



REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE 2021-2022

- Demand No. 41 - Revenue and
Disaster Management
Department**
- Demand No. 51 - Relief on Account of
Natural Calamities**

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DISASTER MANAGEMENT

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**REVENUE AND DISASTER
MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
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1. INTRODUCTION

Revenue and Disaster Management Department with the pride of being oldest department continues to function as the backbone of the administrative setup in the state. It contributes substantially towards the achievement of the objective of orderly socio-economic development. It provides a multitude of citizen services through taluk offices and village level officers functioning under district administration.

The most important function of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department is reflected by the fact that it is the custodian of all lands. This department deals with all the works related to land assignment, land acquisition, land alienation, grant of house site pattas, land ceiling and collection of Urban Land Tax.

Revenue and Disaster Management Department also plays a crucial role during times of natural calamities like cyclone, flood, drought, earthquake, landslide, tsunami, Covid-19 etc., providing much needed relief in the form of food, shelter, essential commodities and financial assistance to the affected people.

This department also issues various certificates, sanctions pensions for old age persons, Differentially abled, destitute widows, deserted and destitute wives and poor agricultural labourers, sanctions relief under Family Distress Relief scheme and Accident Relief scheme. Further, licences under the Arms Act and the Explosives Act are also provided by this department.

The history of the Revenue Department can be traced to various enactment during the British

Era. Board of Revenue was the central authority during this period. With increasing demand for specialized services, various departments were carved out and started functioning as independent departments. Board of Revenue continued to deal with the matter related to land revenue and land administration. After Independence, this system continued till 1980.

The Board of Revenue was restructured during 1980 and separate departments were formed for revenue administration, land administration and land reforms, each headed by a commissioner.

The mandate of the department was enhanced to handle disaster management and it is now called as Revenue and Disaster Management.

The following wings function under this department:-

- i) Commissionerate of Revenue Administration
- ii) Commissionerate of Land Administration
- iii) Commissionerate of Land Reforms.
- iv) Commissionerate of Urban Land Ceiling and Urban Land Tax
- v) Directorate of Survey and Settlement.

2. REVENUE ADMINISTRATION AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

2.1 The Commissioner of Revenue Administration is the supervisory officer for the district administration and revenue officials at the sub-district level. He is designated as the State Relief Commissioner, tasked with co-ordinating all the activities related to disaster management.

2.2. The core functions of this Department includes:-

- i. General Revenue Administration
- ii. Collection of Land Revenue
- iii. Implementation of Social Security Pension Schemes
- iv. Issuing of Certificates
- v. Distress Relief Schemes
- vi. Redressal of grievances
- vii. Disaster Management and Mitigation works

- viii. Regulatory/Enforcement functions under
 - a. Revenue Recovery Act 1864
 - b. Treasure Trove Act 1878
 - c. Tamil Nadu Explosives Act 1884
 - d. Tamil Nadu Pawn Brokers Act 1943
 - e. Public Buildings License Act 1965
 - f. Tamil Nadu Birth and Death Registration Act 1969
 - g. Tamil Nadu Exorbitant Interest Prevention Act 2003
 - h. The Arms Act 1959
 - i. Disaster Management Act 2005

This department has field-level units from the district level upto the village level.

2.3 District Administration:

There are 38 districts with the district administration headed by the district collector. The district revenue officer and other district level officers of various departments carryout the

functions under the overall supervision of the District Collector / District Magistrate.

2.4 Sub-Division Level Administration:

For administrative convenience, each district is divided into sub-divisions which is headed by Sub Collector/ Revenue Divisional Officer. There are 94 sub Divisions in the state.

2.5 Taluk Level Administration:

The Taluk administration is headed by Tahsildar. Tahsildar is assisted by Deputy Tahsildars, Revenue Inspectors, in rendering services like issue of Patta, Chitta, Adangal and other Certificates like Income, Nativity, Legal heir and other Online Certificates. There are 313 taluks in the state at present.

2.6 Firka Administration:

Each taluk is divided into firkas comprising of a group of villages. Revenue Inspector plays a vital role in land revenue collection and

supervising the work of Village Administrative Officers. At present, there are 1195 firkas.

2.7 Revenue Village Administration:

Village Administrative Officers function as the fundamental and grass-root functionaries. They are responsible for maintenance of village accounts, collection of land revenue and protection of government land. There are 16743 revenue villages in Tamil Nadu at present.

2.8 Staffing Pattern of Revenue Administration:

There are 432 officers / staff in Commissionerate of Revenue Administration and 52,231 officers / staff under District Administration (District to Village level).

2.9 Land Revenue:

As per G.O. (Ms) No. 544, Revenue [R.A.1(1)] Department, dated 20.10.2010, land

revenue rates are prescribed for various category of lands in Tamil Nadu as given below:

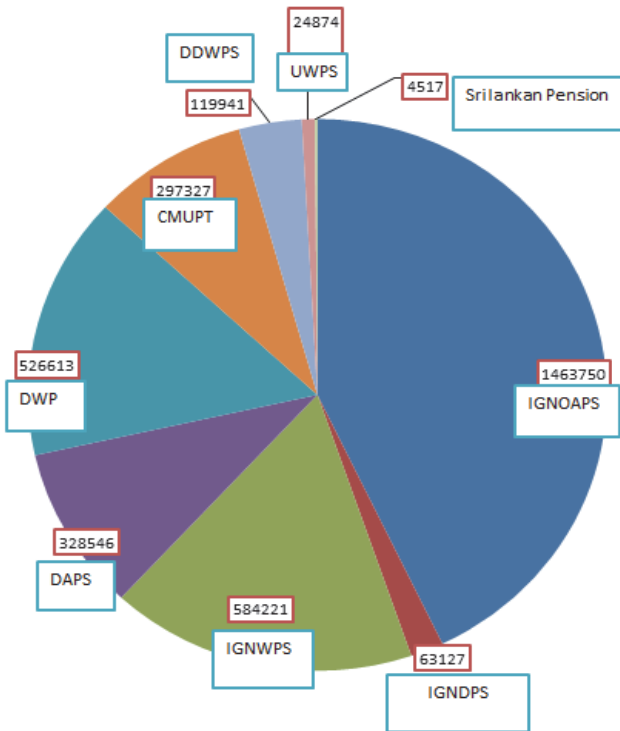
Table – 2.1

Sl. No.	Types of land	Amount / Acre
1.	Dry Land	Rs.2/-
2.	Wet Land	Rs.5/-
3.	'B' memo penalty in respect of unobjectionable encroachments on Government poramboke lands	Rs.5/-
4.	Basic assessment for every patta that is registered	Re.1/-

The annual settlement of revenue accounts of every village is finalized during the Jamabandhi programme. Land Revenue is collected for every Fasli Year i.e. from 1st July to 30th June.

2.10 Social Security Schemes:

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer at the national level in the implementation of the social security schemes. The Social Security Pension Schemes are extended to all the vulnerable sections of the society such as senior citizens, differently-abled persons, widows, agricultural labourers, poor farmers, deserted and destitute wives, unmarried women above the age of 50 years and who are destitute and poor. Currently, the Government is giving Rs.1,000/- per month as pension uniformly under all pension categories in order to ensure very wide coverage of pension schemes. The allocation has been increased substantially up to Rs. 4807.56 crore in 2021-22. As on 25th August 2021, 34,12,916 beneficiaries were included under various schemes as detailed below:



- Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme
- Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme
- Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme
- Differently Abled Pension Scheme
- Destitute Widow Pension Scheme
- Chief Minister's Uzhavar Patukappu Thittam
- Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme
- Un-married Women Pension Scheme
- Srilankan Pension Schemes

Table-2.2**Funding Pattern – Union and State share**

S. No	Name of the Scheme	Union Government Contribution	State Government Contribution
1.	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	Rs.200/-	Rs.800/-
		Rs.500/-	Rs.500/-
2.	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)	Rs.300/-	Rs.700/-
3.	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	Rs.300/-	Rs.700/-
4.	Differently Abled Pension Scheme (DAPS)	-	Rs.1000/-
5.	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme (DWPS)	-	Rs.1000/-
6.	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Padhukappu Thittam (CMUPT)	-	Rs.1000/-

S. No	Name of the Scheme	Union Government Contribution	State Government Contribution
7	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWPS)	-	Rs.1000/-
8	Pension to Poor Unmarried Women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	-	Rs.1000/-

Pension to Srilankan Refugees

Under this scheme, old age pension, deserted widow pension, deserted and destitute wives pension and differently abled of Rs.1,000/- per month are provided to Srilankan Refugees.

Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria to avail assistance under the three pension schemes under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) in Tamil Nadu are as detailed below:

Table-2.3

S. No	Scheme	Eligibility Criteria
1	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	Eligibility: Destitute, belonging to Below poverty line Age: 60 years and above.
2	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGN-WPS)	Eligibility: Destitute Widow, belonging to Below poverty line Age: 40 years and above.
3	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGN-DPS)	Disability level: 80% and above, belonging to Below poverty line Age: 18 years and above.

The important eligibility criteria for Social Security Pension Schemes fully funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu are as detailed below:

Table-2.4

S. No	Scheme	Eligibility Criteria
1	Differently Abled Pension Scheme (DAPS)	Unemployed. If private / self-employed, the annual income of the beneficiary should not exceed Rs.3 Lakh. Age: 18 years and above. Disability level: 40% and above
2	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme (DWPS)	Destitute Widow. Age: 18 years and above, Fixed assets: Not exceeding Rs.1,00,000/- "Provided further that the value of the fixed assets or property of the applicant or beneficiary may not be taken into account if a free house has been assigned to the beneficiary under any of the schemes of the Government."
3	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Padhukaapu Thittam (CMUPT)	Destitute. Age: 60 years and above. Landless agricultural labourers Fixed assets: Not exceeding Rs.1,00,000/- "Provided further that the value of the fixed assets or property of the applicant or beneficiary may not be taken into account if a free house has been assigned to the beneficiary under any of the schemes of the Government."

4	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWPS)	Destitute. Age: 30 years and above. Must be legally divorced or deserted for not less than 5 years (or) obtained legal separation certificate from a competent Court of Law. Fixed assets: Not exceeding Rs.1,00,000/- "Provided further that the value of the fixed assets or property of the applicant or beneficiary may not be taken into account if a free house has been assigned to the beneficiary under any of the schemes of the Government."
5	Pension to Poor Unmarried Women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	Destitute and Unmarried women. Age: 50 years and above. Fixed assets: Not exceeding Rs.1,00,000/- "Provided further that the value of the fixed assets or property of the applicant or beneficiary may not be taken into account if a free house has been assigned to the beneficiary under any of the schemes of the Government."

2.11 Online web application for applying for Social Security Scheme Pensions:

Revenue Department has implemented a simple one-page format that can be submitted online by those who seek pension under any

social security scheme. The application will be forwarded to the concerned revenue authorities by the system for verification. After verification, the eligible cases will be forwarded to the higher authorities for scrutiny and sanction of pension. Pension is sanctioned by Tahsildar (SSS) for the eligible petitioner.

Other benefits to the pensioners:

One saree per female pensioner/one dhoti per male pensioner is distributed twice a year i.e. on Pongal and Deepavali festivals.

The beneficiaries are also permitted to draw fine variety rice free of cost as per the following norms:-

- (i) 4 Kg of fine variety rice per month for those who do not take meals at the Anganwadi centres.
- (ii) 2 Kg of the fine variety rice per month for those who take meals at the Anganwadi centres.

2.12 Relief Schemes:

Accident Relief Scheme:

Financial assistance under National Family Benefit Fund is extended to families living below the poverty line in case of accidental death of the primary breadwinner in the age group of 18-59 years of age and in respect of 44 notified occupation categories. The relief amount being given to legal heirs is Rs. 20,000/-. This scheme is implemented with 100% funds from the Union Government.

Distress Relief Scheme:

Financial assistance under National Family Benefit Fund is extended to families who are living below the poverty line in case of natural death of the primary breadwinner in the age group of 18-59 years of age. The relief amount being given to legal heirs is Rs. 20,000/-. This scheme is implemented with 100% funds from the Union Government.

2.13 Pension and other benefits to freedom fighters and Ex-INA personnel:

The Government of Tamil Nadu have been earnestly implementing various welfare schemes for the freedom fighters who participated and suffered untold miseries during freedom movement for our country. The Government of Tamil Nadu have implemented the State Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme with effect from 01.10.1966.

The Government have enhanced the quantum of the freedom fighters pension from Rs.17,000/- to Rs.18,000/- per month and family pension (dependents) is being enhanced from Rs.8,500/- to Rs.9,000/- per month during the 75th Independence Day on 15.08.2021.

Special Pension is provided to the descendants of eminent persons in recognition of the significant role played by them in the freedom

movement. Under this scheme, 87 descendants of Ma-Mannar Marudhu Pandiar brothers, 3 descendants of Ma-Mannar Veerapandia Kattabomman, 52 descendants of Ma-Mannar Muthuramalinga Vijaya Raghunatha Sethupathy of Ramanathapuram and 1 descendant of freedom fighter Sekkizhutha Chemmal V.O.Chidambaranar are receiving pension. They will continue to receive the above pension till their lifetime.

The other concessions granted to the Freedom Fighters and their dependents are given below: -

Medical Facilities:

Medical Allowance of Rs.500/- per month is paid to all pensioners who are receiving Central Pension or State Pension or both and to their widows and minor children. The above pensioners or their dependants are permitted to avail 'A' class facility in old hospitals and the 'pay ward' facility without payment of any charges in new hospitals.

Transport and Housing Facilities:

The freedom fighters, drawing Central or State Pension, their widows and legal heirs are given free bus passes to travel in the buses of State Transport Corporation and also given priority in allotment of houses/plots / flats by the Tamil Nadu Housing Board. The Government have provided free bus pass to one attendant to go along with the pensioners / Family Pensioners over 60 years in State Transport buses.

Employment Assistance:

Priority is given for the legal heirs of freedom fighters when their names are sponsored by Employment Exchanges to Government departments and undertakings for filling up vacancies.

Funeral Expenses:

A sum of Rs.5,000/- is sanctioned to the wife or the immediate legal heirs of the freedom

fighters towards funeral expenses in the event of the death of the freedom fighter. As a mark of tribute to the deceased freedom fighter, an officer not below the rank of Tahsildar from the Revenue Department on behalf of the Government places a wreath on the body of the deceased freedom fighter. It is applicable to those who are receiving State / Central Freedom Fighters Pension or receiving both the pensions.

The number of freedom fighters in Tamil Nadu who are drawing State Pension under various schemes are as follows:-

Table 2.5

Sl.No.	Type of Pension	Numbers
1.	Freedom Fighters receiving State freedom fighter's Pension	93
2.	Dependants receiving Family Pension	997
3.	Descendants of Ma-mannar Sivagangai Marudhu Pandiar Brothers	87
4.	Descendants of mannar Veerapandia Kattabomman	3
5.	Descendants of Ma-mannar Muthuramalinga Vijaya Raghunatha Sethupathy	52
6.	Descendant of Freedom Fighter Sekkizhutha Chemmal V.O. Chidambaranar	1
7.	Central Freedom Fighters receiving State pension	302
8.	Central Freedom Fighters Families receiving State pension	428
	Total	1963

State Pension of Rs.500/- per month from the state funds is paid to those who receive Central Freedom Fighters Pension / Central Family Pension.

For the year, 2021-2022, a total sum of Rs.17,41,29,000/- has been provided by the State Government for the purpose of various pension schemes mentioned above.

2.14 Taluk On-line Petition Monitoring System (TOPMS):

To ascertain the stage of the grievance petitions received in Taluk offices, Divisional offices and Collectorates, Taluk Online Petition Monitoring System (TOPMS) has been implemented in all Taluks. For the period from 1.4.2021 to 25.8.2021, a total number of 9,83,180 petitions were received, out of which 8,34,398 petitions were disposed.

2.15 Distribution of Dhoties and Sarees for Pongal

In order to provide employment to the weavers, the dhoties and sarees produced by them are being distributed without charging any cost to the poor families during Pongal festival. 2.05 Crore free Dhoties and 2.05 Crore free sarees will be distributed to all the eligible rice card holders during Pongal festival 2022.

2.16 e-Certificates:

In all districts, the e-Districts scheme has been implemented by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department in collaboration with the Information Technology Department and the National Informatics Centre for rendering online services to the people.

The following certificates are issued by Revenue and Disaster Management Department:

1. Community Certificate
2. Nativity Certificate

3. Income Certificate
4. First Graduate Certificate
5. Deserted Women Certificate
6. Agriculture Income Certificate
7. Inter-caste Marriage certificate
8. Widow Certificate
9. Unemployment Certificate
10. Family Migration Certificate
11. Small / Marginal Farmers Certificate
12. Certificate for Loss of Educational Records due to disasters
13. Unmarried Certificate
14. No Male Child Certificate
15. Legal Heir Certificate
16. Residency Certificate
17. Solvency Certificate
18. License under Pawn Broker Act
19. Money Lender License
20. Other Backward Community Certificate
21. Economically Weaker Sections(Income & Assets)

22. Destitute Widow Certificate
23. Issuance of Jain Religious Minority Certificate.
24. Issuance of Public Building License
25. Temporary Crackers License.

The application for the certificates can be submitted online

For the period from 01.04.2021 to 25.8.2021 28,74,868 certificates have been issued to the public through this online system.

2.17 Disaster Risk Profile of the State:

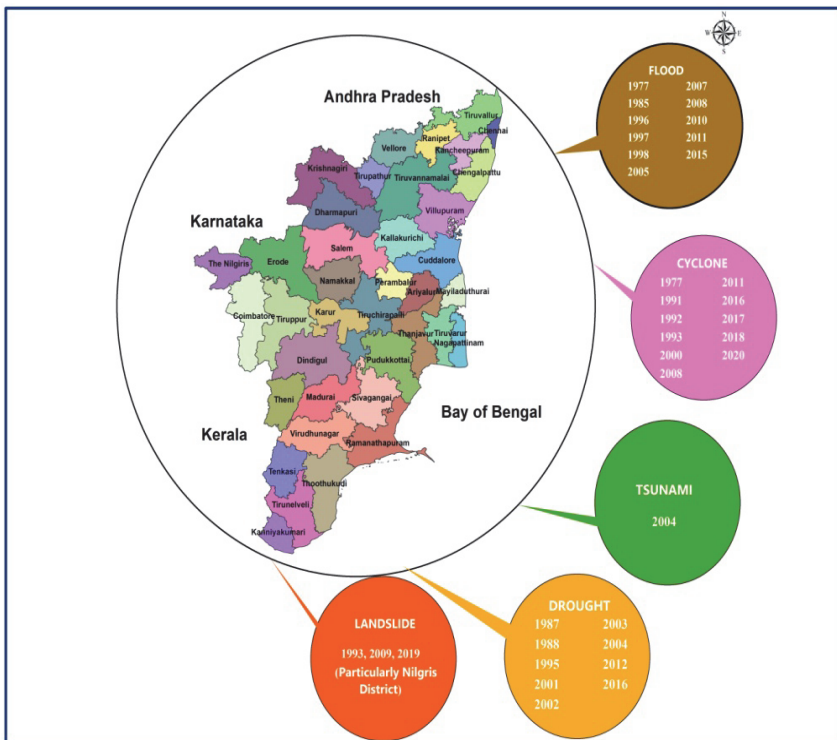
Tamil Nadu with a coastline of 1076 Km forming part of Coromandel Coast of Bay of Bengal and Indian Ocean stretching from Pulicat Lake to Cape Comorin makes the state vulnerable to tropical cyclones, floods and earthquake-induced Tsunami. The Western Ghats bordering Tamil Nadu acts as a barrier for the Southwest Monsoon, leaving a large rain shadow area with water stress. Tamil Nadu faces annual flooding,

flash floods, cloudbursts induced monsoon floods of single and multiple events, cyclonic floods, and floods due to surplus releases from reservoirs. The hilly regions of the State are vulnerable to landslides, earthquakes and floods. Due to uneven distribution of rainfall, drought conditions are prevalent in some parts of the state leading to crop failure, poor yields and drinking water scarcity. Heat wave, thunderstorm and lightning, sea erosion, sea water incursion, gale wind and Pest attacks also have become a serious concern.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is determined to handle the challenges posed by the known and emerging disasters, and seize the opportunity to build Resilient Tamil Nadu. The state adopts a comprehensive approach in ensuring that the hazards, risks are mapped and mitigation efforts are taken to minimise the impacts. The state is also constantly working at

improving the preparedness for facing any disasters.

History of major disasters in the State during last three decades



2.18 Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority:

Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister with the following members:

1. Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management
2. Chief Secretary to Government, Ex-Officio
3. Secretary, Revenue and Disaster Management Department
4. Secretary, Finance Department
5. Secretary, Home Department
6. Secretary, Higher Education
7. Secretary, School Education
8. Additional Chief Secretary / Commissioner of Revenue Administration and State Relief Commissioner
9. Director, Centre for Disaster Management & Mitigation, Anna University, Chennai.
10. Head of Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority provides guidance for policy formulation, approval of state disaster management plan and monitoring implementation of disaster risk reduction measures.

2.19 The State Executive Committee functions under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary with secretaries of finance, revenue and disaster management, public works, highways and home department as members with Commissioner of Revenue Administration / State Relief Commissioner as a special invitee, to advise the state government on all disaster management plans and financial matters regarding Disaster Management and relief measures.

2.20 The State Advisory Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Commissioner of Revenue Administration. The Principal Secretary, Revenue and Disaster Management Department is the co-chair with

experts to advise on measures for disaster risk reduction.

2.21 Incident Response System:

The Incident Response System functions under the overall supervision of the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority. For any major incident the overall response is headed by the Chief Secretary to Government. At the operational level Commissioner of Revenue Administration / State Relief Commissioner is the Incident Commander, assisted by the Director, Disaster Management who is the Deputy Incident Commander. The District Collector function as the Incident Commander at district level.

2.22 Tamil Nadu Disaster Risk Reduction Agency (TNDRRA):

Tamil Nadu Disaster Risk Reduction Agency is the executive agency of the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority. Hon'ble Minister

for Revenue and Disaster Management chairs the Governing Council. The Commissioner of Revenue Administration / State Relief Commissioner functions as the Chairman of the Executive Council of the agency and the Director, Disaster Management acts as the Chief Executive Officer / Member Secretary. All the state / centrally sponsored / externally aided projects implemented by the state for disaster risk reduction such as mitigation, restoration, reconstruction and rehabilitation are coordinated by the Tamil Nadu Disaster Risk Reduction Agency.

2.23 District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA):

The District Disaster Management Authorities have been constituted as per the provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 under the chairmanship of District Collectors in all the 38 districts. The District Disaster Management

Authority acts as the district planning, coordinating and implementing body for disaster risk reduction and takes all measures in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the National and the State Disaster Management Authority.

2.24 Global and National frameworks for disaster risk reduction:

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030), Paris Agreement on Climate Change (2015) Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030), Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda for Disaster Risk Reduction and the National Disaster Management Plan 2019 provide the framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The Tamil Nadu road map for Disaster Risk reduction is based on the guiding principles of the above frameworks. These Global and National principles have been translated into local actions at every level to realise the vision of "Resilient

Communities, Resilient Villages, Towns, Cities and Resilient Tamil Nadu". This has been achieved by adopting the following priorities enunciated by the Sendai Framework

- i) Understanding disaster risk,
- ii) Improving disaster risk governance,
- iii) Investing in disaster risk reduction (through structural and non-structural measures) and
- iv) Disaster preparedness, early warning and building back better in the aftermath of a disaster.

2.25 State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC):

Establishing an institutional mechanism is vital for timely communication and dissemination of disaster risk to the vulnerable population. State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC) is the communication centre functioning at Chennai

round the clock. The warning messages about heavy rainfall, flood, cyclone, earthquake, tsunami, etc. received from nodal agencies like IMD, INCOIS, CWC, GIS etc., are being communicated by SEOC to the general public, fishermen, students, farmers, district administration and media in the state.

During disaster period, the centre functions as command and control centre round the clock with the assistance of senior officers of the line departments including National Disaster Response Force, Tamil Nadu Disaster Response Force, police department and Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services for quick dissemination of alerts, under the direct supervision of Commissioner of Revenue Administration / State Relief Commissioner. The centre is accessed by the people in distress by calling toll free number **1070**. During major disasters, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management along with

Additional Chief Secretary / Commissioner of Revenue Administration and Principal Secretary, Revenue and Disaster Management Department brief the media about the various measures undertaken by the Government and create awareness among the public for their safety.

2.26 District Emergency Operation Centre (DEOC):

DEOC is functioning under the supervision of the District Collector. DEOC acts as a communication centre at the district level for carrying out all operations during disaster such as evacuation, search and rescue, relief and restoration operations at taluk and village level based on the forecast/ alerts received from SEOC and disseminates the information to the general public. During disaster period the centre functions round the clock by drafting the services of the line departments in the district for quick dissemination of alerts and collects information on search,

rescue, relief and rehabilitation operations from various quarters and updates the same to Commissioner of Revenue Administration and State Relief Commissioner. This centre is accessed by the public by calling toll free No.**1077**.

2.27 Disaster Response:

Government of Tamil Nadu have been strengthening its response mechanisms over a period of time, in order to ensure that people in vulnerable areas are evacuated to safer places in time and search and rescue operations are carried out swiftly as and when the disaster strikes. In order to strengthen the disaster response, Government of Tamil Nadu have raised an exclusive battalion as Tamil Nadu Disaster Response Force. Further, modern equipments like Robotic Excavators, Vegetation De-clogger, Super Sucker, portable lights and inflatable boats have been procured in order to build the capacity of

various agencies involved in search and rescue operations.

2.28 Use of State of Art Technologies – Tamil Nadu System for Multi-Hazard Potential Impact Assessment, Alert, Emergency Response Planning and Tracking (TN-SMART):

TN-SMART has been implemented for assessing potential impacts of hazards using weather forecast information. It assesses the potential flood risk based on rainfall forecast issued by India Meteorological Department and other agencies. It covers vulnerable locations in all 38 Districts of Tamil Nadu. The risk is assessed based on previous rainfall quantity received during the season and status of water level in the reservoirs and tanks. The assessed risk is communicated via mobile application to alert the field level functionaries and the community, so that the impact of any potential flood or cyclone is mitigated by timely action. Through this mobile

application, public can lodge complaints related to disasters and the same will be registered and forwarded to concerned officers for action. The system tracks the action taken on such complaints.

2.29 Aerial Photogrammetry study for Flood Mapping by using Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV):

The Aerial Photogrammetry study for Flood Mapping in the State of Tamil Nadu by capturing the images of water courses and their buffers areas using Unmanned Aerial Vehicle has been taken up through the Centre for Aerospace Research, Madras Institute of Technology (MIT) and Anna University. An area of 5650.45 sq.km. spread over the districts of Cuddalore, Madurai, Virudhunagar, Sivagangai, Thoothukudi, Ramanathapuram, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Villupuram, Pudukottai, Kanniyakumari, Tiruchirapalli, Tiruppur, Salem,

Dindigul, Namakkal, Erode and Karur have been completed. The captured data is being processed for generating Digital Surface Model (DSM), Digital Terrian Model / Elevation Model (DTM/DEM) analysis and for hosting the output in a GIS web portal.

2.30 State Database for Emergency Management:

The Geographical Information System (GIS) Cell established in TNDRRA is engaged in customizing the National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM) to create the State Database for Emergency Management (SDEM). The TNDRRA is working in association with the Institute of Remote Sensing (IRS), Anna University and Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) for populating SDEM with disaster specific Database. The Storm Surge Model for early warning will also be integrated with this database.

2.31 State Drought Monitoring Centre (SDMC):

State Drought Monitoring Centre (SDMC) assists in the continuous monitoring of the drought conditions prevailing in the state with inputs from India Meteorological Department, National Remote Sensing Centre, National Crop Forecasting Centre, New Delhi, State Water Resources, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry Departments.

2.32 District Drought Monitoring Centre (DDMC):

DDMC is established in all the districts of the state, and it is a part of the District Disaster Management Authority. The District Drought Monitoring Centre functions under the control of the District Collector.

2.33 Aapda Mitra - Community Volunteers Training Scheme:

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme focusing on training community volunteers in disaster response in flood prone districts and Chennai has been identified in Tamil Nadu as one among the 30 most flood prone Districts of India. Training has been imparted to 200 community volunteers under this scheme in Chennai.

2.34 Common Alert Protocol (CAP):

Alert messages are disseminated through an integrated alert system by integrating the existing alert and warning system at National, State, Territorial and local levels in a single cohesive platform using forecasting agencies that can address public or first responders of a specific area simultaneously over all media coverage (SMS, IVR Call, TV, Radio, Siren, Railway station announcement system, Social media, etc.,) in

vernacular languages. The weather forecast and disaster early warning is provided by India Metrological Department (IMD) and Central Weather Commission (CWC). This Common Alert Protocol disseminates, disaster early warning SMS to public through the Telecom Service Providers operational in the state based on the forecast.

2.35 Community Participation:

Community First Responders

In order to ensure community participation in case of any disaster, first responders have been trained to respond immediately.

2.36 Southwest Monsoon 2021:

Normally, Southwest Monsoon 2021 is active over Tamil Nadu from June to September. During this monsoon, the state receives 336 mm of rainfall an average which amounts to 35.84% of annual average rainfall of 937.5 mm. Standard Operating Procedures for responding to natural

disasters containing 61 action points have been issued on 25.05.2021. District Collectors have been instructed to initiate adequate preparedness measures to face any eventuality during Southwest Monsoon 2021.

2.37 Coastal Disaster Risk Reduction Project (CDRRP):

Costal Disaster Risk Reduction Project is being implemented with the assistance from World Bank with a financial outlay of Rs.1560.19 crore. Important works like multihazard resistance houses, multipurpose evacuation shelters, Fish Landing Centres and distribution of VHF marine radio sets etc., have been taken up under this project. The works of conversion of over head lines into under ground cabling network taken up by TANGEDCO in Cuddalore and Nagapatinam Districts, installation of Early Warning System and preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Mapping by Department of Environment are in progress.

2.38 COVID-19:

Taking into account the spread of Corona Virus in India and considering the fact that the World Health Organization has declared the COVID – 19 as a Pandemic, the Union Government, Ministry of Home Affairs (Disaster Management Division) declared COVID – 19 as a notified disaster for the purpose of providing assistance under SDRF. As per the guidelines issued by the Union Government complete lockdown was enforced throughout the State and extended from time to time. As on 25.08.2021, more than 26 lakh persons have tested positive for Covid-19.

There was considerable increase in the number of Covid-19 positive cases across the State during the second wave of Covid-19 in the year 2021. Due to strict follow up of disease containment activities the cases have come down and the situation is being critically monitored.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has been reviewing at regular intervals to take stock of the prevailing situation due to the outbreak of pandemic and has issued regular instructions for the effective containment of the disease. The Government of Tamil Nadu have released a sum of Rs.8,763.03 Crore from State Disaster Response Fund.

2.39 Sustainable Development Goals:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as a road map for achieving a better and more sustainable future for all. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development consists of 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets. Removal of poverty is one of the primary efforts of any such exercise. Revenue and Disaster Management Department, through its various pensions schemes, ensures that extreme poverty and hunger is avoided. Through various disaster mitigation efforts, a more sustainable development approach is adopted.

3. LAND ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Commissionerate of Land Administration was formed from the erstwhile Board of Revenue in 1980 to carry out various functions pertaining primarily to land matters. Some of the subjects dealt by this department are -

- Supervision of maintenance of registry (patta transfer of private lands, and appeal / revision on the same)
- Statutory and appellate powers under various Ryotwari Settlement Acts, Natham Settlement scheme, and Updation of Registry scheme
- **Dealing with Government lands:**
 - Assignment of cultivable lands and house sites, including regularization of residential encroachments in unobjectionable poramboke
 - Lease of Government lands
 - Eviction of encroachments

- Land transfer from one department to another / to Government of India departments
- Land alienation to state / central government undertakings / boards,
- Land acquisition of private lands, which are required for public purpose
- Regulation of the drawal of water from Government source for irrigation purposes.
- Minor irrigation census.

For carrying out the above functions, the Commissioner of Land Administration is assisted by two Additional / Joint Commissioners (IAS), two Joint Commissioners, one Deputy Director (Statistics), one Chief Accounts Officer and Seven Assistant Commissioners. This Department's activities are guided by the Revenue Standing Orders, various Acts, Rules and Government Orders.

3.2 Patta Transfer:

The Commissioner of Land Administration conducts periodical review meetings with the

Director of Survey and Settlement / District Collectors / District Revenue Officers and monitors to ensure effective implementation of Online Patta Transfer System.

Online Patta Transfer:

Patta transfer services are available online to the general public through the common service centres. The applicants can go to their nearest Common Service Centre (C.S.C) to apply for patta transfer service. Acknowledgement is being issued to them immediately. Thereafter, patta transfer application is processed in a work-flow based system by Taluk officials. The action taken on the patta transfer application is being sent to the applicant through SMS. By using this facility, the applicant can get copies of Chitta and "A" Register online. Legal validity has been conferred to these documents with digital signature and QR (Quick Response) code. This system has been implemented in all taluks of the

state. The Directorate of Survey and Settlement and the Commissionerate of Land Administration are monitoring the district level patta transfer pendency and periodical instructions are being issued by the Government to quicken the process of issuing patta transfer orders.

All registration transactions in the sub-registrar offices are transferred to taluk offices electronically and they get updated through online patta Transfer process in Revenue Registry (i.e. Tamil Nilam land record database). This process eliminates the need for land owners to apply for patta transfer separately.

3.3 Assignment of House Sites:

The policy of the Government is to provide decent housing facility, by granting free house-sites or houses to all the houseless poor. Accordingly, free of house-site assignment is given to eligible landless poor persons from the available Government land classified as "Natham

Vacant”, under the provisions of RSO 21. The District Collectors / Revenue Divisional Officers are empowered under RSO 21(6) to change the classification of various types of unobjectionable Government poramboke lands, where sufficient lands classified as Natham is not available for the grant of free house site assignment to landless poor persons.

To ensure the women’s welfare, the free house sites are assigned in favour of the woman member of the family only. As per the existing rules, three cents in rural areas, one and half cents in Municipal areas and one cent in Corporation areas are assigned to each eligible family subject to other conditions. Based on this, from 17.5.2021 to 25.08.2021, 3132 free house site pattas were issued.

In order to have a detailed data base on residential encroachments in government poramboke lands and to monitor the progress

made in the implementation of special scheme, the government land register module has been upgraded through National Informatics Centre and it is linked to Tamil Nilam and e-adangal to ascertain the status of Government lands and encroachments.

3.4 Land Lease:

Government lands/ buildings/ lands with buildings can be leased out under the provision of RSO 24-A for temporary occupation for a specified period in favour of individuals, private bodies, companies and local bodies for non-agricultural purpose, subject to various conditions. In order to ensure the proper utilization of leased out lands, the following important conditions have also been imposed.

- (i) The government land should be utilized only for the purpose for which it was leased out.

- (ii) Sub lease or renting the leased area or conveying the lease hold rights is not allowed.
- (iii) If any violation of lease condition is noticed, immediate action shall be taken to resume the land by adopting the procedures without any compensation.

In general the minimum period of Lease is 3 years at a time, while maximum period is for 30 years. In exceptional cases, the Government may grant long term lease up to 99 years, considering the necessity, public welfare and social cause involved.

As per prevailing orders in force, the annual lease rent is fixed @ 7% of land value for non-commercial purposes and 14% of land value for commercial purposes. The market value or guideline value, whichever is higher shall be taken into consideration for arriving tentative value of the leased out land to fix the lease rent. In

exceptional cases, nominal lease rent is fixed for the institutions which are rendering services to society and public causes involved in their activities.

The annual lease rent is revised once in three years by the District Collectors in long term lease cases, based on the prevailing market value of the land, irrespective of the land value.

The current monetary limits based on the tentative land value of the proposed land for fresh lease and renewal of lease at different levels are given in the table below:

Table 3.1

Officers	Monetary Limit (Land Cost)	
	Fresh Lease (Rupees)	Renewal of Lease (Rupees)
Tahsildar	Nil	Nil
Revenue Divisional Officer	Upto 50,000/-	Nil
District Revenue Officer	Upto 1,00,000/-	Nil
District Collector	Upto 4,00,000/-	Upto 10,00,000/-
Commissioner of Land Administration	Upto 5,00,000/-	Upto 25,00,000/-
Government	Above 5,00,000/-	Above 25,00,000/-

The master register of lease cases is being maintained at the taluk and the district level to make entry of each lease cases. This register is updated every fasli after the jamabandhi accounts are settled. The leased out lands are inspected by the Tahsildar / Revenue Divisional Officer / District Revenue Officer / District Collector periodically to ensure whether the lease conditions are being maintained.

The lease committee comprising of the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, and the Commissioner of Land Administration is empowered to renew all commercial / non-commercial lease cases and to recommend to Government all other cases.

3.4.1 Salt Land Lease:

Similarly, government poramboke lands (salt pan) located in coastal areas are leased out for temporary occupation for a specified period for the purpose of production of salt and its allied products under the provisions of RSO 24-A.

The lease rent and other charges for the salt pan lands leased out for the production of salt and its allied products are levied as follows:

Table 3.2

1	Lease rent	Rs.5/-per acre/ per annum
2	Royalty	Rs.2/-per metric tonne of salt produced subject to a minimum of Rs.100/- per acre per annum.
3	Local cess 100%	Rs.5/- per acre/ per annum
4	Local cess surcharge 500%	Rs.25/- per acre/ per annum
	Total	Rs.135/- per acre/ per annum

An extent of about 27,777 Acres of salt pan lands available in Tamil Nadu coastal areas has been leased out to individuals/ companies for the production of salt and its allied products. To encourage the salt industry and taking into consideration of the welfare of the small salt producers in the state, the lease rent and royalty for salt land lease have been fixed at the reasonable rate compared to other states.

3.5 Eviction of Encroachments:

Protection of government lands from encroachments is the policy of the government. The government have taken sustained action effectively to remove the encroachments from the government lands vested with various departments. Encroachments in government lands are evicted as per Tamil Nadu Land Encroachment Act,1905.

The Government has enacted several Acts (e.g. Tamil Nadu Tank Protection and Eviction of Encroachment Act, 2007) to ensure to safeguard the government lands and evict encroachments.

Based on the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in W.P. No. 26722/ 2013, Dated 8.10.2014, the government issued orders in G.O.(Ms)No. 540, Revenue [LD6(2)] Department, dated 4.12.2014 to form three different redressal committees at the Taluk, Divisional and

District level to redress the grievances of the general public.

3.6 Land Transfer:

The transfer of government lands are made under the provisions of RSO 23 and RSO 23A. Under RSO 23 the government lands are transferred to union government departments on collection of land cost whereas RSO 23-A states about transfer of government lands to the State Government departments on free of cost.

In G.O.(Ms.) No.241, Revenue & Disaster Management Department dated 16.05.2020 all the District Collectors have been empowered to issue enter upon permission to various departments in the unobjectionable government poramboke lands without monetary limit and in respect of objectionable poramboke lands the District Collectors have been empowered to issue enter upon permission after getting the NOC from

the concerned departments pending land transfer orders.

3.7 Alienation of Land:

As like transfer of government lands to government departments, the government lands can be alienated under the provisions of RSO 24 to undertaking of union and state government / boards / corporations and local bodies for public purpose. Private institutions and companies can also request alienation of land if their needs are genuine, subject to availability of lands. The land cost shall be collected from the intending bodies at the rate of single market value for non-commercial purpose and double the market value for commercial purpose along with the conditions laid down in RSO 24(6).

The government alienate the land to Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board and local bodies, free of land cost for

implementation of drinking water scheme, underground drainage schemes and solid waste management scheme, etc., Similarly, the government lands are alienated free of cost in favour of Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board for construction of tenements to houseless poor people.

The order of alienation of government lands are conditional in nature, wherein the government reserves the right to resume the land whenever noticed that the lands are under violation of conditions.

In respect of unobjectionable Poramboke lands, without considering monetary limit, the government have delegated powers to District Collectors for granting enter upon permission to TANGEDCO. In respect of objectionable poramboke lands, when NOC is issued by the respective departments, the District Collector / District Revenue Officer concerned is empowered

grant enter upon permission subject to the conditions specified by the government, pending finalization of the orders of land alienation.

The monetary limit to various revenue authorities for issuing land alienation are given as follows:

Table 3.3

Sl. No.	Designation	Monetary powers (in Rs.)
1.	Tahsildar	50,000/-
2.	Revenue Divisional Officer	1,00,000/-
3.	District Revenue Officer	2,50,000/-
4.	District Collector	10,00,000/-
5.	Commissioner of Land Administration	15,00,000/-
6.	Government	Above 15,00,000/-

3.7.1 Secretariat Level Committee:

A Secretariat Level Committee has been formed by the government in order to quicken the process of land transfer, land alienation and land lease proposals. This committee is headed by the Secretary to Government, Revenue and Disaster Management Department with the Commissioner of Land Administration being the Convener / Member- Secretary of the committee and the heads of respective departments as the members of the committee. When consent / NOC of the respective department is required for transfer, alienation and lease, the proposals shall be placed before the committee meeting to obtain the views of head of department concerned approving or objecting the proposal.

3.8 Permission for Laying of Pipelines / Optical Fibre Cables:

In respect of laying pipelines / optical fibre cables in government lands, permission is granted

under the provisions of RSO 24 A for specified period in favour of individuals, private bodies, companies and local bodies for various commercial and non- commercial activities, on collection of track rent as specified by the government. The government have exempted to collect the track rent for laying pipeline for the purpose of drawal of water for agricultural activities.

3.9 Land Acquisition:

The Government of India have enacted the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Central Act, 30/2013) (RFCTLARR Act, 2013) with effect from 1.1.2014. The old Land Acquisition Act, 1894 was repealed.

As per section 105(A) of new RFCTLARR Act, 2013 the following three State Acts have been included in the fifth schedule of the Act.

- i. Tamil Nadu Acquisition of Land for Harijan Welfare Schemes Act, 1978 (Tamil Nadu Act 31 of 1978)
- ii. Tamil Nadu Acquisition of Land for Industrial Purposes Act, 1997 (Tamil Nadu Act 10/1999),
- iii. Tamil Nadu Highways Act, 2001 (Tamil Nadu Act 34/2002)

To continue the land acquisition works under the above three State Acts, the Government of Tamil Nadu have enacted the Tamil Nadu Land Acquisition Laws (Revival of Operation, Amendment and Validation) Act, 2019 (Tamil Nadu Act 38 of 2019) with the assent of the President of India.

According to the above Revival Act 2019, all the provisions of the above said three Acts, except the provisions relating to the determination of compensation in the respective

Acts, shall stand revived with effect on and from the 26th day of September 2013. Further, the provisions relating to the determination of compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement and infrastructure amenities as specified in the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 shall apply to the land acquisition proceedings under the above three Acts.

3.10 Updation of Land Records:

Land records maintained by the Revenue Department have already been computerized and work is underway to further improve the database. As part of this, certain drives are being undertaken to improve the quality of land records and ensure certainty of holding. Firstly, the records (online TAMIL NILAM and Collabland) are being updated to include the names of the several thousand beneficiaries who have been given house sites over the last many decades by the

Revenue, Adi-Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, and Backward Classes / Most Backward Classes Welfare Department under various Government schemes, either by regularisation, or assignment of unobjectionable poramboke lands, or acquisition of private lands. Upon completion of this drive, all beneficiaries will be able to obtain an e-patta online. This exercise is also coupled with a field exercise to exactly identify the assigned lands in favour of the beneficiaries and also identify vacant lands for new beneficiaries.

In addition, during the computerization of village revenue records in the past years, various type of clerical errors crept in the data base of Tamil Nilam and incorrect entries also found in the online land records. In order to clean up the database, special measures are being taken to rectify the above errors by the District Revenue

Officers and Revenue Divisional officers under the direct supervision of the District Collectors.

Furthermore, government poramboke lands and private patta lands have been allotted to various departments and government agencies, boards and other organizations by way of land transfer, land alienation and land acquisition for various projects of the government in the past years. A special drive is being undertaken to update the land records for the above lands in Tamil Nilam data base in the name of the requisitioning body.

3.11 Sixth Minor Irrigation Census

The Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics Scheme is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the Ministry of Jal Shakthi (MoJS), Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, launched in order to take up the 6th Minor Irrigation Census and build up a comprehensive database on the

Minor Irrigation Sector. This is implemented on quinquennial basis in all States / UTs.

The main objective of this scheme is to build a reliable and sound data base on minor irrigation section, which will be useful for estimating availability of ground water and formulation of realistic plan for water resources development.

The Commissioner of Land Administration is the state minor irrigation census commissioner in Tamil Nadu.

4. LAND REFORMS

The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Act, 1961 (Tamil Nadu Act, 58/1961) was enacted in pursuance of clauses (b) and (c) of Article 39 of the Constitution of India, to secure the distribution of ownership and control of the material resources of the community so that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production in the hands of certain persons to the common detriment.

உழுவார் உலகத்தார்க் காணியஃ தாற்றா
தெழுவாரை எல்லாம் பொறுத்து
(Uzhuvaar ulagathaark kaaniyag thattra
thezhuvarai yellam poruthu)

- Kural 1032

*The ploughers are the linch-pin of the
world; they bear*

*Them up who other works perform, too
weak its toils to share.*

Agricultural land ownership being a key resource for economic progress of the community, it was necessary to reduce the disparities in the ownership of agricultural land, fix a ceiling on agricultural land holdings, to acquire the excess land and distribute it to the landless and others in the rural community.

Apart from the above Land Ceiling Act, this department also implements tenancy laws, minimum wages Act for agricultural labourers, Bhoodan Act and other works related to the Agricultural Income Tax.

The Chief Minister's Uzhavar Pathukappu Thittam (CMUPT) is providing social security for agriculturists and persons of allied occupations and their families also implemented by this department.

4.1 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL - ROLE OF LAND REFORMS DEPARTMENT

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all member countries of United Nations including India in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart, are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

Sustainable Development Goal 1 : End Poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Sustainable Development Target 1.4 : By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the

vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.

The Land Reforms Department plays a vital role in providing social security through its programmes and initiatives involving distribution of land to landless rural community, through implementation of Land Ceiling Act. This initiative involves reducing of disparities in ownership of agricultural land, thereby enabling poor rural communities secure livelihoods. Similarly, the distribution of Bhoodan lands to landless agricultural labourers for the development of agriculture and alleviation of poverty.

This is a strategy which addresses Goal 1 and Target 1.4 of Sustainable Development Goals.

Further on the basis of the above Goal and Target, this Department implements fixation of minimum wages to the agricultural labourers for various agricultural activities under the Minimum Wage Act is a way to ensure poor labourers get fair wages protecting them from exploitation.

Sustainable Development Target 1.3	:	Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve sustainable coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.
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The scheme "Chief Ministers Uzhavar Padhukappu Thittam" implemented by this department also provides social protection measure by insulating the farmers, agricultural labourers and their families by providing support in the form of monetary assistance, even when

the main member is temporarily incapacitated due to incidence of severe diseases. The various assistance provided under this scheme help the state in achieving the above target.

4.2 Organization Structure

The Commissioner of Land Reforms is assisted by the Director of Land Reforms, Joint Director, Assistant Commissioners and Financial Advisor/ Chief Accounts Officer at Headquarters.

At district level, the progress of work relating to Land Reforms Act and Rules, Chief Minister's Uzhavar Pathukappu Thittam, works relating to the Agricultural Income Tax and Bhoodan Act is implemented and monitored administratively by the District Collector and assisted by the District Revenue Officer, Sub-Collector / Revenue Divisional Officers, Additional Personal Assistant (Land), Special Deputy Collector (Social Security Scheme), a Land Reforms Unit and a team of Revenue Officials

down the level. Apart from this Tenancy Laws are implemented throughout the State through ten Revenue Courts with Special Deputy Collectors as Presiding Officers.

4.3 Ceiling limits in force

As per the Tamil Nadu Land Reforms [Fixation of Ceiling on Land] Act, 1961 as amended the ceiling limit currently in force, with effect from 15.2.1970 is as below:-

- The extent allowed as ceiling limit for person, firm, society, private trust, company is 15 standard acres.
- The extent allowed as ceiling limit for a family consisting of 5 members is 15 standard acres and additional 5 standard acres are allowed to each additional member of a family in the case of family consisting of more than 5 members and the overall ceiling limit of a family is 30 standard acres.

- 10 standard acres of extent allowed as stridhana to each female member if held land in her own name as on 15.2.1970.
- Act does not apply to the public trust of religious nature in existence as on 1.3.1972.
- 5 Standard acres of extent is allowed to public trust of charitable nature in existence as on 1.3.1972.
- No lands are allowed to public trust, created after 1.3.1972, except with permission of Government for educational / hospital purposes.

4.3.1 Permission to Industrial/ Commercial undertakings

- As per Section 37-A of the Act, the government is granting permission to industrial or commercial undertakings to acquire or to hold the lands acquired in excess of the ceiling limit of 15 standard

acres, if they bonafide carries on any industrial or commercial operation.

- For this, industrial or commercial undertakings should apply to the government within 180 days as per the amended rules or within 180 days from the date of purchase of such land.
- As per the amended Act, 2018, the ceiling area in the case of every industrial or commercial undertaking which invests more than 20 crores of rupees shall be 30 standard acres, provided that such land shall be dry land.

4.3.2 Permission to Public Trusts

- As per section 37-B of the Act , the Government grants permission to the Public Trust to acquire lands or to hold land acquired for educational or hospital purposes.

- For this, the Public Trust should apply to the Government within 180 days as per the amended rules or within 180 days from the date of purchase of such land.

4.4 Revenue Courts

To deal with the disputes between the land owner and tenants under various Tenancy Laws, 10 Revenue Courts in Cuddalore, Mayiladuthruai, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Mannargudi, Tiruchirapalli, Lalgudi, Nagapattinam, Madurai and Tirunelveli are functioning under the Special Deputy Collector as Presiding Officer with quasi-judicial powers.

4.4.1 Tenancy Laws

The following Acts are dealt by the Revenue Courts:

- (i) The Tamil Nadu Cultivating Tenants Protection Act, 1955 [Tamil Nadu Act 25/55]**, protects the interest of the

cultivating tenants from eviction from the land.

(ii) The Tamil Nadu Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Act, 1956 [Tamil Nadu Act 24/56], provides for fixing fair rent to be paid to the landowner by the cultivating tenants.

(iii) The Tamil Nadu Public Trusts (Regulation and Administration of Agricultural Land) Act, 1961 [Tamil Nadu Act 57/61], provides for regulating the relation of Public Trust and their cultivating tenants and also to settle their disputes.

(iv) The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Lands (Record of Tenancy Rights) Act, 1969 [Tamil Nadu Act 10/69], protects the rights of the cultivating tenants by registering as tenants.

(v) The Tamil Nadu Occupants of Kudiyruppu (Conferment of Ownership) Act, 1971 as amended, provides for the conferment of ownership rights to any agriculturist or agricultural labourer and also to rural artisans who occupies any Kudiyruppu on 1.04.1990, either as tenant or as licensee.

4.4.2 Details of Overall disposal and pendency in Revenue Courts

From 01.06.2011 to 30.06.2021

1	Cases pending as on 31.5.2011	9,806
2	Receipt from 1.6.2011 to 30.06.2021	48,350
3	Disposal	55,180
4	Balance as on 30.06.2021	2,976

From 01.04.2021 to 30.06.2021

1	Cases pending as on 31.3.2021	2,865
2	Receipt from 1.4.2021 to 30.06.2021	203
3	Disposal	92
4	Balance as on 30.06.2021	2,976

4.4.3 Fixation of Minimum Wages to Agricultural Labourers

The Minimum Wages Act is implemented in the State (except Nagapattinam, Myladuthurai and Tiruvarur Districts) for fixation of minimum wages to the agricultural labourers for various agricultural activities. In respect of Nagapattinam, Myladuthurai and Tiruvarur Districts, the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers Fair Wages Act, 1969 is being implemented.

4.5 Bhoodan Board

The Bhoodan Yagna Movement was initiated by Sri Acharya Vinoba Bhave in the year 1951. The land Lords voluntarily gifted of land to

Bhoodan Yagna is the special feature of this movement. Acharya Vinoba Bhave toured extensively to various parts of Tamil Nadu between 13.03.1956 and 18.04.1957 and received 28,050 acres lands donate to this Movement.

The Bhoodan lands are administered by the Bhoodan Board. The Board has been constituted as per section 4 of the Tamil Nadu Bhoodan Yagna Act 1958. The Hon'ble Minister for Khadi and Village Industries is the Chairman of the Board. The Director of Land Reforms is the Member Secretary of the Board. The Secretary to Government (Revenue and Disaster Management Department), Commissioner of Land Reforms, Director of Horticulture Department and Director of Agriculture are the official members and there are 7 non official members. The term of office of the Board is 4 years as per the section 5 of the above said Act. In order to curb the illegal sale of

Bhoodan lands in TamilNadu, changes of "0" value for Bhoodan lands are being done.

4.6 History on Agricultural Labourers Welfare Schemes

A committee under the chairmanship of the then Commissioner of Land Reforms was constituted in the year 1998, to suggest measures for the upliftment of education and socio-economic conditions of the agricultural labourers in the State. Based on the suggestions of the committee, the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers Welfare Board was constituted. Further, based on the recommendations of the said Board, the 'Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers Social Security and Welfare Scheme' was implemented in the year 2001. Under this scheme, 7,32,130 persons were enrolled as members.

In the year 2005, a new scheme, namely, the 'Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Farmers Security Scheme' was implemented in lieu of the above

scheme with effect from 15.08.2005. Under this scheme 66,49,895 Family Identity Cards were distributed and 2,02,73,879 members were registered. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.90.81 crores was disbursed to 3,39,150 beneficiaries.

Subsequently, the Government enacted an exclusive legislation called the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers- Farmers (Social Security and Welfare) Act, 2006, (Tamil Nadu Act 29/2006) for the welfare of agricultural labourers and farmers. Based on the statutory provisions, the Government notified the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers – Farmers (Social Security and Welfare) Scheme, 2006. The scheme came into effect from 22.12.2006. The scheme provides for the distribution of financial assistance to its registered members from birth to death, viz., marriage, childbirth/ miscarriage / termination of pregnancy, natural death, accidental death,

funeral, old age pension and assistance to their children for education and marriage.

The implementation of the above scheme was vested with the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers Welfare Board, constituted by the Government, consisting of Chairman, Joint Chairman, official members and non-official members. Under the scheme, from 22.12.2006 to 10.9.2011, 76,46,293 Family Identity Cards have been distributed and thus 1,74,83,172 members have been registered. A sum of Rs.660.91 crores was disbursed to 5,98,365 beneficiaries.

Subsequently, the Government in G.O.(Ms) No.265, Revenue (LR.I(2) Department, dated 10.9.2011 have ordered to implement the Chief Minister's Farmers Security Scheme in lieu of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers-Farmers (Social Security and Welfare) Scheme 2006 by repealing the erstwhile Act.

4.6.1 Chief Minister's Farmers Security Scheme 2011

Eligibility and Members Registered

- All agricultural labourers who are engaged in agriculture and allied to agriculture.
- Agriculture related works are Inland fisheries, Dairy farming, Horticulture, Sericulture, Cattle rearing, Poultry and Plantation.
- Small / Marginal farmers who owns a 2.50 acres of wet lands or 5.00 acres of dry lands and doing agricultural occupation directly and cultivating tenants.
- In the age group of 18 to 65 years are registered as main members under the scheme.
- The un-earning member of the family of main member will be registered as dependent members.
- The total members registered under the scheme as on 30.06.2021 are as below.

**Table 4.1
Details of registered members**

1.	Main Members	1,46,95,907
2.	Dependents	1,35,75,063
	Total	2,82,70,970

Under the scheme, the following financial assistances are given:-

For members,

- Marriage assistance
- Old age pension
- Monthly assistance during temporary incapacitation period
- Accident relief
- Natural death assistance
- Funeral expenses

For dependents,

- Educational assistance
- Marriage assistance
- Grant to orphan of the member who died due to HIV
- Funeral expenses

As per G.O. Ms. No. 86, Revenue [LR I(2)] Department, dated 20.2.2014, Old Age Pension under Chief Minister's Uzhavar Pathukappu Thittam is given through Commissioner of Revenue Administration Department with effect from 1.4.2014.

4.6.2 Financial Assistance

The following assistances are given under the Scheme:-

Table 4.2

Details of Assistance for Main members and Dependant members

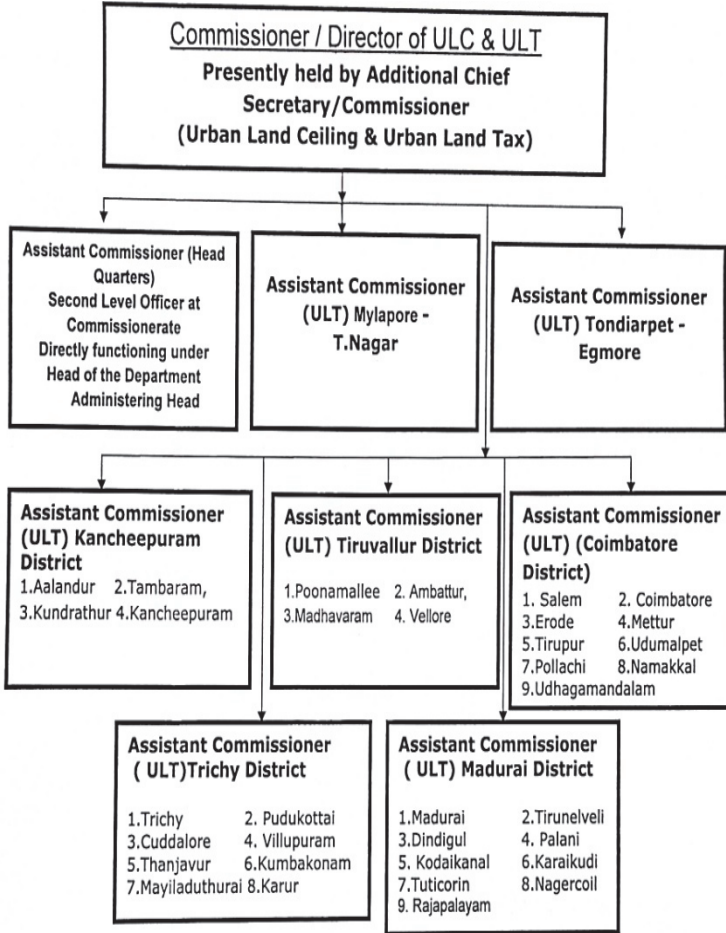
For Main Members	Details of Assistance
1. Marriage Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For male Rs.8000/- • For female Rs.10,000/-
2. Old Age Pension	Rs.1,000/- per month.
3. Monthly payment for temporary incapacitation period due to following deceases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) TB, ii) Cancer, iii) HIV/AIDS, iv) Dialysis, v) Upper Limb and Lower Limb related fractures and dislocations, vi) Neurological problems, vii) Spinal Cord Injury, viii) Cardiac problems, ix) Loss of vision, x) Liver diseases, xi) Kidney diseases, xii) Acute Psychosis, xiii) Sickle Cell Anemia, xiv) Thalassemia, xv) Haemophilia 	Rs.1,000/- per month.

<p>4. Accident Relief</p> <p>5. Natural Death Assistance</p> <p>6. Funeral Expenses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For death Rs.1,00,000/- • For accident injuries Rs.20,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/- based on the type of injury. <p>Rs.20,000/-</p> <p>Rs.2,500/-</p>
For dependant Members	Details of Assistance
<p>1. Educational Assistance</p> <p>2. Marriage Assistance</p> <p>3. Grant to Orphan children of the member who died due to HIV</p> <p>4. Funeral Expenses</p>	<p>From Rs.1,250/- to Rs.6,750/- per year to the boys and girls pursuing education from ITI / Polytechnic to Post Graduate professional courses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For male Rs. 8000/- • For female Rs.10,000/- <p>Rs.1,000/-per month till the individual reaches 18 years.</p> <p>Rs.2,500/-</p>

5. Urban Land Ceiling and Urban Land Tax

The department handles subject related to provisions of The Tamil Nadu Urban Land Tax Act 1966/Amendment Act 1991 as well as the Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act 1978. The Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act 1978 was repealed w.e.f. 16.6.1999.

Hierarchy of the Department



5.1 Enactment of The Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1978

The Ceiling Act was enacted in 1978 with an objective to prevent monopoly of land in urban areas, curbing the land crisis in urban markets and reduce the soaring prices. The provisions of the Act were extended to 6 urban agglomerations viz., Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem, Tiruchirappalli & Tirunelveli. The Act had fixed a ceiling on vacant urban land for a person can hold in urban agglomeration.

Sl. No	Urban Agglomeration	Individual	Family	Industrial undertaking
		Sq.mt.	Sq.mt.	Sq.mt
1	Chennai	500	2,000	2,000
2	Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchirapalli & Salem	1,500	3,000	3,000
3	Tirunelveli	2,000	4,000	4,000

5.2 Details of repeal Act as follows

The Principal Act was repealed vide Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Repeal Act 20/1999 with effect from 16.06.1999 with a Provision of saving clause Under section 3. (1) *The Repeal of the Principal Act shall not affect:-*

(a) the vesting of any vacant land under sub-section (3) of section 11, possession of which has been taken over by the State Government or any person duly authorised by the State Government in this behalf or by the competent authority.

5.3 Innocent Buyers Scheme

Several decades ago numerous persons had purchased land/housing plots in city suburban areas that were taken over by the Government under provisions of the 1978 Act. At the time of transaction neither the vendor nor the buyer was aware of the classification of the land. Those buyers were unable to obtain patta and they were

facing huge problem in managing their property. They were suffering even when they had bought these properties without the fact of land ceiling being known to them.

In 1998 Government decided to provide relief to these innocent buyers by introducing a scheme viz., Innocent Buyers Scheme by way of G.O.(Ms.) No.649, Revenue Department, dated 29.07.1998.

Land value to be paid by Innocent Buyers was fixed on the basis of the zonal value prevailing in a particular urban agglomeration at the time of acquisition. Thereafter the above Government Order was superseded with another G.O.(Ms.) No.565, Revenue Department, dated 26.9.2008 wherein revised norms and guidelines were issued. However the land value was retained at the earlier value.

So far 4293 cases involving 9,73,489 sq.m extent of land have been regularized on payment

of Rs. 32,20,40,554 towards land value paid by innocent buyers.

5.4 Enactment of the Tamil Nadu Urban Land Tax Act 1966

The Principal Act in 1966 was enacted with a view to augment the resources of the state, to prevent conversion of agricultural lands into non-agricultural uses and to rationalize the scheme of taxation of land in urban areas. The Principal Act was first implemented in Chennai city with retrospective effect from 1.7.1963. Urban Land Tax was levied at 4% of average market value provided for the urban lands comprised in a sub zone. Urban Land Tax was payable in lieu of ryotwari assessment, ground rent, quit rent etc.

5.5 Further Extension of the Principal Act 1966

The Act was extended to the Municipal Towns of Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruchirappalli and Madurai from 1.7.1971.

The Act was extended to the belt areas lying within 16 km from the outer limits of Chennai City from 1.7.1975.

The Act was extended to Tirunelveli Urban Agglomeration and other peripheral areas of Coimbatore, Salem, Tiruchirappalli and Madurai from 01.07.1981.

The areas under both the Tamil Nadu Urban Land Tax Act 1966 and Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act 1978 are co-terminus w.e.f. 1.7.1981.

5.6 Revision of Rate of Urban Land Tax

The rate of Urban Land Tax was revised on three occasions w.e.f. 1.7.1971, 1.7.1972 & 1.7.1975. It was lastly amended as per G.O.(Ms.)No.2625, Revenue Department, dated 27.12.1976 as detailed below:

Rate of Tax

All urban lands in area other than the Chennai City Belt Area		All urban lands in the Chennai City Belt Area	
Extent of Urban Land	Rate of Tax	Extent of urban land	Rate of Tax
First 2 Grounds	Nil	First 3 Grounds	Nil
Where aggregate extent exceeds two grounds but does not exceed 5 grounds	0.7%	Where aggregate extent exceeds 3 grounds but does not exceed 7 grounds	0.7%
Where aggregate extent exceeds 5 grounds but does not exceed 10 grounds	1%	Where aggregate extent exceeds 7 grounds but does not exceed 10 grounds	1%
Where the aggregate extent exceeds 10 grounds but does not exceed 20 grounds	1.5%	Where the aggregate extent exceeds 10 grounds but does not exceed 20 grounds	1.5%
Where the aggregate extent exceeds 20 Grounds	2%	Where the aggregate extent exceeds 20 Grounds	2%

5.7 Introduction of the Tamil Nadu Urban Land Tax Amendment Act 1991

The Principal Act was amended by Act No.1 of 1992 from 1.7.1991. The provisions of the Act were extended to 21 Special Grade and Selection Grade Municipalities namely Erode, Pollachi, Thanjavur, Tiruppur, Tuticorin, Vellore, Uthagamandalam, Dindigul, Karur, Nagercoil, Kumbakonam, Cuddalore, Pudukottai, Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Myladuthurai, Udumalpet, Palani, Karaikudi, Rajapalayam, Namakkal and to 2 Townships namely Kodaikanal and Mettur.

5.8 Demand raised in the current Fasli year 1430

Since implementation of the Tamil Nadu Urban Land Tax Act, 1966 / The Amendment Act 1991, around 1.9 lakh assesseees have been assessed to Urban Land Tax in the notified areas fully/partly covered under 24 districts of the State. A sum of Rs. 18.36 crore was fixed as

demand of Urban Land Tax for the current Fasli year 1430.

Statutory Exemption allowed cases

- 29(a) Lands owned by the State or the Central Government.
- 29(b) Lands owned by civic bodies
- 29(c) Lands set apart for public worship.
- 29(d) Lands on which Government hospitals situated / private hospital situated in receipt of grant from State or the Central Government.
- 29(e) Lands used for the purpose of disposal of death.
- 29(f) Lands used for roads / communal purposes.
- 29(g) Lands used for public purposes provided no income is derived from the user of the land.
- 29(h) Lands owned and used by educational institutions duly recognized by State / Central Government.
- 29(i) Lands used for Public Parks, Public Libraries and Public Museums.
- 29(j) Lands used for sheltering purposes.
- 29(k) Lands used for religious, charitable or philanthropic purposes, as the Government may, by notification, specify.
- 29(l) Lands used for preservation of ancient monuments.

Concessions Allowed Cases

- (1) 50% rebate of tax for any building occupied by the owner for residential purposes.
- (2) 50% rebate of tax for all Sabhas of musical, dramatic or other such performance takes place.
- (3) 10% rebate of tax for Cinema Theatres.
- (4) Where an urban land is used for residential and industrial purposes, the industry is being run by the urban land owner himself 25% concession in the case of small scale industries and 10% in the case of other industries.
- (5) All lands in Chennai city notified as slums under section 3(b) of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Act are totally exempted from the tax.

6. Survey and Settlement

The Department of Survey and Settlement has endeavoured to produce land records for almost every land parcel in the state. Modern technologies like GPS (Global Positioning System) based survey and Electronic Total Station (ETS) are now gradually replacing the traditional survey equipment viz., Chains, Cross-Staffs and Theodolites in survey works. Digital land records have replaced the age-old manuscript based land records and web-enabled online Patta transfer system has replaced manual land-related services in taluk offices.

6.1 Modernization of Land Records:

- (i) All types of land records viz., Rural, Urban, Natham, Field Measurement Sketches have already been computerized. Land records of rural and urban areas were brought online in a phased manner. As on date, land records of

311 Taluks, 13 Corporations, 91 Towns have been facilitated to be downloaded at free of cost for the public under the “Anytime Anywhere e-Services” at: <https://eservices.tn.gov.in/eservicesnew/index.html>.

- (ii) Field Measurement Sketches have been digitized using Collabland software and are available online under the above e-services link free of cost.
- (iii) All village maps (16,721) have been scanned and preserved. Vectorization of village maps is under progress at the Central Survey office, Chennai. Currently, 80% of the village maps have been vectorized. The rest of the maps will be vectorized in the current year (2021-22). Vectorization of Urban Block maps is under progress in all District Survey Offices.
- (iv) Scanning of original UDR ‘A’ Registers is in progress at the Directorate of Survey and

Settlement. 45% of the work has been completed and the balance will be completed shortly.

- (v) Online Patta Transfer scheme was implemented for Rural and Urban areas in a phased manner. From 01.04.2021 to 25.08.2021, 18,41,779 applications have been received through online mode and 10,96,664 applications have been disposed of in both Rural and Urban land records. Under this system, SMS is sent to applicants on receipt of applications (acknowledgement), date of field inspection by Firka Surveyor and after approval or rejection of applications by Tahsildar / Deputy Tahsildar.
- (vi) Web based software (STAR 2.0) of Registration Department has been integrated with Web based Tamil Nilam Land Record software in order to transmit registration

details of landed properties through online mode to Tamil Nilam software to initiate Patta transfer activities. From 01.04.2021 to 25.08.2021, 10,24,296 applications have been received through online mode from Registration department out of which 5,41,266 applications have been disposed of and 2,72,579 Patta transfers have been done.

6.2 Modern Survey / Resurvey

- (i) In order to facilitate Satellite based digital survey which is much faster and more precise a network of Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) have been established in 70 locations across the State through triangulation and they have been networked with the Control centre which has been established at the Directorate of Survey and Settlement in Chennai under the Central Sector Scheme 'Digital India Land Records

Modernization Programme' (DILRMP). These stations cover the whole area of Tamil Nadu.

(ii) Under DILRMP, Resurvey using Modern Survey equipment viz., Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) and Electronic Total Station (ETS), based on Real Time Kinematic (RTK) Technology is being conducted in 3 districts viz., Krishnagiri, Kanniyakumari, and the Nilgiris. So far, 387.65 Sq. Km. area in Krishnagiri district, 341.27 Sq. Km. area in Kanniyakumari district, and 207.14 Sq. Km. area in the Nilgiris district, have been surveyed.

(iii) Town survey work using modern survey equipments have been completed in Semmencheri in Chennai, Goundampalayam in Coimbatore, Periyasemur in Erode and Tirupur Corporation, and is in progress in Pammal, Anagapathur, Tirutani, Perambalur Towns and Vellore Corporation.

6.3 Creation of basic infrastructure:

(i) Firka Surveyor quarters: To enable the public to approach firka surveyors easily and also to provide basic infrastructure to the firka surveyors, 172 office cum residential quarters for firka surveyors have been constructed and put to use.

(ii) Land Records Management Centres (LRMCs): Under the Central Sector Scheme, DILRMP, modern record rooms / Land Records Management Centres have been created in 182 Taluks.

6.4 Improvements Proposed:

(i) Automatic Patta Transfer: This facilitates automatic transfer of titles without human intervention at the Revenue Department's end for land transactions that do not involve creation of sub-divisions in land parcels. Under this methodology, the registration

authorities would mark a registration of landed property for automatic Patta transfer in the registration department's software (STAR 2.0), if it satisfies some conditions. From 1.4.2021 to 25.08.2021 43,680 titles have been automatically mutated. This process will be further streamlined to cover more number of transactions.

(ii) Licensed Surveyors: Introduction of online system for computerised land records and integration with Registration department's software has resulted in huge inflow of Patta transfer applications and thereby created a need for engaging more manpower for disposing of the applications. In order to address the manpower shortage, the concept of 'Licensed Surveyor' has been introduced. Under this scheme, diploma holders in Civil Engineering are imparted survey training at the Survey Training Institute, Orathanadu for

3 months. They are provided with a 'Certificate of License in Land Surveying' and are engaged in various survey works including online Patta transfer work on contract basis. Licensed surveyors have also been allotted to Chennai Metro Rail and Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board for land acquisition works.

(iii) Pre-mutation of land records and layout sub-divisions: In order to curb registration of landed properties using fake documents, pre-mutation of land records (prior to registration) is proposed to be introduced. Development of software is in progress. Facility for creating sub-divisions in land records and assigning their titles in the name of the layout owner is also proposed to be implemented. This will facilitate automatic transfer of titles upon sale & registration of the plots later.

(iv) Apply from anywhere for Patta: Currently, landowners can apply for Patta

transfer only through Common Service Centres (CSCs). In order to provide them an option to apply from anywhere through internet, action is being taken to create a facility in Tamil Nilam Software in coordination with NIC and TNeGA to bring it for usage. This feature has been a long standing demand from Public and it will be made operational shortly.

(v) e-service for Village Maps: A facility is being created for the public to download village maps through the website of the Department of Survey and Settlement.

6.5 Disaster Recovery System of Online land records :

A disaster recovery system has been created at the Tamil Nadu Disaster Recovery Centre at Tiruchirapalli for real time backing up of the computerised land records (from Tamil Nilam).

6.6 Settlement

The procedure to determine the ownership of the land and the assessment to be levied on it is called Land Revenue Settlement.

In Tamil Nadu Ryotwari Settlement was introduced in 1879-80. Based on different types of soils and irrigation sources, lands were classified into various categories. Based on field enquires to determine the ownership, Patta registries were created. This process did not cover the land holdings covered under Zamin / Inam holdings.

After Independence, with a view to bring all such lands under Ryotwari Settlement, various abolition acts were enacted including:

- I. The Tamil Nadu Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1948 (Tamil Nadu Act XXVI/1948)

- II. The Tamil Nadu Inam Estates (Abolition and conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1963 (Tamil Nadu Act 26/1963).
- III. The Tamil Nadu Minor Inams (Abolition and conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1963 (Tamil Nadu Act 30/1963).
- IV. The Tamil Nadu Gudalur Janmam Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1969 (Tamil Nadu Act 24/1969).

Most of villages covered under the estates/ Inam have been brought under Ryotwari Settlement. Due to various court cases, the settlement work was delayed in a few cases and this work has now been undertaken.

6.6.1 Natham Settlement:

The original settlement work did not cover the village Natham Areas and Town areas. The house sites were not subdivided. This work was taken up subsequently and Natham settlement

has been completed in all villages and Natham Pattas issued for the house sites.

6.6.2 Settlement in Corporation and Towns:

The Settlement work in Urban areas is ongoing. The work has been completed in 20 Municipalities. At present, this work is going on in 6 Corporations and 62 Municipalities. The balance urban areas will be covered in next phase.

7. Conclusion

The Revenue and Disaster Management Department provides the essential framework of field administration in the State. As the state has evolved from a colonial government to a welfare state, this Department has also assumed multifarious responsibilities. The department performs sovereign functions of the state such as executive magistracy, disaster management and mitigation, provision of basic identity oriented services to the individual citizen through various certificates, land oriented services such as the maintenance of land records, and it is the custodian of government lands. The department also provides the social safety net for the poor and downtrodden through the various pension and relief schemes. To further social justice, this department is entrusted with the implementation of various progressive legislations including land reforms. Effective land management including

land acquisition, exchange, lease contribute to better economic growth. The evolution of the department is an ongoing process, and a modernized Revenue and Disaster Management department will be an engine of the state's progress.

K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran
***Minister for Revenue and
Disaster Management***