joint Directors and one Assistant Director from the Department of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj are working in the Social Audit Unit. All other staff have been recruited on contract basis.

3. The Government of Tamil Nadu, vide G.O.(Ms.)No.125, RD&PR Department dated 21.12.2012, approved the by-laws for the formation of 'Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu (SASTA)' and accordingly, the Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu was registered on 9th January 2013, under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975.

The 1st Governing Body Meeting of the Social Audit Society was convened on 19th February 2013, the 2nd Governing Body Meeting on 23rd July 2014 and the 3rd Governing Body Meeting on 27.07.2015 in which decisions with regard to Budgetary, policy & functional aspects were taken. The 3rd Governing Body has also approved a budget outlay of Rs. 49.76 crores for 2015-16.

Social Audit Process

To facilitate Social Audit in each Panchayat, 5 Village Panchayat Resource Persons (VPRPs) are selected from among the MGNREGS labourers who have completed a minimum of 25 days of work and passed 8th standard. After training, the Village Panchayat

Resource Persons facilitate Social Audit in a Panchayat other than the one they live in. The VPRPs verify the records at the Panchayat and Block levels, visit the worksites and verify field measurements with reference to the Measurement Book, visit individual job card holders at their houses, verify the NMR entries and compile the findings in a Grama Sabha. SASTA staffs are expected to facilitate this process in all Village Panchayats in Tamil Nadu once in 6 months.

Capacity Building

The Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu has provided exhaustive training on the importance, necessity and process of Social Audit to RD&PR Department officials, Panchayat Presidents and Panchayat Secretaries. 5 training programmes covering 36,828 stakeholders have been conducted during the year 2013-14 and during the year 2014-15, the elected representative of Rural local bodies were given training during October 2014 to December 2014 and a total no. of 81,107 were given training on Social Audit. Though it was initially proposed to conduct the

PRI representatives training through CSOs, the Governing body in its meeting on 23.07.2014 resolved to entrust these programmes to RIRDs.

SASTA has brought out 6 training manuals, 2 for Training of Trainers Programmes, 1 for Village Panchayat Presidents, 1 for Village Panchayat Secretaries, 1 for Village Panchayat Ward members & 1 for RD&PR Department officials. Also, pamphlets have been distributed to the stakeholders for awareness creation.

Model Social Audits

This Society has conducted 19 model Social Audits in 19 districts and the findings were communicated to the implementing authorities on completion of the Audits. These model Social Audits have led to increased awareness about the scheme & workers entitlements, improvements in work measurements and quality of assets created, systematic training for worksite supervisors, better maintenance of records both online and offline, fund provisions for providing worksite facilities at the Panchayat level, reduction of

delay in wage payments, hiring of additional engineering staff and sensitized the officials about the necessity of transparency and accountability.

Regular Social Audits

The regular social audits are being conducted from 24.1.2015 onwards. 1140 Social audits during 2014-15 and 4202 Social Audits during 2015-16, have been facilitated. An amount of Rs 19,905/- is fixed as the upper limit for conducting one Social Audit and the amount for arrangements for the conduct of social audit is released in advance to the District Resource Persons who reconcile the accounts with SASTA accounts wing on completion of every round of social audit. The District Resource Persons are provided with a vehicle to enable his mobility throughout the district.

Also, the number of Village Panchayat Resource Persons permitted @ 5 per social audit has been modified as under, depending on the expenditure incurred by the Panchayat.

Annual Expenditure (Rs.in lakhs)	No. of VPRPs permitted
Less than 10	3
10 to 25	4
25 to 50	5
50 to 75	6
75 to 100	7
More than 100	8

- ❖ SASTA staff in the cadre of DRPs, BRPs & SS have been enrolled under Employees' Provident Fund Scheme.
- ❖ Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu is also in the process of developing an exclusive website and the data from the district shall be fed online in future.
- ❖ SASTA has prepared the Annual calendar for conduct of Social Audits which are circulated to the districts in advance.

Impact of Social Audit:

The impact of Social Audit both among the beneficiaries and the implementors has been tremendous. The stakeholders have been sensitized on the importance of the Social Audit; the workers are aware of their rights & entitlements. 'Creation of awareness' among the villagers has been a successful endeavour on the part of Social Audit unit. Besides, maintenance of records at Village & Block levels has improved and the importance of Social Audit Grama Sabha has been realized by all.

4.2. Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)

Indira Awaas Yojana is a Centrally sponsored housing scheme which was part of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. From the year 1997-98 onwards, the Scheme became an independent scheme. The objective of the scheme is construction of free houses to members of the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, Freed Bonded Labourers in Rural areas and also to non SC/ST rural poor living below poverty line. The beneficiaries are selected

from the Below Poverty Line (BPL) list approved by the Grama Sabha. At least 60% of the total IAY allocation during a financial year shall be allocated for construction/ upgradation of dwelling units for SC/ST BPL rural households. A maximum of 40% allocation is for non- SC/ST BPL rural households. It has also been directed that 15% of the beneficiaries should be selected from amongst minorities. Further, 3% of the above categories should be allocated for physically and mentally challenged persons. The funding for the scheme was shared by the Centre and State in the ratio 75:25 till 2014-15. The plinth area of each house is 210 sq.ft.

Up to 2011-12, the unit cost of a house constructed under Indira Awaas Yojana was Rs.45,000. Out of this, the Central share was Rs.33,750 and the State's share was Rs.11,250. The State provided Rs.55,000 as State additionality for RCC roofing and thus the unit cost was Rs. 1 lakh in our State. Hence, during 2011-12 and 2012-13, the unit cost of IAY house in Tamil Nadu was Rs.1 lakh of which the State Government alone had

contributed Rs.66,250 (66.25%) and the Centre's Share was Rs. 33,750 (33.75%). During 2013-14, the Government of India had enhanced the unit cost of a house under Indira Awaas Yojana from Rs.45,000 to Rs.70,000, out of which Rs.52,500 is Central Share and Rs.17,500 is the State Share. Accordingly, State Government also increased the unit cost to Rs.1.20 lakh per house by providing Rs.50,000 for RCC Roofing as State additionality vide G.O.No.99, RD&PR (CGS1) dated 02.08.2013. Hence, for the year 2013-14, the unit cost of IAY house in Tamil Nadu is Rs.1.20 lakh of which the State Government alone contributes Rs.67,500 (56.25%) and the Centre's share is Rs. 52,500 (43.75%). During the financial year 2013-14, 88,436 houses were taken up and completed at a cost of Rs.1061.23 crore. For the year 2014-15, 53,429 houses were constructed under the Scheme at a cost of Rs.641.15 crore.

Further, in addition to regular Indira Awaas Yojana, Special Project of 34,380 houses were sanctioned by Government of India to Cuddalore (22,707 houses) and

Villupuram Districts (11,673 houses) with a total cost of Rs.412.56 crore. Similar to regular Indira Awaas Yojana houses the houses allotted under Indira Awaas Yojana Special Project are also constructed with an unit cost of Rs. 1.20 lakh and with plinth area of 210 sq.ft.

During the year 2015-16, 53,429 houses are being constructed at a cost of Rs. 641.15 crore. The sharing pattern of Central & State has been changed as 50:50 from the year 2015-16 onwards. The unit cost for each house is Rs. 70,000 of which Government of India share is Rs. 35,000 (50%) and Rs. 35,000 is State share (50%). In addition, the State Government contributes Rs. 50,000 as State additionality for RCC roofing. Hence the unit cost of an IAY house in Tamil Nadu is Rs. 1.20 lakh of which State Government's contribution is Rs. 85,000 (70.83%) and the Central share is Rs. 35,000 (29.17%). Still the Government of India unit cost is less than the unit cost approved by Tamil Nadu. Further, from the year 2015-16 onwards, payment to the beneficiaries will be credited to their bank

account through Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

Further, for 2015-16, orders have been issued in G.O(Ms) No. 59, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS-1) Department, dated 15.04.2015 to converge IAY with MGNREGS by providing 90 mandays for the value of Rs. 16,470 per house.

4.3. Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

The Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is a scheme with an aim to provide infrastructure facilities and bridging the gaps existing in the infrastructure facilities in Rural and Urban areas thereby enabling wholesome development. From the year 2011-12, Government of India has enhanced the allocation under MPLADS from Rs.2.00 crore to Rs.5.00 crore per annum per Member of Parliament. With respect to Tamil Nadu, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is the Nodal Department for implementation of the scheme. In Tamil Nadu MPLADS is being

implemented for the 39 Lok Sabha MPs and 18 Rajya Sabha MPs and 2 Nominated MPs. The District Collectors are authorised to give administrative sanction for the works proposed by the MPs. The guidelines contain an illustrative list of works that may be taken up and a 'negative list of works' which are not permitted under this scheme. All maintenance works of any type like desilting of ponds, rivers, tanks, canals, etc, are banned under MPLADS and cannot be taken up under the Scheme.

During the year 2014-15, the total allocation under this scheme was Rs.295 crore.

Table 4.4.
Works taken up during 2014 – 15 under MPLADS

Sl. No	Category of works	No.of works	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
1.	Buildings	869	69.71
2.	Roads	1141	86.15
3.	Water Supply	586	16.58
4.	Others	1431	79.82
	Total	4027	252.26

4.4. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

4.4.1. PMGSY Phase VIII (2012-13)

Under phase VIII, 1,295 roads for a length of 3,090.90 Km and 45 bridges have been sanctioned at a cost Rs.1,128.14 crore. This includes a state share of Rs.108.95 crore. The State Government has also allocated Rs.65.81 crore for 5 year routine maintenance of these works.

4.4.2. PMGSY -Phase IX (2014-15)

Under PMGSY-Phase IX, 401 roads for a total length of 956.03 km and 6 bridges have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.357.12 crore.

4.4.3. PMGSY-Phase IX (2014-15-Additional)

Detailed Project Reports have been prepared for 622 roads and 22 bridges for a length of 1,356 Km at a tentative cost of Rs.787.26 crore. The proposal has been sent to Government of India for approval.

4.5. Thirteenth Finance Commission Grant- Road Works

Government in G.O. Ms. No. 11 Highways and Minor Ports (HN1) Department dated: 23.01.2012 have issued orders apportioning the Grants-in-Aid for Maintenance of roads and bridges in the ratio of 2:1 between Highways & Minor Ports Department and Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department. The funds are used for maintenance and renewal of the existing black topped roads.

Table 4.5.

Details of road works taken up under 13th Finance Commission Grants since 2011-12

Year	No. of works	Length (in km)	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2011-12	923	1,778.48	143.00
2012-13	810	1,659.14	151.00
2013-14	752	1,535.68	159.00
2014-15	842	1,599.83	169.00
Total	3327	6,573.13	622.00

4.6. Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

'Total Sanitation Campaign' (TSC) launched by Government of India to cover all

households with sanitation facilities and promote hygiene behaviour was introduced in Cuddalore and Coimbatore districts, initially in 1999 and extended in phases to all other districts in Tamil Nadu by 2004. This Scheme was renamed as 'Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan' (NBA) to accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas to achieve the vision of Nirmal Bharat by 2022 with all Village Panchayats in the Country attaining open defecation free status. The unit cost was enhanced to Rs.10,000 inclusive of assistance through convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. The incentive provided under the scheme for construction of Individual Household Latrines (IHHL) for Below Poverty Line (BPL) Households was also extended to Above Poverty Line (APL) Households in 2012, but restricted to SCs/STs, Small and Marginal farmers, Landless Labourers with homestead, Differently Abled and Women Headed households.

The Government of India has launched Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) on 2nd October 2014, the successor programme of

NBA, to accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to achieve Swachh Bharat by 2019 as a fitting tribute to the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The Mission aims to strive towards its stated goals by removing the bottlenecks that were hindering the progress and by focusing on critical issues affecting outcomes.

4.6.1. Objectives of the schemes

The main objectives of the SBM(G) are as under:

- a) Bring about an improvement in the general quality of life in the rural areas, by promoting cleanliness, hygiene and eliminating open defecation.
- b) Accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas to achieve the vision of Swachh Bharat by 2nd October 2019.
- c) Motivate Communities and Panchayat Raj Institutions to adopt sustainable sanitation practices and facilities through awareness creation and health education.

- d) Encourage cost effective and appropriate technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable sanitation.
- e) Develop wherever required, Community managed sanitation systems focusing on scientific Solid & Liquid Waste Management systems for overall cleanliness in the rural areas.

4.6.2. Components of SBM (G)

Individual Household Latrine, Community Sanitary Complex and Solid and Liquid Waste Management are the important components of SBM (G). Institutional toilets like School toilets and Anganwadi toilets earlier implemented as part of TSC/NBA have now been transferred to the Ministries in-charge of Department of School Education and Department of Women and Child Development, respectively.

(a) Individual Household Latrines:

A duly completed household sanitary latrine shall comprise of a Toilet Unit including a substructure, a super structure and with

water facility. The Mission aims to ensure that all rural families have access to toilets.

The incentive amount provided under SBM(G) to BPL and identified APL households is Rs. 12,000 for construction of one unit of IHHL. This amount is fully provided under SBM (G) with Central share of Rs. 9,000 and State share of Rs. 3,000 without any beneficiary contribution. All new houses constructed with the Central and State assistance should invariably have suitable sanitation facility as an integral part.

During the year 2013-14 & 2014-15, 6,91,564 IHHLs have been constructed. During 2015-16, 7,71,781 IHHLs have been taken up under SBM(G) with an allocation of Rs.926.14 crore.

Construction of IHHL under MGNREGS

Individual Household Latrine works can be taken up under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) with the unit cost of Rs.12,000.

During 2015-16, 7.50 Lakh IHHLs have been taken up under MGNREGS.

(b) Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM):

SLWM is one of the components of the programme. The total assistance for SLWM projects under SBM(G) shall be worked out on the basis of total number of households in each Village Panchayat.

(c) Community Sanitary Complex

Community Sanitary Complexes comprising an appropriate number of toilet seats, bathing cubicles, washing platforms, wash basins etc, can be set up in a place in the village acceptable and accessible to all. The maximum support per-unit prescribed for a Community Sanitary Complex is Rs. 2 lakh. Sharing pattern amongst Central Government, State Government and the Community is in the ratio of 60:30:10.

4.7. Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) has been launched by Government of India on 11.10.2014. The guidelines of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) have been made available in the web-site www.saanjhi.gov.in

Saansad Adharsh Gram Yojana aims to trigger processes which lead to holistic development of the identified Village Panchayats in terms of standard of living and quality of life of all sections of the population by converging various schemes of different departments. The Village Panchayat would be the basic unit for 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 may be chosen. The Member of Parliament would be free to identify a suitable Village Panchayat for being developed as model Village Panchayat (Adarsh

Gram), other than his/her own 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 a Village Panchayat from the rural area of a District 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 case of urban constituencies, (where there are no Village Panchayats), the MP will identify a Village Panchayat from a nearby rural constituency. The MP will identify one Village Panchayat to be taken up immediately, two others to be taken up a little later. Primarily, the goal is to develop 3 model Village Panchayats by March 2019, of which one would be achieved by 2016. Thereafter, 5 such model Village Panchayats(one per year) will be selected and developed by 2024.

The Government have constituted the State Level Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government with members vide G.O.(Ms)

No.23, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (CGS.II) Department, dt.13.2.2015.

The development of Village Panchayats identified under SAGY is intended to take place through convergence and implementation of existing Government schemes and programmes without allocating additional funds or starting new infra structure or construction schemes. "The resources should be used in a convergent and integrated manner to generate maximum synergy. In respect of Central Sector / Centrally Sponsored Schemes / Programmes, the Ministries / Departments concerned will take appropriate action to make suitable changes in the guidelines to enable priority to be given to the Adarsh Gram".

A number of State schemes are also required to be converged with this scheme for maximising outcomes.

4.8. National Bio-gas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP)

This is a scheme which aims at effective use of organic waste and converting it into energy. It is a 100 % centrally sponsored

scheme envisaging a subsidy of Rs.5,500 for 1 m³ and Rs.9,000 for 2-6 m³ for General categories. For SC/ST categories and Hill areas subsidy of Rs.7,000 for 1 m³ and Rs.11,000 for 2-6 m³ for the installation of biogas plants. Additional subsidy for toilet linked Bio-Gas Plant is Rs. 1,200.

For the year 2014-15, the physical target for installation of biogas plants is 500 and 342 bio gas plants have been completed.

4.9. Socio Economic and Caste Census

The Government of India, co-ordinated by Ministry of Rural Development has initiated Socio-Economic and Caste Census 2011 (SECC 2011) in the Country. The Socio Economic Survey for identification of BPL families was done both in rural and urban areas. The information about caste and religion of the person has also been collected during this Census and this information, unlike other information of this Census, has not been made public by Government of India and will be used by Registrar General of India for statistical purpose for socio-economic profiling of various castes in India.

Financial and technical support is provided by Ministry of Rural Development and SECC, 2011 was conducted by the State Administration under the guidance of Ministry of Rural Development. It has a paperless exercise in which data was captured on a hand held device (Tablet PC) supplied by Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) Bangalore. Directorate of Census Operations has supported the SECC 2011 with Abridged House list (AHL) and National Population Register (NPR) which have been preloaded in the handheld device. The Enumerator appointed by the State Government and the Data-Entry Operator trained by the BEL had conducted the actual survey in the field. District Collector is the Principal SECC-2011 Officer (PSO) for the entire district and the survey has been done under his/her overall supervision.

Information collected at the level of the individual and household includes Occupation, Education, Disability, Religion, SC/ST status, Name of Caste/Tribe, Employment, Income and source of income, Assets, Housing, Consumer durables / non-Durables and Land. The Socio-

Economic and Caste Census also captures the housing status, employment characteristics, educational status, disability among the household members, landholding pattern, etc.

The Government of India allocated Rs.89.82 crore for the conduct of SECC in Tamil Nadu. The entire process of enumeration, supervisory verification and correction of the database have been completed. The Draft List was published, the Claims and Objections processes were completed and the Final List was published by all the District Collectors. The Government of India is processing the norms for identification of Below Poverty Line families based on the Socio-Economic data.

5. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

5. Human Resource Development

Human Resource is the most indispensable part of any department. Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department believes and considers its employees as its most important assets and accords highest priority for their welfare and believes that improving the working conditions of the employees and ensuring the entitlements due for them lead to efficiency and smooth functioning of the Department.

5.1. Gazetted Establishment

A total number of 1,492 officers are employed in Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department in Gazetted Establishment.

Table No 5.1.

Category wise Staff Strength

Government Employees – Gazetted Establishment

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
1.	Additional Director of Rural Development	21	Rs.37400-67000+G.P.8800
2.	Joint Director	88	Rs.15600-39100+G.P.7600
3.	Assistant Director	407	Rs.15600-39100+G.P.5400
4.	Block Development Officer	976	Rs.9300-34800+G.P.5100+ Special Allowance Rs.1000
	Total	1492	

The Government have issued orders to fill up the existing vacancies in various cadres like Additional Director, Joint Director, Assistant Director and Block Development Officers. The Government have ensured that the regular entitlements including promotions of the staff are granted to them in time.

- There are 17 Additional Directors working in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and 4 Additional Directors working in other Departments
- There are 74 Joint Directors working in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and 14 Joint Directors working in other Departments.
- There are 362 Assistant Directors working in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and 2 Assistant Directors working in other Departments.

The Government have created 5 additional posts of Assistant Director(Audit) and 5 additional posts of Assistant Director

(Pts) in the districts of Viluppuram, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore, Kancheepuram and Cuddalore where the number of Village Panchayats is more than 500 and accordingly Assistant Director cadre Officers were posted in the newly created posts and are functioning in the posts.

5.2. Engineering Establishment

A total of 5,314 technical officers are employed in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department in the Engineering Establishment.

Table No 5.2.

Category Wise Technical Officers Strength

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
1.	Superintending Engineer	1	Rs.37400-67000+G.P. 8700
2.	Executive Engineers	47	Rs.15600-39100+G.P. 6600
3.	Assistant Executive Engineers	203	Rs.15600-39100+G.P. 5400
4.	Assistant Engineers	956	Rs.9300-34800+G.P. 5100
5.	Senior Draughting Officers	34	Rs.9300-34800+G.P. 5100
6.	Junior Engineers	320	Rs.9300-34800+G.P. 4400
7.	Overseers/JDOs	2604	Rs.9300-34800+G.P. 4200
8.	Road Inspector	1149	Rs.5200-20200+G.P. 2400
Total		5314	

- The post of Superintending Engineer was hitherto filled up on deputation basis from TWAD and other Departments. For the first time, one Executive Engineer in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department has been promoted and posted as Superintending Engineer.
- There are 39 Executive Engineers working in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and 7 Executive Engineers working in other Departments.
- There are 183 Assistant Executive Engineers working in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and 18 Assistant Executive Engineers working in other Departments.
- There are 794 Assistant Engineers, 174 Junior Engineers, 34 Senior Draughting Officers, 1,775 overseers / Junior Draughting Officers working in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. Further, Government in G.O.(Ms) No. 49 RD & PR (E3) Dept. dt. 31.3.2015 have issued order merging

Road Inspector Grade-II and Road Inspectors Grade-I as Road Inspector and at present 673 Road Inspectors are working in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

- Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission has allotted 40 Assistant Engineers during 2014-15 for appointment as Assistant Engineer (Direct Recruitment) in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and they have been posted in various Districts.
- Government have issued orders for absorption of 10 Project Engineers of Building Centres as Assistant Engineer (RD) into the Engineering Wing. Accordingly, 10 Project Engineers of Building Centres have been posted as Assistant Engineers in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department in various Districts.

5.3. 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 like Special Programme Implementation Department, TWAD Board, State Planning Commission, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency, Mono Rail Project, Entrepreneurship Development Institute, Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve Trust, Social Welfare and Noon Meals Programme Department, Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing & Development Corporation Limited (TAHDCO), Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Science University (TANUVAS), Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers Limited (Aavin), Chennai Metropolitan Development Agency (CMDA), Directorate of Town Panchayat, Tamil Nadu Health System Project (TNHSP) National Rural Road Development Agency etc. This gives more exposure and

experience to the Officers of this Department to discharge their duties more efficiently.

5.4. Non-Gazetted Establishment

5.4.1 Details of posts

The sanctioned strength and the details of scale of pay drawn by various categories of staff under Non Gazetted Establishment is tabulated below:

Table No.5.3.
Category of Government employees

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Scale of Pay
a) Government employees			
i)	Dy. Block Development Officer	3911	Rs.9300-34800 + GP Rs.4800+ PP Rs.500
ii)	Assistant	5563	Rs.5200-20200 + GP Rs.2800
iii)	Junior Assistant	3137	Rs.5200-20200 + GP Rs.2400
iv)	Steno Typist	182	Rs.5200-20200 + GP Rs.2800
v)	Typist	1042	Rs.5200-20200 + GP Rs.2400
vi)	Driver	899	Rs.5200-20200 + GP Rs.2400
vii)	Record Clerk	137	Rs.4800-10000+GP Rs.1400
viii)	Office Assistant	716	Rs.4800-10000+ GP Rs.1300
ix)	Night Watchman	128	Rs.4800-10000+ GP Rs.1300
x)	Masalji	14	Rs.4800-10000+ GP Rs.1300

Category of Local body Employees			
b) Panchayat Union employees			
i)	Driver	770	Rs.5200-20200 + GP Rs.2400
ii)	Record Clerk	387	Rs.4800-10000+GP Rs.1400
iii)	Office Assistant	1521	Rs.4800-10000+GP Rs.1300
iv)	Night Watchman	377	Rs.4800-10000+ GP Rs.1300
v)	Masalji	9	Rs.4800-10000+GP Rs.1300
c) Village Panchayat employees			
i)	Panchayat Secretary	12,524	Rs.2500-5000 GP Rs.500
ii)	Sanitary Worker/Sweeper	25,155	Rs.1300-3000 GP Rs.300 (3 Years completed) Rs.2000 consolidated Pay + DA Rs.40/- per half year (Others)
iii)	OHT Operator	35,548	Rs.2000 consolidated Pay + DA Rs.40/- per half year

5.5. Details of vacancies filled up

A total number of 4375 vacancies were filled by direct recruitment through TNPSC from 2011-12 to 2014-15 as follows:

- Assistants - 1,540
- Junior Assistants - 1,782
- Typists / Steno Typists - 1,053

Promotions were given to the Staff of various cadres in time. 700 Deputy Block Development Officers were promoted as Block Development Officers, 770 Assistants were promoted as

Deputy Block Development Officers and 1230 Typists / Junior Assistants were promoted as Assistants. 406 persons were appointed as Junior Assistants on compassionate grounds. 105 persons worked as Record Clerk/Office Assistant/Night Watchman were promoted as Junior Assistants under 10% reservation and 483 Panchayat Secretaries were promoted as Junior Assistants under 20% reservation from 2011-12 to 2014-15.

5.6. Benefits to Panchayat Secretaries and other employees of Village Panchayat

- In G.O (Ms) No.148, RD&PR (E5) Department dated 27.11.2014, the maternity leave for female Panchayat Secretaries has been enhanced to 180 days.
- Monthly salary of the Village Panchayat Secretaries, Sanitary Workers, OHT operators and other staff are paid through ECS every month from June 2014 onwards and this is being monitored by a online software created for this purpose.

- Details of all staff working in Village Panchayats were entered in tnrd.gov.in website and it is being validated.
- The special pension for village Panchayat Secretaries at the time of their retirement has been enhanced from Rs.700/- to Rs. 1000/- vide G.O. No 42, RD&PR (E.5) Department dated 24.3.2015.

5.7. Capacity Building

Training is the backbone of any scheme. The success of any Government Programme, Scheme or Project depends **to a great extent on the effective Capacity Building and then its efficient implementation.** Training goes a long way in developing skill, knowledge, competencies etc. to improve capability, capacity, productivity, performance and effectiveness of all the participants.

Capacity Building of Elected Representatives of rural local bodies, Officers and Functionaries of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is an important tool to enable them to perform their duties and

responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner. The State Institute of Rural Development at the State level and 5 Regional Institutes of Rural Development at Sathiya Vijaya Nagaram in Tiruvannamalai district, Krishnagiri in Krishnagiri district, Pattukottai, in Thanjavur district, Bhavanisagar in Erode district and T.Kallupatti in Madurai district are entrusted with the task of imparting training.

Table No.5.4.
Basic details of RIRDs

Sl. No.	Name of the Institution	Name of the District	Name of Districts Covered	Year of Establishment	Area Of the Institute (in acres)
1.	S.V.Nagaram	Tiruvannamalai	Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Tiruvallur, Cuddalore, Tiruvannamalai	1956	34.59
2.	Krishnagiri Dam	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Salem, Dharmapuri, Vellore	1958	55.05
3.	Pattukottai	Thanjavur	Tanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Tiruchirapalli, Pudukottai, Sivagangai	1954	20.92
4.	Bhavanisagar	Erode	Erode, Coimbatore, Dindigul, The Nilgiris, Karur, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Tiruppur	1972	71.89
5.	T. Kallupatti	Madurai	Madurai, Theni, Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari	1948	49.00

5.7.1. Participants for Regional Institutes of Rural Development

RIRDs impart training to Officials and Functionaries of the Rural Development and

Panchayat Raj Department, Village Panchayat Presidents, Self Help Group members and Sectoral Department Officials etc.

5.7.2. Training Programmes

The training programmes of the Regional Institutes of Rural Development cover various topics viz., Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, Panchayat Administration, Accounts and audit, Schemes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Rural Sanitation, Solid Waste Management and Non-Conventional Energy, Stress Management, Computer Training, RTI etc. Emphasis is also given on technical aspects of construction of Roads, Bridges etc. Each RIRD has got capacity to train minimum of 5,000 persons to maximum of 25,000 during the year.

5.7.3. Establishment

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

5.7.4. Fund

The Government of Tamil Nadu provides funds to the five Regional Institutes of Rural Development for the salary and non-salary expenditure. The Government of India provides Rs.20 lakhs every year to each Regional Institute of Rural Development as recurring grant for the training programmes.

Table No.5.5.

Training Achievements in 5 RIRDs in the year 2014-15

Sl. No.	Name of the Training	Batches			Participants		
		Target	Achievement	%	Target	Achievement	%
1.	Regular Training	290	300	103	8700	8289	95
2.	Computer Training	230	209	91	5750	4677	81
3.	Social Audit	490	455	93	102262	85737	84
4.	National Rural Livelihood Mission	17	17	100	517	558	108
5.	Indira Awaas Yojana	9	8	89	300	259	86
6.	Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Shasakthikaran Abiyan	26	15	58	1228	428	35
7.	Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan Technical Training For Overseer	1	1	100	30	32	107
8.	SC/ST President Training	36	34	94	2074	1825	88
9.	Overhead Tank Operators Training	18	18	100	602	567	94
	TOTAL	1,117	1,057	95	1,21,463	1,02,372	84

During 2015-16, RIRDs have proposed to give training to 25,000 persons at a cost of Rs.605.54 lakhs.

5.7.5. State Institute of Rural Development

SIRD was established in the year 1961 and was registered as a Society under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975 in the year 1990. The institution started functioning in its own campus at Maraimalainagar, Kancheepuram District since 1991 with the total extent area of the Institute is 25 acres.

5.7.6. Objectives of SIRD

The primary objective of SIRD is to facilitate various target group of participants to update their knowledge base, upgrade their personal skills and change their attitudes so that they can implement the various schemes of the department effectively and efficiently.

5.7.7. Lecturers / Faculty members and Administrative staff

The Government of Tamil Nadu has sanctioned the posts of Lecturers / Faculty members and administrative staff for the Institute to organize training programmes for Panchayat Raj Institutions and Rural Development functionaries of the Institute. Further, the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India have permitted SIRD to engage 5 core Faculties on contract basis in the disciplines of Management, Livelihood, Information Technology (System Analyst), Cooperation and Extension Education.

5.7.8. Resources for Training

SIRD receives financial support for conducting training programmes from the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad and the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India. SIRD receives grants-in-aid to meet the salary and non-salary expenditure from recurring grant to be shared

by central and state government on 50:50 basis. To augment the infrastructure facilities, 100% grants are provided by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India for construction of buildings for hostels, training halls and teaching equipments every year on need basis.

5.7.9. Training Participants

The training is conducted to the Elected Representatives of 3 tiers of PRIs, Officers & other functionaries of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Members of SHGs, PLFs, Community Resource Persons, Village Volunteers, Resource Persons, Trainers, NGOs and others.

5.7.10. Training Methodology

The Institute adopts different training methodologies which includes lecture cum discussion method', games, role plays, ice-breaking sessions, Participatory learning techniques, panel discussion, case study presentation, experience sharing, exposure visits, chart preparation, Group discussions etc.

5.7.11. Conduct of Training Programmes

The Institute conducts residential programmes in its campus at Maraimalai Nagar and off-campus programmes at District, Block and Village Panchayat levels through District Administration and RIRDs.

5.7.12. Resource Persons

Apart from its own faculty, SIRD engages Resource Persons from National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad, National Informatics Centre, Chennai, Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University, Chennai, Anna Institute of Management, Chennai. SIRD also utilizes the services of best Village Panchayat Presidents, serving and retired Officials, District Level Master Trainers, Community Resource Persons from Mahalir Thittam (Mathi) and Pudhu Vaazhvu Project etc. for training programmes as resource persons.

5.7.13. Infrastructure

Infrastructures facilities such as air-conditioned Conference Halls, Library with reading rooms, Computer Lab with Internet

facility, Hostel to accommodate participants with boarding facility, automatic genset and audio visual equipments for conducting training programmes are available in SIRD.

Table No. 5.6.

Training Performance in 2014-15

Sl No	Scheme	Target		Participants details						
		No. of Batches	No. of persons to be trained	No. of Batches	PRIs	Officials	Functionaries	SHGs	BNVs/Others	Total No. of persons trained
1	RGSY ICT Skill	52	2111	52	869	517	252			1638
2	RTRC	27	1080	25				784		784
3	RGSY	25	600	104	5177	104				5281
4	BRGF	255	10120	842	47586	100		59	80	47825
5	Lab to Land (Village Volunteer Programme)	400	20000	328					16474	16474
6	CBDRM	1676	125685	304	564	902	150		25913	27529
7	RGPSA	2107	86167	1028	8789	650	40074			49513
8	MGNREG S-NBA	5	200	12		609	73			682
9	PRI	31	3100	3			96		0	96
10	IWDP	2	80	2	72					72
11	DoPT	1	50	2		129				129
12	SGSY	125	5000	27		288		1691		1979
13	NIRD Off Campus			3		80				80
14	SAGY	10	300	7	25	150		90		265
15	TCF	1	40	2		70				70
16	Gender Budgeting	2	100	3		32		90		122
Total		4719	255223	2744	63082	3631	40645	2714	42467	152539

- Training on Information Communication Technology Skills (Computer application)

imparted to Village Panchayat Presidents and Block Panchayat Chairpersons and District Panchayat Chairpersons, Village Panchayat Secretaries under RGSY. 2,111 persons were trained on computer application.

- Training on Over Head Tank Maintenance for 38,715 OHT operators were trained under RGPSA.
- The construction of new hostel building at a cost of Rs. 1436.13 lakh and a multifunctional Hall at a cost of Rs. 814.31 lakh in the SIRD campus has been entrusted to DRDA Kancheepuram. The works are under progress.
- During the year 2014-15, the Institute imparted training to 1,52,539 participants. Elected Representatives of PRIs- 63,082, Functionaries PRI & Officials of RD & PR Department - 44,276 and Village Volunteers, CBDRM Stakeholders , SHG and PLF Members - 45,181

5.7.15. Training programmes for 2015-16

Training will be conducted on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management, Health and Nutrition, Water supply and sanitation, Environment and Disaster Management, Leadership and communication skills, Panchayat Raj administration, Implementation of RD Schemes, Women Village Panchayat Presidents and SC/ST Village Panchayat Presidents for 1,36,129 number of trainees in 2,879 batches in 2015-16 training programmes.

5.7.16. Community Based Disaster Management

CBDRM (Community Based Disaster Risk Management) is one of the sub-components of CDRRP (Coastal Disaster Risk Reduction Project) being implemented by Government of Tamil Nadu with World Bank assistance. SIRD has been nominated as the Project Implementing Agency. The objective of the Project is to reduce community vulnerabilities and strengthen their ability to proactively cope with disasters and natural hazards through preparation of Village Disaster Risk Reduction

Plan. The primary stakeholders are the vulnerable communities living in the coastal villages, and the secondary stakeholders are the rural Local Bodies, Community Based Organizations and NGOs in and around the area, Resource Persons, functionaries of the Government Departments.

The project will be implemented in 564 coastal villages of 12 coastal Districts of Tamilnadu. The total cost of the Project is Rs.15.00 crore for the period from June 2013 to July 2018. During 2014-15 under CBDRM 304 programmes have been completed and 27529 persons trained.

State Level Workshops	: 8 programmes
Orientation Programmes	: 5 programmes
ToTs	: 8 programmes
District / Block / Village level programmes	: 282
Exposure visit	: 1

During 2015-16, SIRD has proposed to train 1,36,129 persons at a cost of Rs.1,016.39 lakh.

6.PUDHU VAAZHVU PROJECT

6. PUDHU VAAZHVU PROJECT 2015-16

“Tamil Nadu will be a model State exhibiting highly inclusive growth pattern – it will be a poverty free State with opportunities for gainful and productive employment for all those who seek it and will provide care for the disadvantaged, vulnerable and destitute in the State.”

**-Honourable Chief Minister
Vision Tamil Nadu 2023 Document**

6.1. Introduction

Pudhu Vaazhvu Project was launched in Tamil Nadu on 15th November '2005 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. This pioneering poverty eradication initiative of Government of Tamil Nadu is being implemented with financial assistance from the World Bank.

The Project adopts a multi-dimensional poverty mitigation approach that focuses on building institutions of the poor and very poor, enhancing their capacity, leveraging resources through commercial banks, improving livelihoods and decreasing the risks faced by

poor households by extending social safety nets and entitlements to ensure that they do not revert back to poverty. These activities are undertaken through Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) such as Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC), Self Help Group (SHG), Panchayat Level Federation (PLF), Common Livelihood Group (CLG), Common Livelihood Federation (CLF) and Mavatta Kattral Maiyam (MaKaMai).

Pudhu Vaazhvu Project aims at reducing poverty by enabling the poor households to access adequate quantum of credit, helping them to secure gainful self-employment, skilled wage employment with monthly income and opening up livelihood opportunities with complete involvement of the community.

6.2. Project Area

Launched in 2005 in 15 districts, the Project now covers a total of 4,174 village Panchayats in 120 most backward blocks spread across 26 districts, at a total outlay of Rs.1,667 crores. The project would benefit 9.8 lakh households. The Project will carry on its activities till September '2016.

6.3. Project Implementation setup

6.3.1. State level unit

The Project is a registered society, headed by the Secretary to Government Tamil Nadu, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. There is a State Project Management Unit (SPMU) with the Project Director as the head, assisted by Additional Project Directors and a multi-disciplinary team of 19 Specialists.

6.3.2. District level unit

The District Project Management Unit (DPMU) is also a Society functioning under the Chairmanship of the District Collector. The executive unit at district level is headed by the District Project Manager supported by a team of 7 Assistant Project Managers. This unit takes care of the Project implementation and monitoring at district level.

6.3.3. Cluster level unit

A cluster of 10-15 Village Panchayats is formed to provide hand holding support to the grass root level Community Based

Organizations. It functions with a team leader and 4 facilitators.

6.3.4. Village Level unit

The Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC) is the base organisation that caters to the needs of the target population. It is composed of members chosen from the target community. Most of the Project funds meant for the Village flow through this organisation to the beneficiaries. It functions in democratic and transparent way with the facilitation provided by the Project Facilitation Team.

6.4. Project Objectives

The key objective of the Project is to empower the poorest of the poor and vulnerable households in village environment through strong community organisations, enhancing their skills and capacities, providing necessary financial assistance to improve livelihoods, securing entitlements and other benefits through convergence.

6.5. Project Strategy

The Project follows the community driven development approach under which communities identify their own needs, plan interventions, implement and monitor them by adhering to non-negotiable principles. To achieve this, the project adopts the following strategies:

- Social inclusion through Community based organizations
- Financial inclusion & vulnerability eradication
- Youth skill training
- Livelihood promotion

6.6 Initial Activities

6.6.1. IEC Activities

The Project undertakes intensive and need based IEC campaign to disseminate information about the objectives of the Project, the non-negotiable principles and the activities of the Project. It is done through street plays, propaganda ratham, pamphlets and wall paintings.

6.6.2. Participatory Identification of Poor (PIP)

The target beneficiaries of the Project, the poor, vulnerable and differently abled are identified by the community themselves through Participatory Identification of the Poor (PIP) which involves transect walk, social mapping and wealth ranking. PIP list is approved by Grama Sabha, which is transparent and has gained acceptance among all quarters.

6.7. Community Based Organizations

6.7.1. Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC)

VPRC is an autonomous organization formed with the representation of the target people. It focuses on all the needs of the target people and it gets Rs.6 lakhs to Rs.12 lakhs based on population. The fund is released in three instalments based on reaching the milestones, to be spent on capacity building (40%), special assistance (40%) and youth skill development (20%).

Table 6.1.**VPRC Fund Expenditure**

Phase	No. of Village Panchayats	No. of VPRCs	VPRC Fund Expenditure			
			2014-15		Achievement up to 31.7.2015	
			Physical	Financial achievement (Rs. in crores)	Physical	Financial expenditure (Rs. in crores)
I (16 districts)	2,509	2,736	-	-	2,736	282.61
II (10 districts)	1,665	1,729	750	51.43	1,729	217.75
Total	4,174	4,465	750	51.43	4,465	500.36

6.7.2. Social Audit Committee

This is a 5-7 member body doing watchdog function ensuring adherence to non-negotiable principles like collective decision making, priority to marginalized, accountability and transparency. 4,465 SACs have been formed in the project area. This committee is responsible for monitoring all CBOs.

6.7.3. Self Help Groups

SHGs are formed from the left out target poor persons with 12-20 members. For differently abled, a group can be formed even with 5 members. Focused attention is paid to build their capacity and access to credit.

Table 6.2.**Details of New SHG formation**

Details	Phase I Districts			Phase II Districts		
	Target	Achievement	%	Target	Achievement	%
Formation of women SHGs	15,046	15,046	100	7,815	7,815	100
Formation of differently abled SHGs	7,996	7,996	100	5,290	5,290	100
Release of seed money	23,042	23,042	100	13,105	13,105	100

6.7.4. Panchayat Level Federation (PLF)

PLF is an affiliation of Self Help Groups and acts as a financial intermediary that takes care of both financial and non-financial needs of the members at reasonable rates of interest both for consumption and livelihood activities. It gets Rs.12 lakhs to 18 lakhs as Amudha Surabhi Fund (ASF) from the project in two installments based on milestones. It has reduced the dependence of the poorest of the poor on money lenders for their immediate cash needs, which is noteworthy.

Table 6.3.**PLF Fund Expenditure**

Phase	No. of Village Panchayats	No. of PLFs	Amudha Surabhi Fund Release			
			2014-15		Achievement up to 31.7.2015	
			Physical	Financial expenditure (Rs. in crores)	Physical	Financial expenditure (Rs. in crores)
I (16 districts)	2,509	2,735	1,114	41.11	2,735	343.88
II (10 districts)	1,665	1,729	409	17.88	1319	111.45
Total	4,174	4,464	1,523	58.99	4,054	455.33

6.7.5. Common Livelihood Group (CLG)

CLG is formed at village level, with those engaged in similar livelihood activity for getting better support services like common infrastructure development, procurement, marketing, capacity building etc. The project provides a fund of Rs. 1 lakh to each CLG.

Table 6.4.**CLG Fund Expenditure**

Phase	No. of Village Panchayats	No. of CLGs	CLG Fund Expenditure			
			2014-15		Achievement up to 31.7.2015	
			Physical	Financial expenditure (Rs. in crores)	Physical	Financial expenditure (Rs. in crores)
I (16 districts)	2509	3992	540	3.99	3608	32.29
II (10 districts)	1665	1665	134	1.34	861	5.62
Total	4174	5657	674	5.33	4469	37.91

6.7.6. Makkal Kattral Maiyam (MaKaMai)

MaKaMai is promoted to provide handholding support and sustainability to grass root level community based organizations. MaKaMai, registered as a society will be a higher level organisation to monitor and to ensure the continuity of the good work done by the project even after its exit. The project has released Rs.7 crores as Institutional Development Fund so far.

6.8. Financial Inclusion & Vulnerability Reduction**6.8.1. Financial Inclusion**

SHGs are facilitated to secure loan from banks so that they can upscale their on-lending to their members. These loans are utilized by

SHGs members for their livelihood & consumption. PLFs get bulk loans from the banks and make them available for the SHGs as additional loans.

Table 6.5.
SHGs Credit Linkage

Details	2014-15		Achievement up to 31.7.2015	
	Physical	Financial achievement (Rs. in crores)	Physical	Financial achievement (Rs. in crores)
SHG linkage	41,791	756.00	1,04,179	3,160.99
PLF bulk loan	39	9.25	466	113.03

6.8.2. Vulnerability Reduction

The project has been able to reach out to the marginalized like the differently abled, vulnerable and tribals to bring them into the main stream of the society. There is an allocation of 40% of the VPRC funds for the differently abled and vulnerable towards their livelihood improvement and health care.

Table 6.6.
Assistance to Differently abled

Details	2014-15		Achievement up to 31.7.2015	
	Physical	Financial achievement (Rs.in Crores)	Physical	Financial achievement (Rs.in Crores)
Assistance	26,678	17.88	1,38,567	97.78
Aid & Appliances	3,916	2.59	35,105	11.12
Maintenance grant	921	0.95	16,331	1.63
Pension	1,478	0.14	47,942	4.79
Credit Linkage to Special SHGs	1,456	3.08	10,122	57.86

Table 6.7.
Assistance to Vulnerable

Details	Current year		Achievement up to 31.7.2015	
	Physical	Financial achievement (Rs.in Crores)	Physical	Financial achievement (Rs.in Crores)
Financial Assistance	38,541	19.40	1,39,969	88.13
Pension	7,316	0.73	1,10,015	110.01

6.9. Youth skill training

This is a flagship component under PVP for harnessing the potential of the youth by providing skill training based on the requirements of job market. Unemployed and

underemployed youth in the age group of 18 to 35 years are identified in each Panchayat. Based on their interests and educational qualifications, opportunities are provided for equipping themselves through skill training. In addition, the industrial establishments participate in the job fairs organized by the project for recruiting their manpower needs. Those selected get direct employment after training in those establishments.

Table 6.8.

Employment after Youth Skill Training

Trade	Trained	Employed	% employed
Industrial Mechanism	29,297	26,229	90
Medical Application	10,802	9,740	90
Cell Phone Production	5,895	5,295	90
Driving (LMV / HMV)	1,37,778	1,20,838	88
Construction Skill	13,336	11,677	88
Garment Making	64,274	55,061	86
Leather Production	5,854	5,021	86
Computer skill	54,248	42,093	78
Other training	38,967	37,660	97
Total	260,452	3,13,614	87

6.10. Common Livelihood Federation (CLF)

CLGs of similar activities are federated as CLF at Cluster / Block level and formed as registered societies. A CLF is formed to take

up value addition and address higher level marketing linkage for sustainability through economic measures. Fund support from the project is up to 75% of the cost, 5% contribution coming from the members and 20% from the bank linkage. 15 CLFs have received fund support to the tune of Rs 3.56 crores from the Project, so far.

6.11. Pudhu Vaazhvu Mental Health Programme (PVMHP)

This is a pilot program for addressing the mental health issues implemented with Japan Policy for Human Resource Development (JPHRD) grant. It is being implemented in 609 VPRCs of 578 village Panchayats across 15 blocks for awareness raising on positive mental health practices and health seeking behavior through community based approach. Focused interventions for continued intake of medicine, follow up of treatment are being made. After recovery they are inducted into Self Help Group network. They also benefit from the livelihood interventions for facilitating a meaningful and positive transformation of the quality of their lives.

Table 6.9.**Assistance to Mentally ill persons**

Details	Number	Percentage
Mentally ill Persons identified	2,597	-
Counselling support	2,532	97
Medical support	2,269	87
Livelihood support	1,861	71
Hospitalised	348	-
Amount spent	Rs. 9.95 crores	

6.12. Other Initiatives**6.12.1. Health Cards**

The project has taken up an initiative to track the health and well being of poor women, by means of a health card issued to all the target households. The card will have recorded information on height, weight, blood group, blood pressure, sugar and haemoglobin levels through a quarterly health check-up programme. Local Village Health Nurse (VHN) provides necessary service in recording the health indicators and assisting the well being of the women.

Table 6.10.**Details of Health Cards**

No. of Village Panchayats	No. of Women	No. of Women Screened	No. of Women given card	No. of Women referred for treatment
4174	16,07,406	16,07,406	16,07,406	2,22,983

6.12.2. Self Defence Training

The Project undertook a special initiative on Self Defence training to VPRC & PLF women members through Makkal Kattral Maiyam in preparing the women to face the challenges of harassment with confidence.

Table 6.11.**Self Defence Training for women**

No. of Village Panchayats	No. of Women (VPRC & PLF members)	No. of Women Trained	Amount spent (Rs. in crores)
4,174	71,826	71,286	3.00

6.12.3. Youth Ambassadors

In order to involve the Youth in rural areas in constructive activities and make them imbibe a sense of service attitude, youth ambassadors are promoted. They give training

to rural youth on elimination of evil effects of HIV/AIDS, Alcoholism, Drug Addiction, Smoking and Sexual abuse.

**Table 6.12.
Youth Ambassadors**

Details	Target		Achievement		%
	Physical	Financial target (Rs.in crores)	Physical	Financial target (Rs.in crores)	
ToT training	4,170	0.18	4,170	0.18	100
Youth	1,50,000	2.03	1,66,960	2.03	100

6.12.4. Village Knowledge Center (VKC)

VPRCs are strengthened to function as Village Knowledge Centers and will be fully equipped with broad band connection, web camera, educational CDs and books for competitive exams. These centers would provide information on market prices, tele medicine, job information and career guidance to youth and also provide educational inputs to students. There are 4,174 VKCs functioning in the project area; they also serve as e-governance centers and generate income.

**Table 6.13.
Village Knowledge Centers**

No. of Village Panchayats	No. of VKCs	No. of VKCs With broadband
4,174	4,174	4,174

6.13. Financial Performance

The expenditure incurred under the Project from inception till 31.07.2015 is Rs.1572.24 crores and the expenditure incurred in 2014-15 is Rs.263.83 crores. During 2015-16, Rs.255.04 crores is allocated.

6.14. Impact of the Project

Preliminary results of the Impact Evaluation survey on target people done by an external agency indicate:

- TNPVP has reduced the high cost debt burden by 29%
- Percentage of skilled workers has gone up to 32% in TNPVP areas.
- Asset index is higher by 22.42 units, which implies higher level of asset holding in project villages.
- Percentage of individuals working in MGNREGA is 15% higher than non-project villages.

- Percentage of women who attended Gram Sabha was 65% higher.
- Percentage of households where the women took decisions regarding the choice of their livelihood activity was 21% higher in Project area.

Tamil Nadu Pudhu Vazahvu Project is a pioneer livelihood programme brought through the earnest efforts of Honourable Tamil Nadu Chief Minister AMMA. **The World Bank President Dr.Jim Yong Kim during his visit to the Project on 22.07.2014 also expressed the same sentiment on the Project endeavour, when he wrote the following:**

“For my Friends in Tamil Nadu of the Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project, with great admiration for your outstanding work”

**- Dr. Jim Yong Kim,
World Bank President**

7. TAMILNADU CORPORATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN

7. Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women

"In order to create gender equality, women should be economically independent and self confident".

- Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW) was established in the year 1983 by the Government of Tamil Nadu, with the objective of social and economic empowerment of women. TNCDW is implementing two major schemes.

- i. **Mahalir Thittam**, a State Government funded scheme.
- ii. **Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission**, a scheme funded by Government of India (GoI) and Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) in the ratio of 75:25.

7.1. Mahalir Thittam

TNCDW implemented the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) assisted Women Development Project by forming Self Help Groups (SHGs) among

women who were involved in agriculture based activities during 1991-92 in Dharmapuri District and later extended to Salem, South Arcot (Cuddalore and Villupuram), Madurai and Ramanathapuram Districts in a phased manner upto 1994. Based on the success of this Women Development Project, the State Government launched "Mahalir Thittam", a State Funded programme to all Districts. Since then, TNCDW became the focal point for women development by spearheading the SHG movement in the State. TNCDW is playing a pivotal role in organizing women into SHGs, building their capacity, networking them through federations, providing bank linkage for taking up income generation activities for the Socio, Economic empowerment of Women.

7.1.1. Self Help Groups

A group of 12 to 20 poor women in the age group of 18-60 years who are residing in the same area is organized as a "Self Help Group" (SHG). The objective of SHG is to promote savings and internal lending among its members as per the group's decision.

7.1.2. Key features of SHGs

- Periodical meetings, regular attendance, systematic training, continuous saving, internal lending, prompt repayment, maintenance of book of accounts are the salient features of the SHGs.
- SHG movement has helped the poor to break away from the clutches of exploitative money lenders.
- Each group has one Animator and two Representatives selected among themselves.
- The Animator is responsible for providing leadership to the group.
- The Representatives assist the Animator and maintain the books of accounts of the group.

Table 7.1.

Details of Self Help Groups

1.	No. of SHGs	6.08 lakh
	No. of SHG Members	92.09 lakh
2.	No. of Rural SHGs	4.23 lakh
	No. of Members	63.76 lakh
3.	No. of Urban SHGs	1.84 lakh
	No. of Members	28.33 lakh
4.	Total Savings of SHGs	Rs. 5,991 crore
5.	No. of SHGs given Revolving Fund / Seed Money	5.14 lakh
6.	Total credit availed by SHGs	Rs.31,873.07 Crore

7.2. Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM)

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing a special Scheme called Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission from the year 2012-13 onwards. This special Scheme provides for the creation of sustainable livelihood opportunities for the poor, living

below the poverty line in rural areas. The objective of TNSRLM is to build strong and vibrant institutional platforms of the poor in the rural areas which enable them to increase their household incomes through livelihood enhancements and access to financial and other services. The Mission activities are funded by Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 75:25.

7.2.1. The salient features of TNSRLM

- Identification and mobilization of the left out poor into the SHG network.
- Establishing and strengthening community institutions of the rural poor.
- Social empowerment of the rural poor through capacity building.
- Promotion of livelihoods of the poor including the vulnerable and differently-abled.
- Improving the quality of the SHG products and providing opportunities to market their products.

- Providing financial assistance to SHGs for on-lending to their members for taking up economic activities.
- Employment linked skill training for rural youth.
- Convergence with the Government departments and NGOs to leverage their financial and non-financial services and utilizing them in an effective manner.
- Equipping the rural poor to access their basic rights and make them protect their environment and sanitation.

7.2.2. Project Area

In Tamil Nadu, out of 32 Districts, TNSRLM is being implemented in 31 Districts except Chennai. Out of 385 blocks, 120 blocks are covered under the Pudhu Vaazhvu Project and the remaining 265 blocks are covered under TNSRLM in three phases, which include 16 Blocks in 4 Districts covered under World Bank assisted NRLP.

**Table 7.2.
Project Wise Distribution of Blocks**

	Project	District	Blocks	Clusters	Panchayats
1	TNPVP	26	120	302	4,174
2	TNSRLM	31	249	694	7,892
3	NRLP	4	16	48	458
	Total	31	385	1,044	12,524

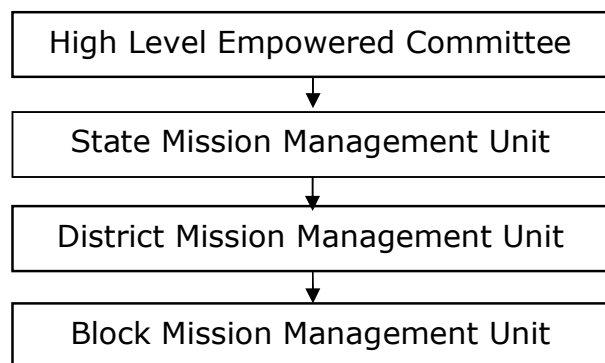
Phase I –Undertaken in 15 districts covering 60 blocks and 2,323 Village Panchayats from 2012-13. Activities in 60 blocks are continued as per the Annual Action Plan approved by GoI.

Phase II - In respect of 110 blocks and 3,458 Village Panchayats in which TNSRLM is being implemented in 27 Districts from 2013-14, the activities will be undertaken based on the financial allocation from GoI.

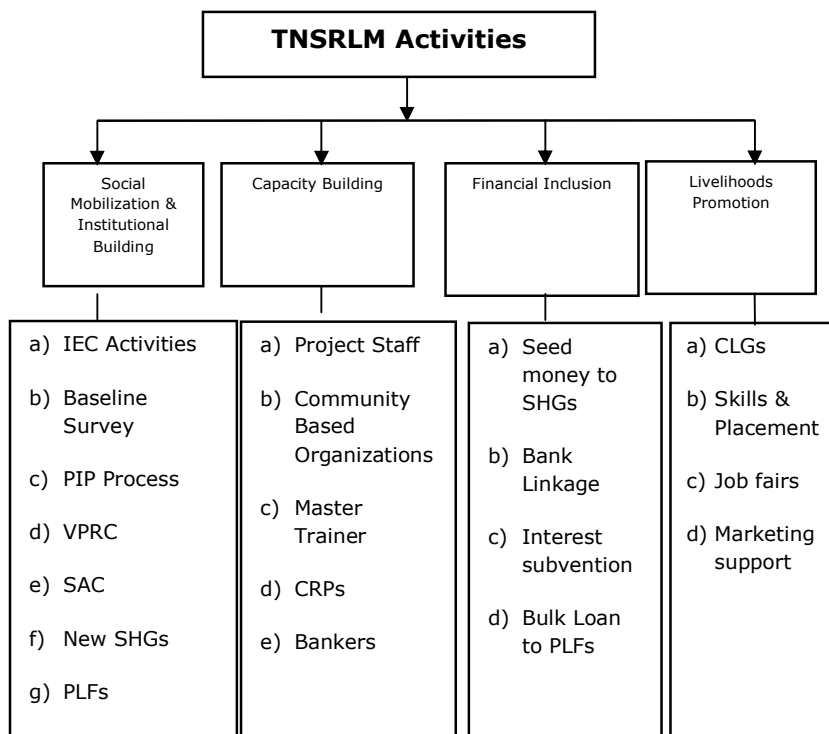
Phase III - In respect of 95 blocks and 2,488 Village Panchayats in which TNSRLM is being implemented in 21 Districts from 2014-15, the activities upto completion of PIP process will be taken up. On provision of funds by GoI further activities will be undertaken.

7.2.3. Implementation Structure

The State Government has nominated TNCDW as the State level Mission Management Unit (SMMU). The implementation of TNSRLM activities are being undertaken through a dedicated staff structure at State, District, Block and Cluster levels. Further, a High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) under the Chairmanship of Honourable Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development, Law, Courts and Prisons has been constituted to provide the policy level guidance, review and monitor the implementation of the TNSRLM activities. The Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department is the Mission Director and the Managing Director, TNCDW is the Chief Executive Officer of the Mission. The overall implementation structure of TNSRLM is as indicated below:



7.2.4. Major Activities under TNSRLM



IEC- Information Education and Communication

PIP - Participatory Identification of Poor

VPRC – Village Poverty Reduction Committee

SAC – Social Audit Committee

PLF – Panchayat Level Federation

CRPs – Community Resource Persons

CLGs – Common Livelihoods Groups

7.3. Social Mobilization and Institutional Building

7.3.1. Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities

TNSRLM has created awareness among the public by conducting rallies, street plays, folk art and radham. Further, wall paintings, posters, stickers, handbills and information boards are also used to create awareness in all the Villages.

7.3.2. Baseline survey

Baseline Survey has been conducted by Community Professionals of Tamil Nadu Pudhu Vaazhvu Project (TNPVP) in all the Village

Panchayats to identify active, defunct and disintegrated SHGs. The survey was completed in 8,269 Village Panchayats and the identified defunct SHGs are being revived through capacity building.

7.3.3. Participatory Identification of Poor (PIP)

PIP is a household exercise conducted in all habitations by the community to identify very Poor, Poor, Differently-abled, Vulnerable, Tribal and other marginalized communities in all the Village Panchayats. In order to ensure that no poor family is left out, TNSRLM adopts the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tool and techniques such as Transect walk, Social Mapping, Wealth Ranking and Triangulation. The PIP list is displayed in prominent places in all the habitations to receive claims and objections if any and the final PIP list is approved by the Grama Sabha.

PIP process will be completed in Phase-III Blocks during the year 2015-16.

Table 7.3.
Status of PIP Process

Block-Phase	No. of Panchayats		No. of House holds	No. of Poor individuals	No. of Very poor individuals	Total Target population	No. of Differently abled (out of Col.7)	No. of Vulnerable (out of Col.7)
	Total	PIP Completed						
(In Lakh)								
I	2	3	4	5	6	7 (5+6)	8	9
I	2,323	2,323	19.85	3.58	2.50	6.08	0.51	0.91
II	3,458	3,458	30.55	5.38	3.00	8.28	0.87	1.25
III	2,485	2,476	21.00	3.67	2.15	5.85	0.45	0.72
Total	8,266	8,257	75.40	12.63	7.65	20.21	1.83	2.88

7.3.4. Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC)

Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC) is an inclusive and autonomous body of the target poor in the Mission. The VPRC will take full responsibility of implementing the Project at the village level with full accountability to the Grama Sabha. VPRC functions as the most important link between the Project and the Village Community. There will be 10 to 20 members in each VPRC

selected by Grama Sabha with the following composition:

1. SHG women from target poor representing each habitation.
2. Village Panchayat President, ex-officio President of VPRC.
3. Representative of Differently abled & Youth.
4. At least 30% members from SC/ST.
5. At least 50% women members.

The formation of VPRC has been completed in all the Village Panchayats of Phase-I and Phase-II Blocks.

Table 7.4.
Status of VPRCs

Block-Phase	No of Pts	General VPRCs	Tribal VPRCs	Total VPRCs formed
I	2,323	2,322	66	2,388
II	3,458	3,457	81	3,538
Total	5,781	5,779	147	5,926

7.3.5. Social Audit Committee (SAC)

SAC has been constituted in all the Village Panchayats where VPRCs have been formed. The SAC comprises of 5 to 7 members from community, approved by Grama Sabha to monitor the TNSRLM activities for compliance of non- negotiable principles and report to the Grama Sabha.

7.3.6. Formation of new Self Help Groups (SHGs)

10,013 new SHGs have been formed during the year 2014-15 from the left out poor. The Animators, Representatives and members of SHGs were imparted training on functioning of group and maintenance of books of accounts. These SHGs will be graded and provided with financial assistance for taking up economic activities. During 2015-16 also action will be taken for the formation of new SHGs.

7.3.7. Panchayat Level Federation-(PLF)

Panchayat Level Federations have been promoted as the Community Based Organizations to strengthen and lead the SHGs by providing various financial and other

services. The PLFs are registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975. The PLFs provide a common platform for the SHGs for their economic empowerment.

7.4. Capacity Building

7.4.1. Training to Project Staff

TNSRLM organizes and conducts trainings for all the project staff at State, District, Block and Cluster levels as follows:

- **Induction Training I** – Organized Village Immersion training for 7 days, Institutional building training for 16 days and field placement for 5 days
- **Induction Training II** – After the Induction Training- I, all the Project staff are given the Induction Training – II for 12 days.
- **Thematic Training** - After Induction Training I & II, thematic training is given to all the project staff for 6 days.
- **Other Trainings**
TNSRLM also conducts orientation training on TNSRLM to the elected

members of PRIs, NGOs, Office Bearers of PLFs and line department officials in the districts.

7.4.2. Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission imparts the following training programmes for the community based organizations like VPRCs, SHGs and PLFs

- Community Operation Manual (COM) training and Social Audit Committee (SAC) training to VPRC and SAC members respectively.
- Animator & Representative trainings and SHG member trainings to the newly formed SHGs.
- Training on Governance and Finance Management to the Office Bearers of PLFs and Executive Committee members training to Panchayat Level Federations (PLFs).
- Office bearers training to Habitation Level Forums (HLFs), Sub Committees of PLFs and SAC Members.

7.4.3. Developing of Master Trainers

State and District Level Master Trainers are developed on various thematic areas who in turn will develop the Training of Trainers (ToTs) at District, Block and Village levels.

7.4.4. Community Resource Persons

TNSRLM focuses on development of Community Resources Persons (CRP) as follows:

- To train and monitor the SHGs, **Community SHG Trainers (CSTs)** are developed @ one for 10 to 15 SHGs.
- To maintain the youth data base at village level and monitor skill training programmes, **Community Professionals - Job (CP-Jobs)** are made available @ one per Village Panchayat.
- To impart training to the members of VPRC on Community Operation Manuals (COM) **CRPs are trained as TOTs.**
- To maintain the data base of differently-abled, need assessment and liaison with line departments, **Community Differently-abled Facilitators (CDFs)**

are identified and trained @ one Per village Panchayat.

- **Community Bank Coordinators (CBCs)** @ 4 per cluster from among the SHGs are selected to liaise with the bankers and the SHGs and trained on loan repayment, loan facilitation, insurance and financial literacy.

7.4.5. Bankers

TNSRLM focuses on financial inclusion at various levels. A pool of retired bankers has been developed as Resource Persons to train all the Bank Branch Managers across the State on SHG Bank linkage and NRLM concept.

7.5. Financial Inclusion

7.5.1. Seed money to SHGs

The left out poor identified through PIP process are organized into new SHGs. After completion of three months of functioning, they are graded against predefined parameters and those groups which pass the grading will be provided with seed money to augment their corpus. A sum of Rs.15,000 per SHG is provided under the scheme and the same is

utilised for internal lending among their members.

7.5.2. Bank linkage to SHGs

The best practices of SHGs in our State are continuous saving, proper maintenance of books of accounts, internal lending among members and prompt repayment. The SHGs become eligible for credit from banks after passing the credit rating. The bank linkage to SHGs enables the women to attain economic empowerment by increasing the investment in livelihoods activities, obtain more income and thereby reducing the debt burden. Tamil Nadu is the pioneer State under the SHG Bank Linkage Programme in India. During the year 2014-15, a target of Rs.6,000 crore was fixed and the same has been achieved. In the last four years alone, Rs.20,270 crore has been provided as credit to SHGs.

7.5.3. Interest Subvention to SHGs

Under the Interest Subvention scheme, the interest charged by the banks over and above 7% subjected to a maximum of 5.5% on

SHG loans upto Rs.3 Lakh will be reimbursed to the SHGs by TNSRLM. This scheme is directly implemented by GOI in 4 districts viz., Dharmapuri, Vellore, Villupuram and Tiruvannamalai Districts. In the remaining 27 districts, the scheme is being implemented by TNSRLM for all credits upto Rs.3,00,000 per SHG by Public Sector Commercial Banks, RRBs and Co-operative Banks availed by women SHGs. So far, 73,158 SHGs have been provided Interest subvention of Rs.21.93 crore. Efforts have been taken by Government of Tamil Nadu to share the data by Private Banks for the benefit of SHGs to avail interest subsidy.

7.5.4. Bulk Loan to Panchayat Level Federations

The Panchayat Level Federations obtain bulk loan from banks and lend to their member SHGs for consumption and economic purposes. The credits obtained by SHGs from banks are inadequate to cater to their needs. Hence, the PLF bulk loan is used as an additional source of finance to SHGs. During last four years

Rs.110.03 crore has been provided as Bulk Loan to 500 PLFs.

7.6. Livelihoods promotion

7.6.1. Common Livelihoods Group (CLG)

SHG members who are involved in the same economic activity in farm and Non-farm sectors in an area are aggregated and formed as a Common Livelihoods Group (CLG). A corpus fund is provided to each CLG which is utilised for common infrastructure, facilitating common procurement of raw materials, marketing tie-ups and capacity building to the members on Governance and Entrepreneurship. This corpus fund is released to CLGs based on the designed parameters. This enables them to improve productivity and increase their income. During the years 2013-14 and 2014-15, 695 CLGs have been formed on farm and non- farm activities.

7.6.2. Skill and Placement Programme

i) Placement linked Skill Training

Placement linked skill training is imparted to the rural youth under Deen Dayal

Uphadhyaya Grameen Koushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY). Skill is an integral component of National Rural Livelihoods Mission, that essentially caters to the placement linked skill development of the poor rural youth in the age group of 15 to 35. Out of the total allocation for NRLM, 25% is earmarked for skills and placement. Broad areas of Skill trainings are Health, IT services, Textile, Apparel, Driving, Automobile, Hospitality Management, Welding, Construction, etc.

The salient features of the DDU-GKY

- Approved training institutions with Permanent Registration Numbers (PRN) are only selected to impart training.
- 75% of the trained youth to be given placement.
- Duration of the course varies from 3 to 12 months depending on the type of training.
- Training module includes soft skills and **On the job training** (OJT).

- Post placement support is given to the trainees to ensure their retention in the job.
- From the year 2012-13 to 2014-15, training has been commenced for 40,255 youth and so far 27,752 were completed of which 16,512 youth were given placement. Remaining 12,503 are undergoing training.

Table 7.5.
District wise target and achievement
under Skilling Rural youth

S. No	District	Target	Completed	On going	Placed
1	Ariyalur	285	212	73	149
2	Coimbatore	2245	795	1450	447
3	Cuddalore	1560	1410	150	671
4	Dharmapuri	325	175	150	150
5	Dindigul	1180	1180	0	816
6	Erode	1745	1450	295	780
7	Kancheepuram	1914	1009	905	605
8	Kanniyakumari	620	360	260	146
9	Karur	510	510	0	271
10	Krishnagiri	960	678	282	330
11	Madurai	660	600	60	106

12	Nagapattinam	907	757	150	458
13	Nilgiris	345	325	20	77
14	Namakkal	1156	816	340	463
15	Perambalur	492	432	60	215
16	Pudukkottai	1410	620	790	320
17	Ramnad	1200	630	570	483
18	Salem	1055	762	293	268
19	Sivagangai	840	560	280	444
20	Tiruvannamalai	1910	910	1000	823
21	Thanjavur	1533	353	1180	100
22	Theni	613	613	0	428
23	Tirunelveli	980	720	260	405
24	Tiruppur	2850	1920	930	1448
25	Thiruvavur	745	420	325	149
26	Thiruvallur	1720	880	840	307
27	Trichy	1060	745	315	342
28	Thoothukudi	150	150	0	16
29	Vellore	2340	2010	330	1105
30	Villupuram	1775	945	830	495
31	Virudhunagar	1570	1205	365	755
32	PVP	3600	3600	0	2940
Total		40,255	27,752	12,503	16,512

Table 7.6.
Sector wise target and achievement
under Skill and Placement
2013-14 and 2014-15

S.No.	Sector	Total Trained	Total Placed
1	Industries	3203	2511
2	Information Technology	7963	5185
3	Garments & Apparel	6320	3272
4	Hospitality	2174	1587
5	Construction	251	359
6	Automobile	3938	2666
7	Beauty & Culture	379	387
8	Fire & Safety	8	7
9	Health	913	75
10	Retail	2078	413
11	Driving	525	50
Total		27,752	16,512

ii) Direct placement through Job Mela

This is a unique initiative of the State Government to link both the employer and the job seeker under one umbrella. According to the qualification and skills, youth are placed in the Job Fair.

Preliminary activities undertaken in the programme:

- Awareness creation among the rural youth about the date, time and venue of the Job Fairs.
- Inviting the reputed companies/ industries for participation in the Job Fairs.
- Systematic registration, counseling and recruitment of youth by the institutions.

During the year 2014-15, on the eve of the 67th birth anniversary of Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu AMMA, it was targetted to provide employment to 67,000 youth. In TNSRLM and TNPVP operated areas 272 Job fairs were organized in this regard, in which 2,525 Companies have participated. Surpassing the target, 83,686 Youth (52,511 from TNSRLM and 31,175 from TNPVP) were placed in these private companies for a salary ranging from Rs.5,000 to Rs.12,000.

Table 7.7.
Job Mela for the year 2014-15

S. No	District	TNSRLM		PVP		Total	
		No.of Job Mela Conducted	Candidates placed	No.of Job Mela Conducted	Candidates placed	No.of Job Mela Conducted	Candidates Placed
1	Ariyalur	2	698	4	1463	6	2161
2	Coimbatore	5	2352	7	1283	12	3635
3	Cuddalore	4	458	6	960	10	1418
4	Dharmapuri	2	896	6	1526	8	2422
5	Dindigul	3	648	5	975	8	1623
6	Erode	5	1593		0	5	1593
7	Kancheepuram	5	2970	7	1986	12	4956
8	Kanniyakumari	4	712		0	4	712
9	Karur	2	723	7	2189	9	2912
10	Krishnagiri	3	1592	6	1954	9	3546
11	Madurai	5	1798	6	889	11	2687
12	Nagapattinam	3	923	6	1316	9	2239
13	Nilgiris	1	615		0	1	615
14	Namakkal	4	1628	6	1378	10	3006
15	Perambalur	2	865	6	1256	8	2121
16	Pudukkottai	4	517	6	1179	10	1696
17	Ramnad	3	968	5	874	8	1842
18	Salem	7	3114	6	915	13	4029
19	Sivagangai	3	1143	6	1363	9	2506
20	Tiruvannamalai	7	3836	6	1326	13	5162
21	Thanjavur	7	291		0	7	291
22	Theni	2	2034	5	1029	7	3063
23	Tirunelveli	5	2212	6	743	11	2955
24	Tiruppur	4	1122		0	4	1122
25	Thiruvarur	3	717	6	907	9	1624
26	Thiruvallur	5	1167	7	1260	12	2427
27	Trichy	2	3670		0	2	3670
28	Thoothukudi	3	3604	5	783	8	4387
29	Vellore	6	2390	8	987	14	3377
30	Villupuram	6	3046	7	1464	13	4510
31	Virudhunagar	3	4209	7	1170	10	5379
Total		120	52,511	152	31,175	272	83,686

Table 7.8.
Sector wise Placement given through Job Fairs

S. No.	Name of the Trade	No. of Candidates Placement		
		TNSRLM	PVP	Total
1	Cell Phone Assembling		187	187
2	I.T.Sector	6498	3457	9955
3	Construction	5108	890	5998
4	Garments	8401	8778	17179
5	Industries	5530	2588	8118
6	Driving	8691	12316	21007
7	Medical Applications	688	253	941
8	Beautician	127	558	685
9	Poultry	47	206	253
10	Catering	1658	148	1806
11	Retail Management	6475	197	6672
12	Service Sector	6638		6638
13	Others (General Trades)	2650	1597	4247
Total		52,511	31,175	83,686

7.6.3. Marketing Support

i) Exhibition

To popularize and promote the sales of the SHG products, TNCDW organizes 3 State level exhibitions every year on the eve of

Pongal, Chithirai, and Navarathiri occasions as "Mahalir Mela". Products like Handicrafts, Artificial Jewellery, Jute products, leather goods, millet products etc., are being sold in these exhibitions. During the year 2014-15, 466 SHGs have participated in these exhibitions and products to the value of Rs.131.39 lakh were sold out.

At National level, SHGs have participated in the India International Trade Fair at Delhi and also in the Regional SARAS exhibitions conducted in other State Head Quarters. During the year 2014-15, 70 SHGs have participated in 11 SARAS Exhibitions at national level and Rs.80.89 lakh worth of SHG products were sold.

ii) Marketing of SHG products through State/ District Supply & Marketing Society

The State Supply and Marketing Society (SSMS) has been formed and registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975. This society has been established with the objective of promoting the sale of SHG products at National, State and

District Levels. All District Supply and Marketing Societies have been linked to the SSMS. In addition to organizing special sales exhibition at State, District and Block level, these societies encourage the SHGs to improve their sales in the competitive market by value addition and attractive packaging.

iii) Mathi KIOSK

"Mathi" Kiosk and Sales outlets are being established in urban areas, particularly in tourist places, trade centers and in places where people gather in large numbers such as airports, railway stations, bus stands, temples, Government Offices / institutions for promoting sale of Self Help Groups products. The handmade and organic products of the SHGs like toys, organic foods, herbal products, handicrafts, stylish jute products etc., are having a greater market in urban areas. The Mathi Kiosk gives an opportunity to the SHG members to popularize and sell their products among the urban customers.

7.7. Status of activities under TNSRLM during 2014 - 15

- TNSRLM activity has been extended to 2,488 Village Panchayats of 95 blocks.
- Baseline survey and IEC activities were completed in 265 blocks.
- Participatory Identification of Poor was completed in 8,257 Village Panchayats.
- 3,538 Village Poverty Reduction Committees and Social Audit Committees were formed in 3,458 Village Panchayats of 110 blocks.
- Village Panchayat Initiation fund of Rs.9.64 crore was released to 2,488 Village Panchayats at the rate of Rs.25,000 to Rs.45,000 per Panchayat, based on the population.
- Skill training commenced for 21,085 youth of which 8,582 completed and rest in progress.
- 1,131 Community Resources Persons were trained as Trainers on Community Operation Manual in TNSRLM.

- 3,42,440 VPRC members were given Community Operation Manual training in 4 spells.
- 272 Job Melas were conducted and 83,686 youth were given placement.
- Orientation trainings were given to 3,491 Panchayat representatives and other Govt. officials in TNSRLM at a cost of Rs.11.13 lakh.
- 20,946 Panchayat Presidents and Panchayat Level Federation members were taken for exposure visits at a cost of Rs.74.70 lakh.
- In order to develop the Entrepreneurial skill training among the SHG members, 4,000 women have been trained in various trades under EDT programme.
- Under the concept of "One Village One Product", so far 695 Common Livelihoods Groups (CLGs) are established.

7.8. Other Programmes of State Government

7.8.1. Cultural Competitions

To bring out the hidden talents, unity and team spirit among the members of SHGs and PLFs, cultural competitions along with sports are conducted at Block and District levels. During 2014-15, cultural competitions were held at a cost of Rs.160 lakh. These cultural competitions will be continued in 2015-16 also.

7.8.2. College Bazaars

College Bazaars are conducted in Colleges and Universities during functions and important events with an aim to popularize the SHG products among the Youth. During 2014-15, 153 College Bazaars were conducted wherein 3,420 SHGs participated and sold products to the value of Rs.230.20 lakh.

7.8.3. Plastic waste Recycling Units.

As an initiative, PLFs are motivated to carry out environmental protection oriented economic activities. 30 plastic waste recycling

units have been established in the State at a cost of Rs.4 lakh each and managed by PLFs. During the year 2014-15, 5 more plastic waste recycling units were established. Plastic wastes are collected and shredded in these units that are used to lay bitumen roads. Environment Protection and Renewable Energy Development Fund is utilized for this activity. So far, 576.59 tonnes of plastic waste have been shredded worth of Rs.169.14 lakh and 998 km road has been laid.

7.9. Tamil Nadu State Non Governmental organizations and Volunteers Resource Centre (TNVRC)

Tamil Nadu State Non-governmental Organizations and volunteers Resource Centre (TNVRC) is a society registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 and functioning under TNCDW. Major activity of TNVRC is preparation of training manuals, guide books, resource materials, training the project staff, CBOs and resource persons at State level and organizes and conducts training programmes sponsored by Government Departments like Health, Rural Development

and Panchayat Raj etc. TNVRC also functions as the State Skill and Placement Cell of TNSRLM.

7.10. MUTRAM – Monthly Magazine

'Mutram' is a monthly magazine published with the support of Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women. This magazine shares and disseminates useful information and success stories. It also covers various topics like, Health, Sanitation, Rural Development, Poverty Reduction, Women Empowerment and social issues such as Female Infanticide, Dowry and Violence. Mutram magazine plays a vital role in sharing lot of useful information among rural women. Around 12 lakh SHG women from 61,000 SHGs are benefited by subscribing to 'Mutram' magazine.

7.11. Status of activities under Mahalir Thittam in 2014 - 15

- Rs.6,171.74 crore bank credit linkage was provided to SHGs.
- Rs.24.38 crore was released to 84 PLFs as bulk loan.

- 153 college bazaars were conducted in 32 districts, where 3,420 SHGs participated and the total sales were to the tune of Rs.230.20 lakh.
- 5 plastic waste recycling units in 5 districts at the cost of Rs.4 lakh per unit was formed and managed by SHGs.
- 3 State level exhibitions were conducted during 2014-15. 466 SHG members participated and sold the SHG products to the tune of Rs.131.39 lakh. 70 SHG members participated in 11 National level Saras exhibitions and sold SHG products worth of Rs.80.89 lakh.
- 1,515 Community Bank coordinators have been selected. Out of which 466 have been trained through IIBF (Indian Institute of Banking & Finance).

**8. INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
(IFAD) ASSISTED POST
TSUNAMI SUSTAINABLE
LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME**

**8. INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
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SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD
PROGRAMME**

Thousands of human lives were lost and coastal resources severely damaged, when the unprecedented, deadly Tsunami struck the coastal area of Tamil Nadu in 2004. Swift measures for relief and rehabilitation of the affected population undertaken by Government of Tamil Nadu, were acclaimed by the international community. Though these measures ameliorated the shock and restored infrastructure, the Government envisaged sustainable livelihood of the coastal population, paving the way for International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) assisted Post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods programme (PTSLP).

Restoration and improvement of sustainable livelihoods of the coastal population in the severely affected 6 districts is the prime target. The objectives include, capacity building of the community for better management of

coastal resources and development of viable micro enterprises.

Programme highlights :

Project Districts	:	Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Villupuam, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam & Kanyakumari
No. of Panchayats & Blocks covered	:	109 Panchayats in 24 Blocks
Population covered	:	1.55 lakh household with about 6 lakh population
Cost	:	Rs.283.69 crore
Duration	:	9 years

Target Group :

Coastal dwellers (in villages directly or indirectly affected by the Tsunami) ie.

- i) Coastal fishers using beach launched craft;
- ii) Small-scale women fish vendors and processors;

- iii) Wage labour employed in the fisheries and agriculture sectors;
- iv) Small and marginal farmers ;
- v) Marginalized occupation groups (e.g seashell workers)
- vi) Very poor and poor identified through Participatory Rural Appraisal exercise.

There are five components in the programme namely, i) Coastal Area Resource Management; ii) Rural Finance and Risk Transfer Instruments; iii) Employment Generation and Skill Training; Community based Sea Safety and Disaster Management and v) Programme Management.

I. Coastal Area Resource Management

a. Community Support :

At the grass root level, the programme is supported by the Cluster Resource Centres. A Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) is a group of 5 – 7 coastal panchayats. 28 Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs) have been established in the project area in partnership with Facilitating Non-Governmental Organizations (FNGOs). A

Cluster Coordinator, a Facilitator and two Business Promoters have been placed in each of the Cluster Resource Centres. Infrastructure facilities like computer, telephone have been provided to them. To raise the awareness level of the community, they are taken for exposure visits to places of effective governance, good practices and micro enterprises.

b. Community Resource Planning :

A Baseline survey was undertaken by the project before commencing the activities. Micro plans based on Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) involving the community have been proposed. These micro plans reflect the livelihood options besides environmental and gender concerns. Various infrastructures which are linked to livelihoods have been provided. The Panchayat Level Federations (PLFs) have been provided with offices in the project area with computers and furniture.

c. Fisheries Resource Management :

Artificial reefs are deployed to augment fisheries resources in all the project districts. Activities like mud crab fattening, sea weed

cultivation are also undertaken. Besides these, workshops at the state and district levels are conducted to identify major issues in fisheries resources management. The issues are then resolved with the help of experts.

II. Rural Finance and Risk Transfer Instruments

a. Micro Credit to SHGs:

Timely access to credit is a key factor for sustainability of SHGs. The vibrant SHGs in the project area are exposed to the bankers through district and state level workshops. Exposure visits are arranged for bankers to have direct experience on various good practices of the PLFs and micro enterprises. Besides direct bank linkages, financial institutions like ICICI Bank, NABFINS and NABKISSAN have been roped in for credit linkage to SHGs by appointing the PLFs as Business Development Correspondents (BDCs).

b. Risk Management:

- **Vulnerability Reduction Fund:**
Vulnerability Reduction Fund is administered by the Panchayat Level

Federations (PLFs) and is given to the community members in the form of soft loans in times of loss of livelihood during natural disasters and other unforeseen circumstances. The project contributes 4/5 of the fund and the balance 1/5 share is borne by the community. The loan amount ranges from Rs 1000 to Rs 5000. The number of EMIs for the loan is 10 months.

Table 8.1.

Utilization of Vulnerability Reduction Fund over the years

Year wise	No. of people benefited	Amount (Rs.in lakh)
2011 - 12	1598	64.00
2012 - 13	3385	152.47
2013 - 14	3708	207.71
2014 - 15	5421	240.59
Total	14,112	664.77

- **Product Development and innovation Fund:** On a pilot basis, kitchen waste based bio gas plants were installed in the houses of 10 beneficiaries in Kanyakumari district, and were closely monitored. It was found that the plants are very useful to the beneficiaries.

A financial product involving loan from PLFs, beneficiary contribution and grant from the programme has been designed to help beneficiaries to put up bio gas plants on the basis of annual savings, net return on investment and quantum of EMI amount etc.

- **Patient Capital Fund:** For development of more micro enterprises in the 6 project districts, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between PTSLP and NABFINS on 19.06.2013. Patient capital of Rs.5.0 Crore is provided by the PTSLP to NABFINS to be utilized for financing 25% of the micro enterprises project cost. This will be added with 70% share from NABFINS and 5% as beneficiary contribution. As per the MoU, 750 micro enterprises will be sanctioned over a period of 6 years commencing from 2013-14.

III. Employment Generation and Skill Training

a. Support to SHGs :

Weak SHGs are identified and to strengthen them, capacity building trainings are organized. The PLFs are also given trainings in Financial Management and Governance. A Tally software has been developed to be used by the PLFs to capture all details of the member SHGs. The entries in Tamil are made by trained book keepers of the PLFs. Around 200 Community Resource Persons (CRPs) have been selected from among active members of SHGs and PLFs and are trained for handholding the project activities in the post project period.

b. Formation of Fish Marketing Societies :

In partnership with South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS) the project has established 50 Fish Marketing Societies (FMS), limiting membership to owners of small crafts, Kattumarams and Vallams. SIFFS is also given grants to finance debt redemption of the members of the FMS. Office buildings along with infrastructure are

provided to the FMSs. Three fishermen federations at the district level are also established and working capital assistance is also given to them. To ease drudgery in boat repair, out board motor workshops and boat yards have been constructed. For hygienic handling of fish, fish landing centres are also provided.

c. Income Generation Activity training:

Income Generation Activity trainings are aimed at creating awareness among the beneficiaries, especially the SHGs on opportunities available and to facilitate them to take up micro enterprises.

d. Micro Enterprise Development :

Producer groups, PLFs, members of FMS and poor individuals are encouraged to establish micro enterprises that are viable. Consultants are engaged for identification of beneficiaries, and successful establishment of micro enterprises.

The project intends to move beyond self employment through income generating activities to micro enterprise development in

traditional and innovative trades. Vegetable and medicinal plants, Mango cultivation, Floriculture, fish, dry fish vending, mud crab, fresh water aqua culture, poultry, dairy, goat, coconut farming, copra making, coir rope making, coconut thatched leaf, arecanut plate making, toys making, seashell products, cashew nut processing are some of the trades funded by the project.

e. Vocational training to unemployed youth :

For the unemployed youth in the project area, vocational trainings in suitable trades, with duration ranging from 3 months to one year are provided with assured employment.

IV. Community based Sea Safety and Disaster Management

With the help of subject experts, workshops and trainings have been conducted on sea safety measures (communication aids, life saving techniques etc.,) for fishermen. In a long term perspective, it is essential to educate school children on disaster management. Workshops are conducted to evolve resource

material and curriculum on environmental education for schools. Teachers have also been sensitized on such study material. Developing, printing and dissemination of resource material, its periodical review and presenting awards to model schools are also parts of this component. It is also planned to inculcate financial literacy among the children studying in coastal schools. Coastal school students are also taken for exposure visits. District level exhibitions are conducted besides screening of documentaries.

V. Monitoring and Evaluation

The M&E system is established at state and district levels. Progress against output/outcome indicators are monitored regularly by the programme while project progress against timelines for individual activities are tracked every month by conducting review meetings.

VI. Knowledge Management

Knowledge need assessment is conducted at community level and CRC level and a project knowledge management strategy

has been formulated. All events, particularly meetings, visits, best practices and trainings are disseminated through articles in Mutram Magazine published by Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd. Pamphlets and documentaries also have been produced.

VII. Targeting approach

The programme is adopting an effective targeting approach in each and every activity, by measuring number of people benefited as against the wealth ranking profile of the households.

9. BUDGET FOR 2015-16

9. BUDGET FOR 2014-15

A sum of Rs.18,465.98 crore has been provided in the Budget for 2015-16, out of which, the Revenue Expenditure is Rs.16,612.42 crore, Capital Expenditure is Rs.1,853.56 crore and loans to Government Servants is Rs.0.25 crore.

10. CONCLUSION

10. Conclusion

Development of the rural areas and ushering the rural people into prosperity under the visionary leadership of our Honourable Chief Minister is the guiding principle of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

The "THAI" scheme, a land mark in development planning aimed at improving the basic amenities in all the habitations of the rural area, has proven to be an exemplary success. **"The Chief Minister's Solar powered Green House Scheme"**, a flagship programme of this Government, is a rare combination of housing infrastructure as well as usage of non-conventional source of energy.

The implementation of MGNREGS has been given a new thrust to increase the income of the poor families, by enlarging the land development activities which will directly benefit the SC/ST as well as Small and Marginal Farmers in rural areas. Further, to strengthen the rural infrastructure, buildings

for Anganwadis, Village and Block level service Centres are also being constructed.

Pioneering efforts are being taken to usher in Open Defecation Free status in Tamil Nadu through convergence of the Panchayat Raj system as well as the Self Help Group network.

This Government has taken various concrete measures to strengthen the administrative machinery of the department and is continuing this policy in the year 2015-16. The Government has also taken steps for streamlining the functioning of the Panchayat Raj system in Tamil Nadu. These include the implementation of PRIA soft, a model accounting system for Village Panchayats, Block Panchayats and District Panchayats. The objectives of Rural Development Schemes will not fully bear fruits without the support and participation of elected representatives of the rural Local Bodies. Hence, the Government has been taking various initiatives to strengthen the Panchayat raj system, while preserving its autonomy at each tier.

Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM) as well as Pudhu Vazhvu Project (PVP) will further consolidate their efforts to strengthen and sustain all the initiatives taken up to eradicate poverty through vibrant community institutions, which will ensure availability of sustainable livelihood opportunities for women and vulnerable households.

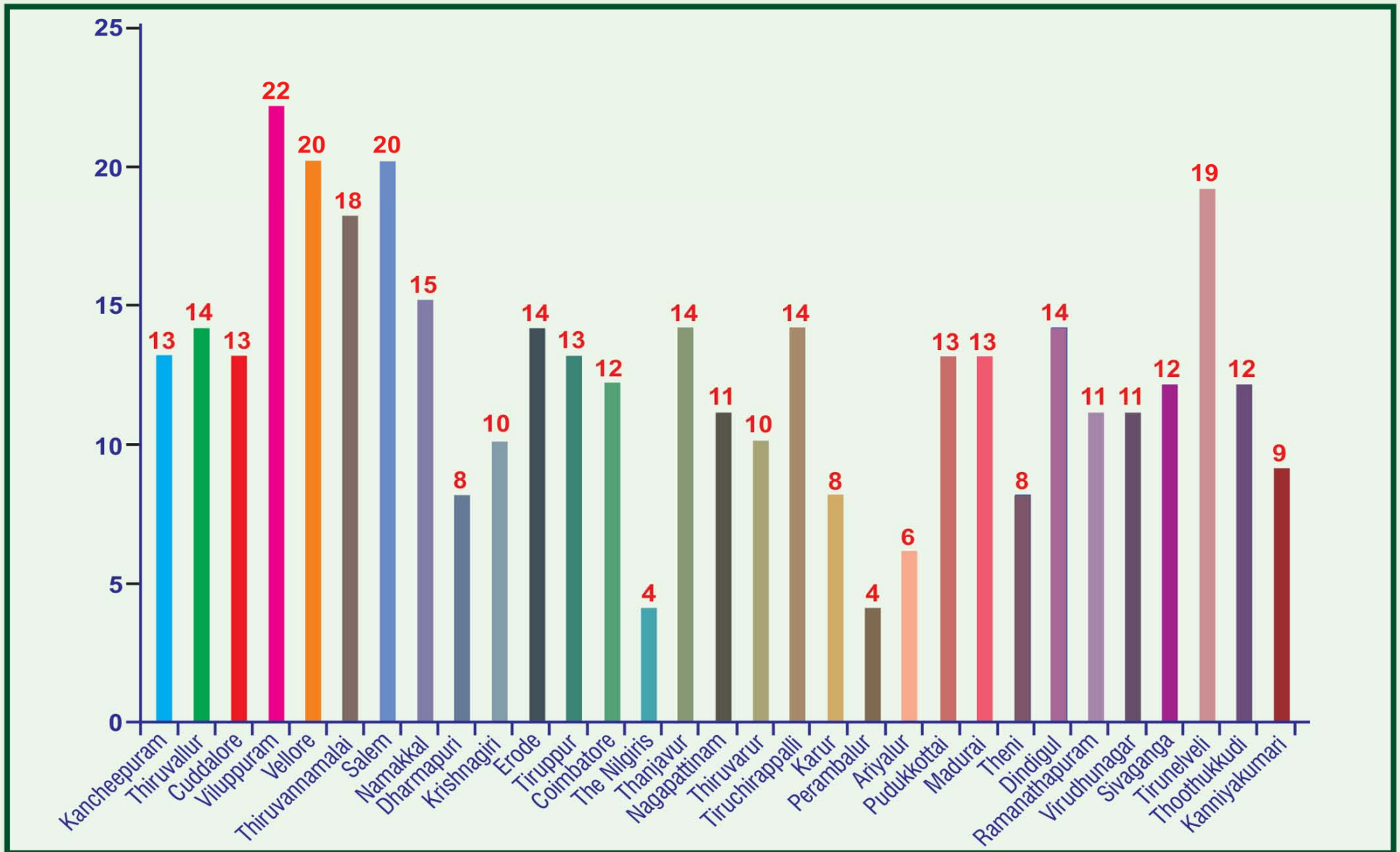
The Rural development and Panchayat Raj department will strive to ensure the overall improvement in the quality life of the people living in rural areas including SC/ST, Women and children. The vision of the Honourable Chief Minister to improve infrastructure and ensuring quality service delivery in rural areas will continue to be achieved successfully through the coordinated efforts of all the stakeholders.

The vision of Honourable Chief Minister Amma is that every citizen should have access to all basic amenities such as health care, education, water supply and sanitation. The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is committed to continue its efforts with rededication towards fulfillment of the vision of our Honourable Chief Minister.

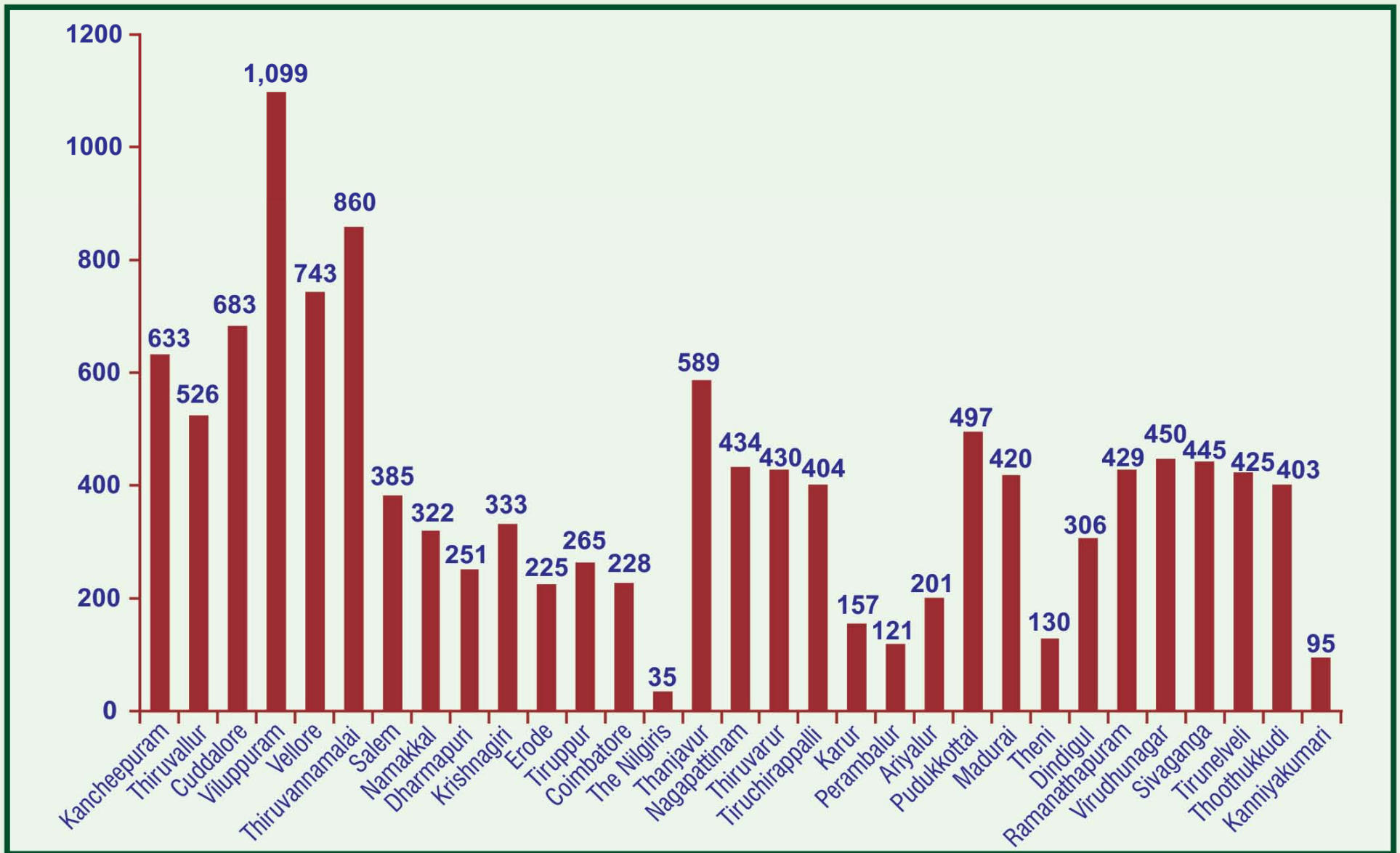
S.P. VELUMANI
Minister for Municipal Administration,
Rural Development, Law, Courts and
Prisons



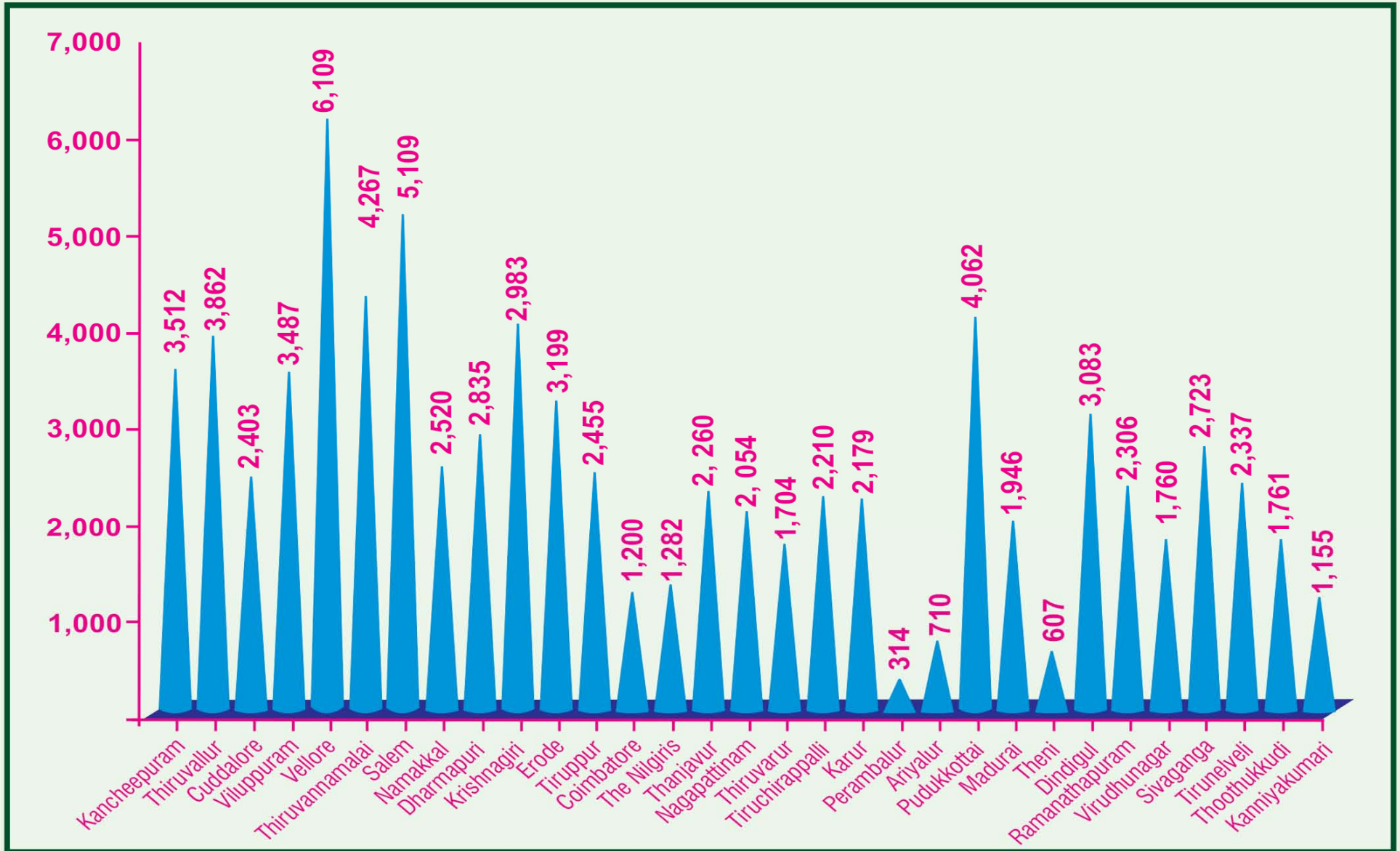
Honourable Chief Minister handing over the Key to beneficiary of Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme



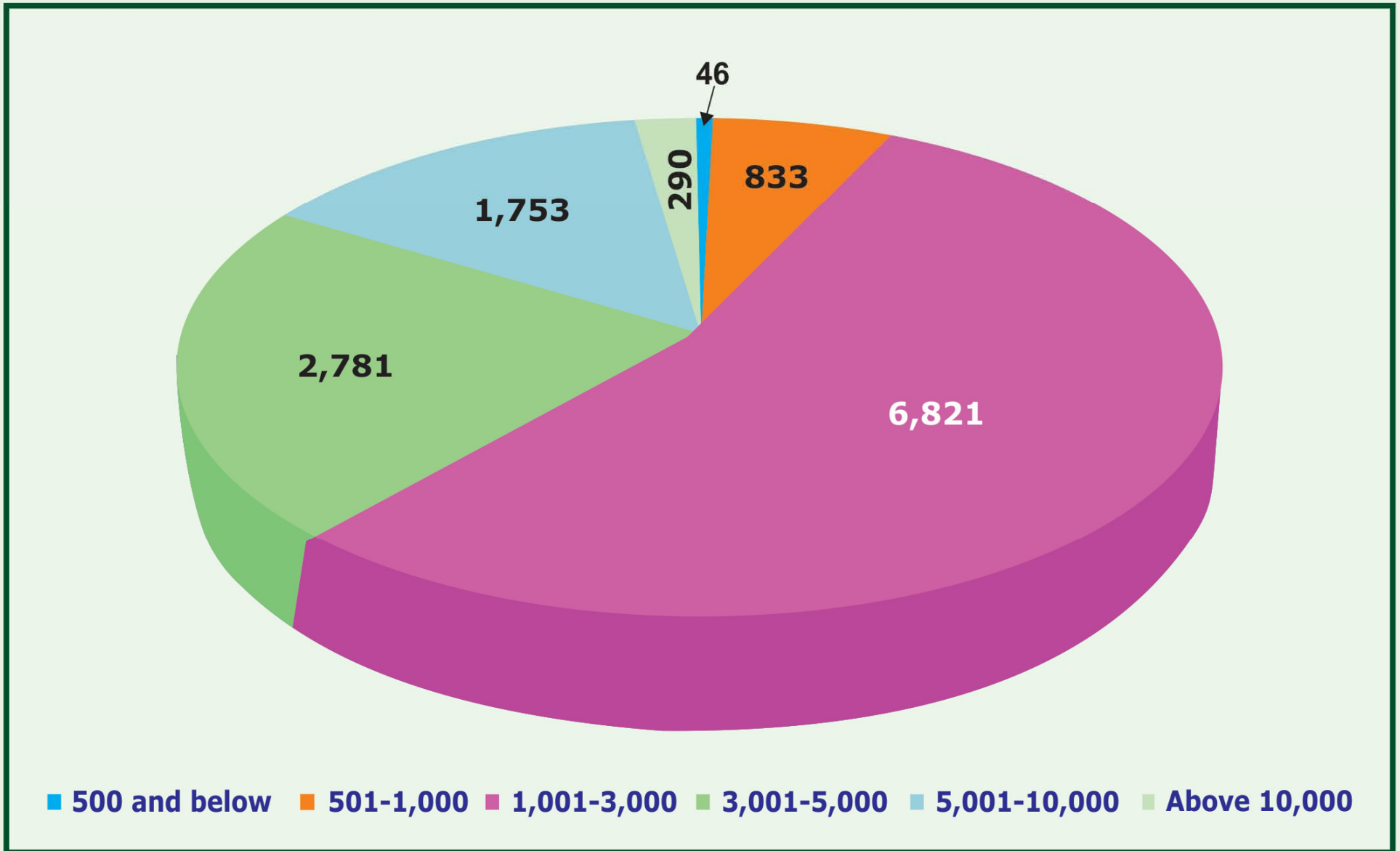
District wise Number of Panchayat Unions



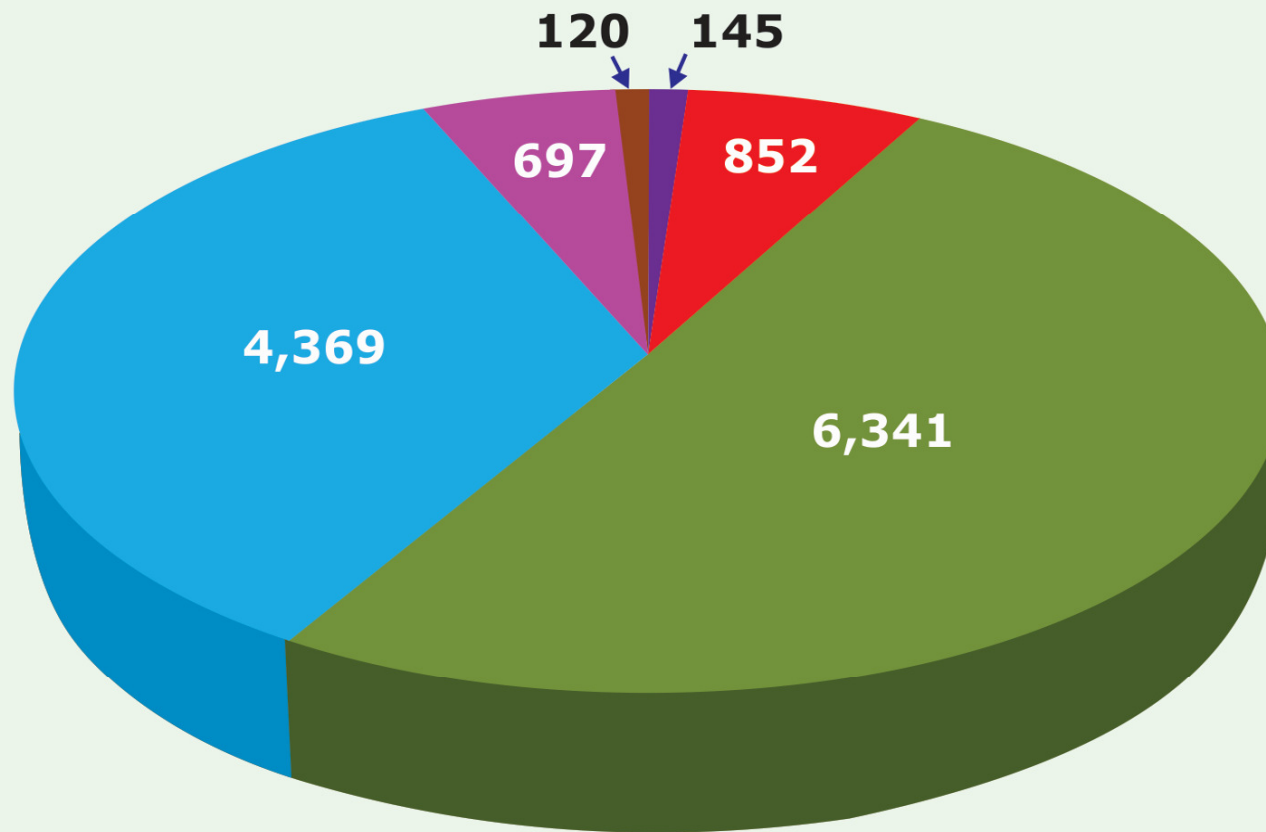
District wise Number of Village Panchayats



District wise Number of Habitations

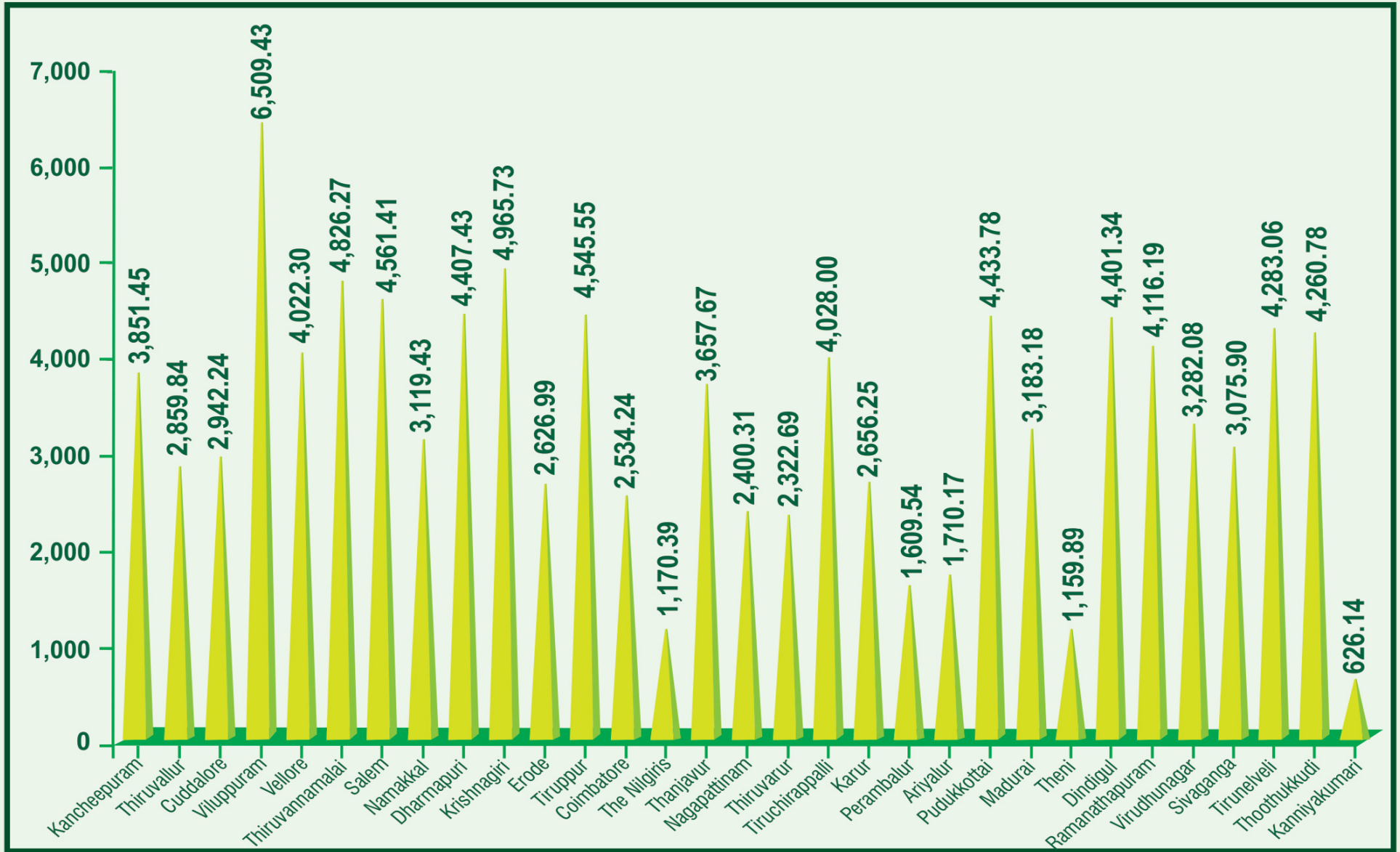


Classification of Village Panchayats on the basis of Population as per 2011 Census



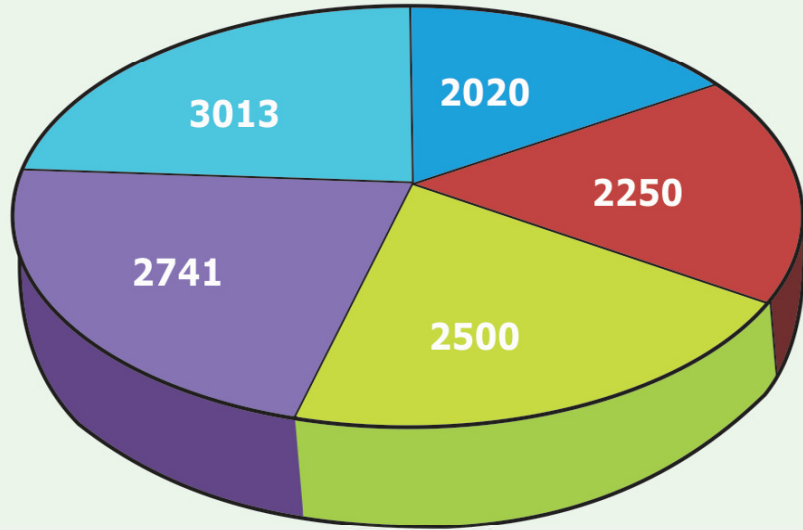
- Rs.5-7 Lakh
 - Above Rs.10-20 Lakh
 - Above Rs.10-20 Lakh
- Above Rs.7-10 Lakh
 - Above Rs.20-50 Lakh
 - Above Rs. 1 Crore

Classification of Village Panchayats based on Income range

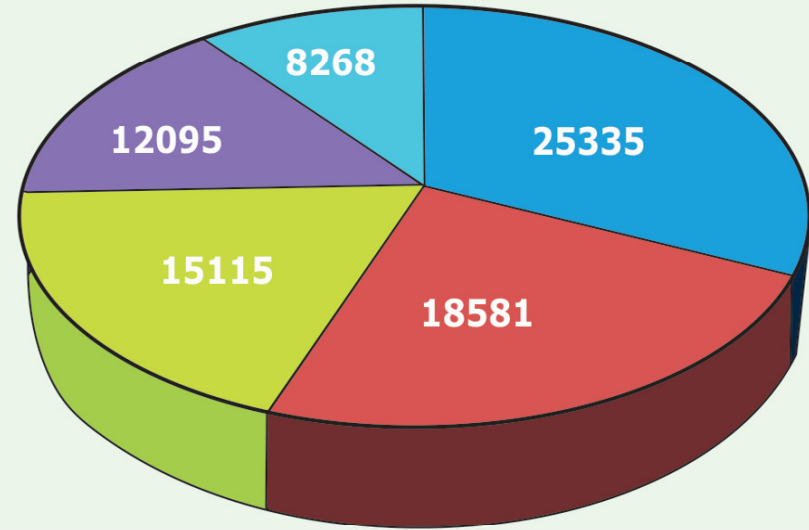


Districtwise Rural Area (in Sq. km)

Village Panchayats



Habitations



■ 2011 - 12 ■ 2012 - 13 ■ 2013 - 14 ■ 2014 - 15 ■ 2015 - 16

**Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme
Yearwise Scheme Implementation**



Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House



Street Light



Cement Concrete Road



Water Supply



Burial Ground

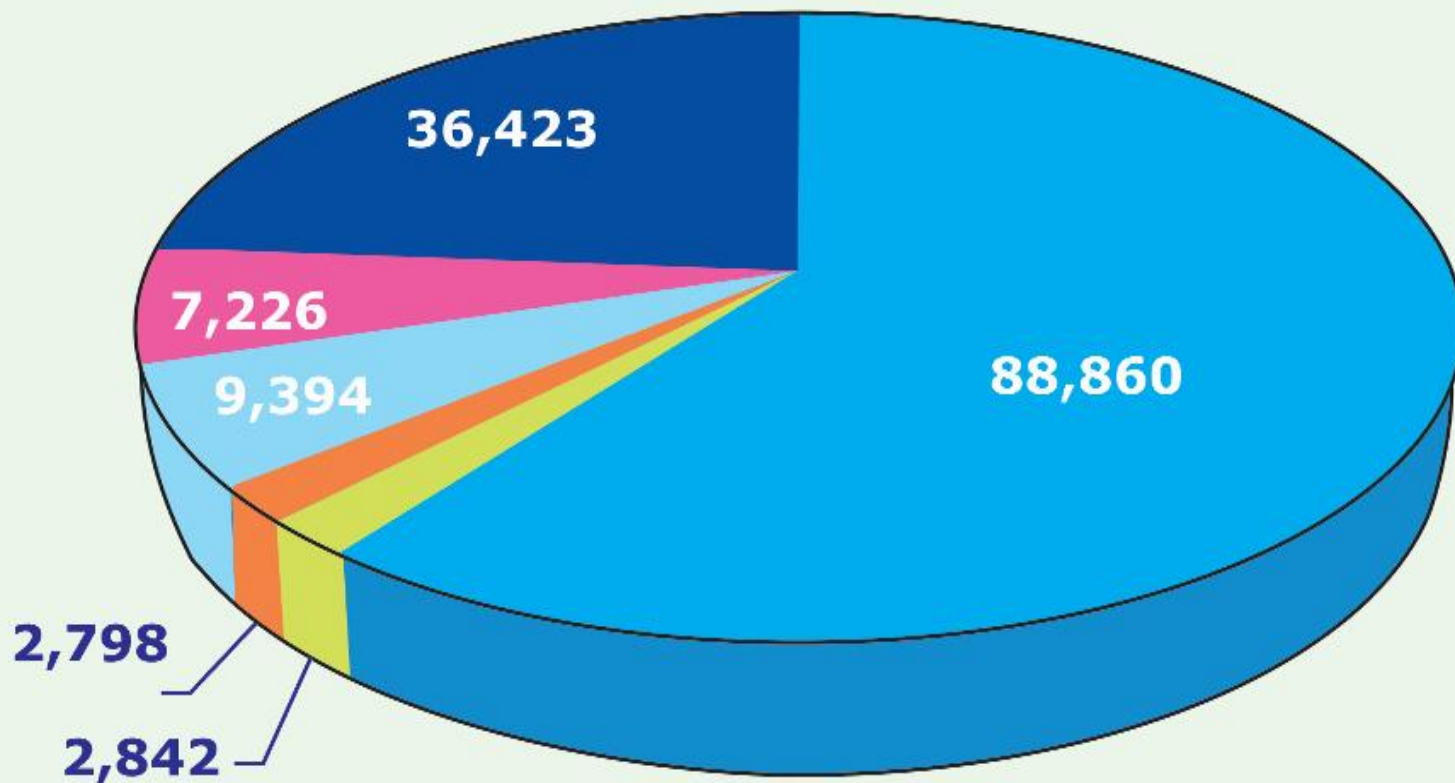
Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme



Formation of Park under Self Sufficiency Scheme



**New Anganwadi Centre under Member of
Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme**



- Black topped
- Cement concrete
- Double layer WBM
- Single Layer WBM
- Gravel
- Earthen

Rural Roads (In Km)



Formation of Black Topped Road



New Panchayat Union Office



New Village Panchayat Office



New Farm Pond under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme



தமிழ்நாடு அரசு
ஊரக வளர்ச்சி மற்றும் ஊராட்சித் துறை
MGNREGS 2014-15

கிராம சேவை மைய கட்டிடம் கருக்கல்வாடி

மாண்புமிகு அமைச்சர் ஓய்வூதியம், ஊர் வளம்.

**New Village Panchayat Service Centre
under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme**

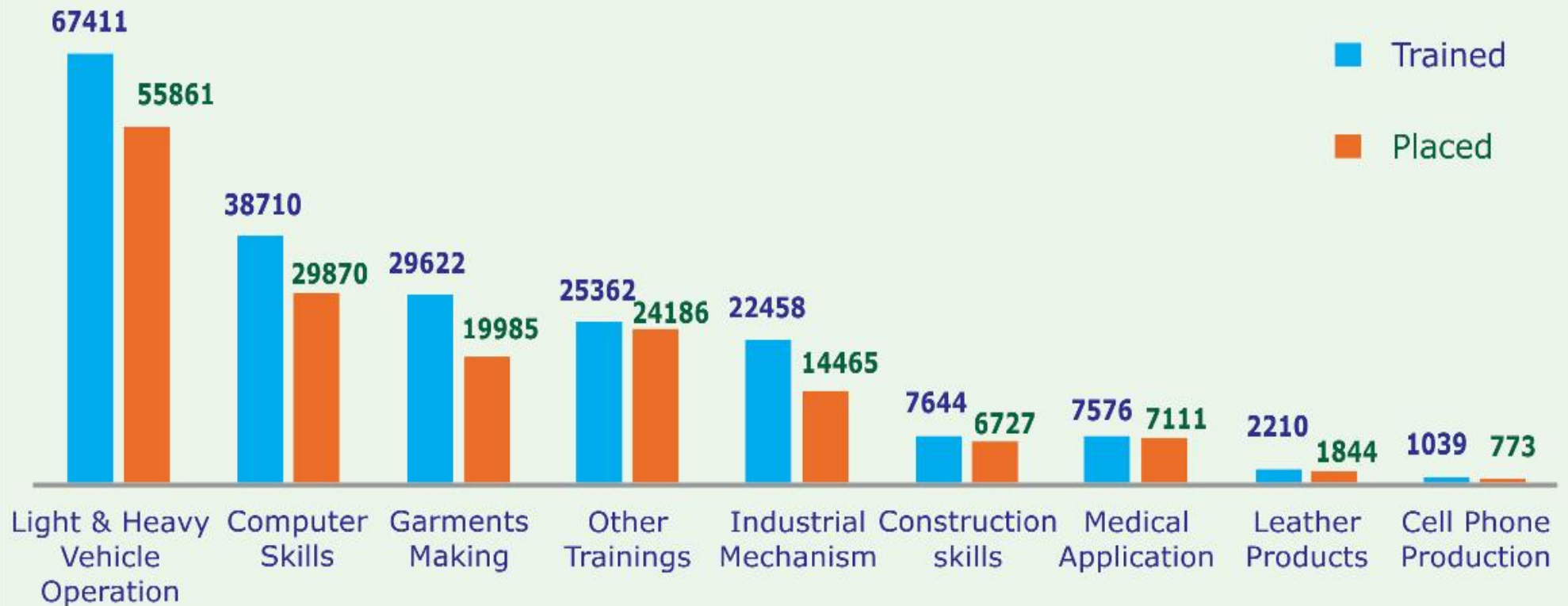


Women Self Help Groups' Meeting



To Commemorate the 67th Birthday celebrations of our Honourable Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, Placement orders for youth in private institutions were issued in Madurai on 11.03.15 in the presence of the Honourable Minister for Co-operation, Thiru.Sellur.K.Raju by the Honourable Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development, Law, Courts and Prisons Thiru S.P. Velumani. Mayor of Madurai Corporation Thiru.V.Rajan Chellappa, Secretary to Government, Managing Director of Women Development Corporation, District Collector, Madurai and MLAs participated in this function.

Youth Skill Training and Placement (2011 - 2015)



Tamil Nadu Pudhu Vaazhvu Project



**Post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihood Programme (PTSLP)
Women Fish vending Joint Liability Group (JLG)**



**Post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihood Programme (PTSLP)
Hollow Block Unit**