



**SOCIAL WELFARE
AND
NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME
DEPARTMENT**

**POLICY NOTE
2020-2021**

DEMAND NO.45

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**MINISTER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE
AND
NUTRITIOUS NOON MEAL PROGRAMME**

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**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
2020**

CONTENT

Sl. No	CHAPTER / HEAD	PAGE
1	Introduction	1
2	Social Welfare	8
2.1	Child Welfare	15
2.2	Women Welfare	29
2.3	Senior Citizens Welfare	53
2.4	Third Gender Welfare	64
2.5	Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women	68
2.6	Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board	69
2.7	State Awards	73
3	Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme	75
4	Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	93
5	Social Defence	144
6	Sustainable Development Goals	198
7	Social Security Pension Schemes	211
8	Annexure-1	221
9	Annexure-2	222

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CHAPTER – 1

INTRODUCTION

The significant role of the Government of Tamil Nadu is to protect the welfare of the distressed sections of the society like Destitute Women, Children, Senior Citizens and Third Gender by formulating and implementing various schemes for them in areas of health, nutrition, security, education, development and employment that has enabled the weaker sections to live a secured life with dignity and to be able to reach their full potential.

The implementation of the welfare schemes of the Social Welfare and Nutritious

Meal Programme Department is carried out through the Commissionerate of Social Welfare, the Commissionerate of Social Defence and the Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme. Further, this Department acts as a 'Nodal Agency' in implementing Social Security Pension Schemes through the Commissionerate of Revenue Administration. Apart from extending various services to women and children, it also extends its helping hand to Third Gender. This Department has formulated and implemented Social Security Pension Schemes for the vulnerable sections of the society like the senior citizens, widows, deserted women, incapacitated poor unmarried women and differently abled persons who want to lead a dignified life.

"Gold for Thirumangalyam" under Marriage Assistance Schemes, not only assists the poor women for their marriage but also

encourages them to take up higher education. The “Girl Child Protection Scheme” ensures the welfare of the girl children, right from their birth to higher education and subsequently to marriage. The “Cradle Baby Scheme” has brought about a positive change in the mindset of the people and the gender ratio in the districts, where once female infanticide was prevalent, has improved considerably.

The Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department runs Service Homes for destitute and deserted women who can live with their children and pursue their education or vocational training. Short stay homes (Swadhar Greh) provides shelter, food, clothing, counselling, clinical and legal aid to rehabilitate women in distress and victims of violence. The Government of Tamil Nadu also runs Working Womens’ Hostels, which provide affordable and safe accommodation to working women from

lower and middle-income groups. Detailed guidelines have been issued for the safety of women and children who stay in homes, hostels and institutions.

By enforcing various acts for the rights of women, children and senior citizens and by regulating the homes run by voluntary organizations, the safety and security of women and children are ensured. The economic empowerment of women has been ensured by providing employment opportunities to women in Tailoring Co-operative Societies where they stitch the uniforms intended for supply to the school students through the "Free Supply of Uniform Scheme". Advanced type of sewing machines with subsidies have been supplied to women members of the Tailoring Co-operative Societies to enhance the capacity and quality of stitching.

The nutrition and health of Adolescent Girls and Women besides children in the age group of 0-5+ years have been ensured through the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS).

Tamil Nadu has pioneered the “Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme” in 1982 with an aim to enhance the enrolment of school children, to reduce the school dropout and to supply nutritious food to the children. This scheme has been instrumental in reducing hunger, poverty and social infirmities of school children. Hot cooked meals are served to school children from 1st Standard to 10th Standard with enhanced nutritive and calorific value to address the nutritional needs of the children.

To secure the protection of the rights of women and children in difficult circumstances, the Commissionerate of Social Defence executes the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956,

Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. It runs Children Homes, Observation Homes, Special Homes, After Care Organisations and Place of Safety for “the children who need care and protection” and “the children in conflict with law”.

The Government is providing the Social Security Pension to Old Age Persons, Differently Abled Persons, Destitute Widows, Destitute / Deserted Wives and Poor, Unmarried Incapacitated Women of age 50 years and above at ₹1,000 per month. Old Age persons who have been neglected by their families and the destitute children with no support are taken care of at the Integrated Complexes of Special Homes in the districts.

The Government has taken several measures to improve the status of third genders

by furnishing ID cards, educational assistance, housing facilities, pension, training and financial assistance for their livelihood.

The interventions of the Government of TamilNadu has helped in the amelioration of the conditions of the children, women, senior citizens and other vulnerable sections and has helped them achieve secure economic development, equality, social rights and social justice.

CHAPTER –2

SOCIAL WELFARE

The Government of Tamil Nadu has made significant progress in achieving empowerment of women and providing equal opportunities for them in all spheres of life. The Department of Social Welfare which is one of the oldest departments of the Government of Tamil Nadu, implements important schemes for women and children. The Marriage Assistance Schemes and Girl Child Protection Scheme have contributed in improving gender equality, child sex ratio and eradicating harmful practices such as child marriages and female infanticide. Apart from implementing the flagship schemes, the Department also provides care and protection for children, women, senior citizens through Service Homes, Working Womens' Hostels, One

Stop Centres, Short Stay homes and Old Age Homes.

The Department of Social Welfare also implements social legislations like Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Child Marriage Prohibition, Act 2006, Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment at work place Act, 2013, to ensure the safety and rights of women and children as guaranteed under the Indian Constitution. This Department takes care of four important sections of the society viz., children, women, senior citizens and third gender.

As a measure to empower girl children, the Tamil Nadu Government is implementing Girl Child Protection Schemes since 1992. This incentivizes enrolment of girls into higher education and instills confidence among the parents to accept their girl children with dignity. The Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme

which is a flagship program has twin noble objectives of preventing female infanticide as well as promoting female literacy through the provision of financial incentives to poor families.

The Cradle Baby Scheme is a unique scheme that started way back in 1991 which prevents female infanticide and ensures care and protection of abandoned and surrendered infants till they are placed in adoption. By effective implementation of Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, the health and education of the girl child is promoted and early pregnancy risks are prevented.

The Marriage Assistance Schemes are flagship schemes implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu to provide financial assistance for the marriage of the girls and encouraging the girls to pursue higher education. These schemes have made a positive impact in improving the female literacy and

reducing the school dropout rate. In order to make 'Thirumangalyam' for the marriage of poor girls, 8 gram gold coin and financial assistance is provided under five marriage assistance schemes. Under these schemes, the daughters of poor parents, orphan girls, remarried widows, daughter's of widows and inter-caste married couples are benefitted.

In Tamil Nadu, the State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW) was formed in 2014 under National Mission for Empowerment of Women, to assist and liaise with existing institutions for monitoring and review of flagship programs and schemes of Central and State Government on a sharing ratio of 60:40 basis. The SRCW implements and converges the activities between various departments such as capacity building workshops, IEC activities, legal awareness trainings, sensitization workshops on gender and domestic violence etc. Research

studies on Government flagship schemes have also been taken up.

Mahalir Sakthi Maiyyam (Mahila Sakthi Kendra - MSK) is yet another innovative initiative of Government of India which is meant to provide One Stop Convergent Services for Empowering Rural Women with opportunities in Skill Development, Employment, Digital Literacy, Health and Nutrition. This scheme provides an interface for rural women to approach the Government for availing their entitlements and for empowering them through awareness generation, training and capacity building. MSK is implemented at State, District and Block levels. At present MSK is implemented in all 32 districts of Tamil Nadu.

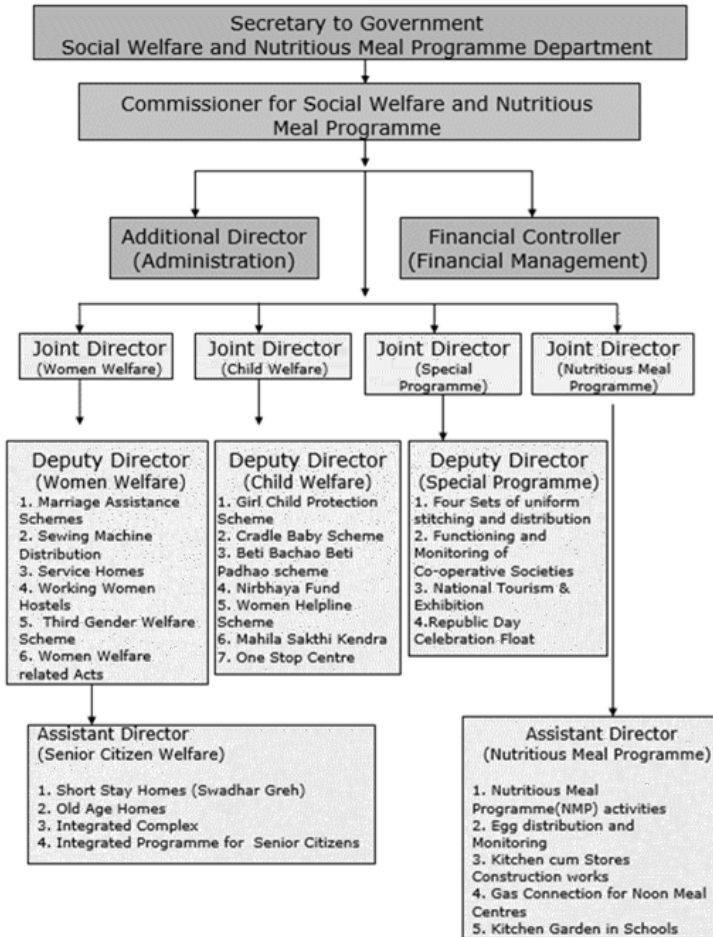
Considering the safety and security of women in the country, the Government of India is implementing "SAKHI", which is a One Stop Centre (OSC) intended to support women

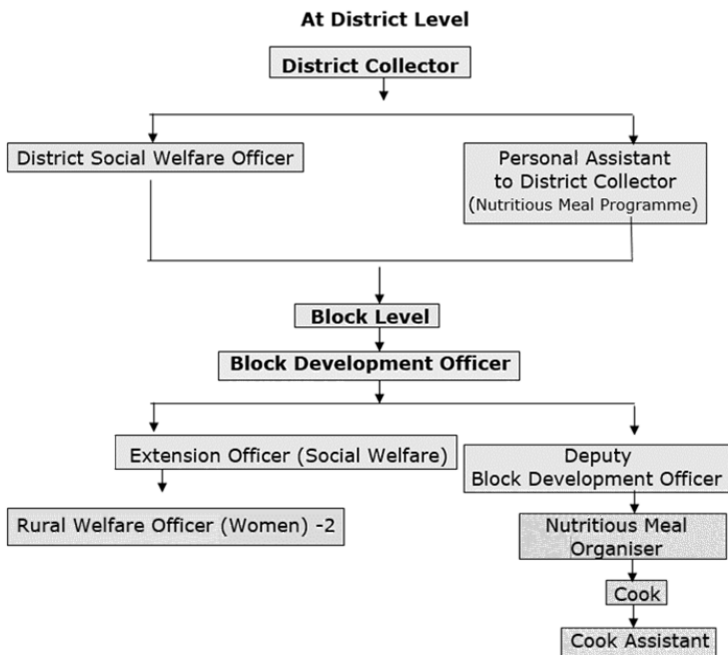
affected by violence, in private and public spaces, within the family, community and at the workplace.

Tamil Nadu is implementing a toll free Women Help Line number 181, that works 24X7, in collaboration with Amma Call Centre through which women can access help and support.

By implementing the above schemes the welfare of Women, Children, Third gender and Senior Citizens are protected in Tamil Nadu.

Organogram





2.1 CHILD WELFARE

Child welfare services and programmes are meant for children upto 18 years, to safeguard their rights to survival, equality, education and protection from all forms of economic exploitation and abuse. The Department with an

aim to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against girls, as well as to achieve the targets of goal 5 of Sustainable Development Goals, is implementing the following schemes and act for the welfare of girl children: -

1. Cradle Baby Scheme
2. Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme
3. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme
4. Special Need Children Homes
5. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.

2.1.1 Cradle Baby Scheme

The Cradle Baby Scheme was launched in the year 1992 at Salem which is first of its kind in the country by the Government of Tamil Nadu in response to the practice of female infanticide. The babies received in cradles are given for in-country and inter-country adoption to prospective parents. This innovative scheme ensures that such babies are saved from infanticide and given in legal adoption to

childless parents by not only giving the children a better future but also the parents an opportunity to live with respect and happiness in the society.

The revival of the Cradle Baby scheme took place in the year 2001 and the scheme was extended to 4 Districts viz., Madurai, Theni, Dindigul and Dharmapuri. It was further extended to 5 Districts, viz., Cuddalore, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Villupuram and Thiruvannamalai Districts in 2011. Reception Centers at Hospitals were opened in these Districts with cradles and necessary infrastructure to receive and to attend to the immediate needs of those helpless children.

161 children (Male 52, Female 109) were received under the Cradle Baby Scheme during the year 2019-2020. The highlight of the scheme is that, since the inception of the scheme 5,400 Children have been received upto

February-2020 (Male – 1,114, Female – 4,286) freed from the clutches of death.

A sum of ₹44.12 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate 2020–2021.

2.1.2 Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme

Girl Child Protection scheme is a pioneer Scheme in the country which was launched in the year 1992 with an aim to change the society's negative mindset about girl children in considering them as a burden due to marriage expenses, preference for male child and thus discriminating them in providing education and employment.

The Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme promotes adoption of small family norms, prevents gender disparity and benefits the girl children of poor families through direct investment from the Government as fixed deposits.

The scheme helps the girl children to continue their secondary education without dropping out and pursue their higher education with the receipt of maturity amount which in turn would reduce the financial constraint and mental stress of parents.

Objectives of the scheme:

- Encourage parents to adopt small family norms with two girl children.
- Protect the rights of the girl child and to provide social and financial empowerment.
- Strengthen the role of the family in improving the status of the girl child.
- Promote enrollment and retention of the girl child in school and ensure her education at least upto the Secondary level.
- Encourage girls to get married only after the age of 18 years.

Types of Schemes

Sl. No.	Schemes	Initial Deposit Amount (₹)	Criteria to enroll under the Scheme
1	Scheme-I (single girl child)	50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family should have only one/two female children and no male child. In future, no male child should be adopted. Either of the parents should have undergone sterilization within 35 years of age. The parents should be a domicile of Tamil Nadu for a period of 10 years at the time of submitting the application.
2	Scheme-II (two girl children)	25,000 (for each girl child)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual family income shall not exceed ₹72,000/- The application should be submitted before the child completes 3 years of age for Scheme I and before the second child completes 3 years of age for Scheme II. In case of birth of more than one girl child in first or second delivery, they will be benefitted under Scheme II.

Details of Final Maturity

Under this scheme, the amount is deposited in the name of the girl child with the Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited in a specially designed monthly cumulative interest payment scheme. The deposit is renewed at the end of every five years and on completion of 18 years of age, the amount deposited along with interest will be given as maturity amount to the girl child. To get this benefit, the girl child should appear for 10th Standard Public Examination. The maturity amount will help the girl child to pursue her higher education.

So far 9,74,222 beneficiaries have been registered under this scheme till February 2020. An amount of ₹1523.72 crore have been deposited (Upto February 2020). 24,370 girl children were registered and an amount of ₹60.97 crore have been deposited under the scheme for the year 2019-2020.

A sum of ₹140.13 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2020-2021 for this scheme.

2.1.3 Save girl child & Educate girl child scheme (Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme – BBBP)

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme was launched by the Government of India in the year 2015 to address the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) in the districts where it is far below the national average of 918 per 1000 live births. The census 2011 of India reveals the alarming decline in the Child Sex Ratio in the age group of 0-6 years which led to the formulation of this scheme.

Objectives of the Scheme:-

- i. To prevent gender biased sex selective elimination.
- ii. To ensure survival and protection of the girl child and
- iii. To ensure education and participation of the girl child.

Implementation of BBBP Scheme

On January 2015, Cuddalore was the only district in Tamil Nadu selected for implementation of BBBP Scheme as the Child Sex Ratio (CSR) was far below the national average. The successful implementation of the scheme over 3 years in the district has improved its Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) from 886 to 956 and also led the district to bag the National Award during 2017. Further the scheme was extended to all 640 Districts in the country on 8th March 2018. In Tamil Nadu, in addition to Cuddalore district, the scheme has been extended to 10 Districts viz., Ariyalur, Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Salem, Perambalur, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Thiruvallur, Tiruchirapalli and Chennai based on their CSR. In these districts multi-sectoral, inter-departmental convergence activities are being implemented at all levels.

In the remaining 21 Districts, the scheme is implemented through media advocacy and outreach programmes to create value for the girl children and to promote their education.

Awareness is being created by celebrating birth of each and every girl child with appreciation letter, providing health kit to mothers, people participatory programmes like rallies, human chains, marathons, signature campaigns and by close monitoring of SRB data at village level through information boards (Guddi Gudda boards).

BBBP National Award for the State - 2019

The Government of India has recognized the efforts of Tamil Nadu State in Overall Support, Guidance, Monitoring and Achieving the target of BBBP and felicitated with BBBP National Award for the year 2019.

BBBP National Award for the District - 2019

Namakkal District has been felicitated with Best District National Award for its sustained performance in improving Sex Ratio at Birth for the past four years.

Thiruvallur District has been felicitated with Best District National Award for its good performance in Community awareness and outreach activities on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP).

2.1.4 Homes for Children with Special Needs

Children with disabilities, who are received through Cradle Baby Scheme, are normally left out from being adopted by prospective parents and are in the care of Homes for Children with Special Needs at Kancheepuram, Coimbatore, Thiruvallur and Chennai. The Government provide Grants to the Non-Governmental Organizations to take care of these Children with

Special Needs. At present 135 children are being taken care in these Homes.

A sum of ₹37.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2020-2021 for this scheme.

2.1.5 The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006

The legal age for marriage in India is 18 years for female and 21 years for male and any marriage conducted before these ages is a violation of law. Child Marriage whether it happens to a girl or a boy is a violation of child rights as it denies the basic rights to health, nutrition, education, freedom from violence, abuse, exploitation and deprives the child of his/her childhood.

Implementation of the Act

In order to eradicate child marriages, Government of India enacted the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 repealing the earlier

legislation of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929. The Government of Tamil Nadu have framed and notified the State Rules on 30.12.2009 and appointed District Social Welfare Officers as Child Marriage Prohibition Officers. The Child Marriage Prohibition Officers are empowered with powers to act immediately on information received from anybody or through telephone, mobile phone, SMS, email or any other mode of communication. This legislation is armed with enabling provisions to prohibit child marriages, protect and provide relief to victims and punish those who abet, promote or solemnize such marriages with rigorous imprisonment which may extend to two years with a fine upto one lakh rupees either or with both. Panchayat Level Core Committees have been constituted under the Chairmanship of Panchayat Presidents to report and prevent child marriages.

Various welfare schemes implemented by the State Government have been designed in

such a way to benefit the girl children who have completed 18 years of age and made it as mandatory. Several programmes are being conducted regularly in all districts to create awareness among the public about the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.

10,913 child marriages have been stopped in Tamil Nadu upto 2019. In the year 2019 alone 2,242 child marriages have been stopped.

2.1.6 State Award for Girl Child Empowerment

The Tamil Nadu Government have announced a State Award since 2017, as first of its kind in nation to recognize and appreciate the efforts of a Girl Child (below 18 years of age) who prevents crimes against girl children, is being awarded on the National Girl Child day (24th January every year). The award consists of a cash prize of ₹1.00 lakh along with a citation.

Baby S. Bhavadharani of Cuddalore District, was honoured with State Girl Child award for the year 2019-2020, for her continuous accomplishments in addressing social and environmental issues and being a role model for all children.

2.1.7. New Initiatives

The Tamil Nadu Government have made an announcement to award first three District administrations that render commendable service in promoting Child Sex Ratio which include Gold, Silver and Bronze medals and certificates.

2.2 WOMEN WELFARE

The Government of Tamil Nadu which pays more attention for the development of women implements many special schemes for their development. To uplift the women in the society by giving them recognition, power, equal right, decision making, employment and to ensure the

safety and protection of women and their rights, the Government implements various social legislations like Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Sexual Harassment of Women at Works Place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act, 2014 and also schemes such as Marriage Assistance Schemes, Working Womens' Hostel, Service Home and Women Co-operative Society are being implemented by the Social Welfare Department.

2.2.1 Marriage Assistance Schemes

The Marriage Assistance Schemes implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu are the most welcoming schemes of the people of Tamil Nadu.

1. Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme helps the poor parents who are below the poverty line to solemnize the wedding of their

daughter without facing financial hindrance along with gold coin for making “Thirumangalyam”.

2. E.V.R Maniyammaiyar Ninaivu Widow’s Daughter Marriage Assistance Scheme is the scheme which provides financial assistance and gold coin to help the widows to solemnize the marriage of their daughters.
3. Annai Theresa Ninaivu Orphan Girls Marriage Assistance Scheme is the scheme which assures the marriages of orphan and helpless girls.
4. Dr. Dharmambal Ammaiyar Ninaivu Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme is the scheme which paves a way for the remarriage of widows and to get a new life and status in the society.
5. Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Ninaivu Inter-caste Marriage Assistance Scheme is the scheme implemented to abolish the caste and creed system in the society and promote social equality among communities.

The five types of marriage assistance schemes implemented by Government of Tamil Nadu are as below:-

Name of the Marriage assistance Scheme	Annual Income Limit	Minimum Age Limit	Educational Qualification	Time for submitting application
Moovalur Ramamirtham - Poor Parents	₹72,000	Bride - 18 yrs, Bridegroom - 21 yrs.	Minimum - Std. X pass For ST - Std. V	40 days before the date of marriage
E.V.R. Maniammaiya - Widow Daughter	₹72,000	Bride - 18 yrs, Bridegroom - 21 yrs.	Nil	40 days before the date of marriage
Annai Theresa - Orphan Girls	No Income limit	Bride - 18 yrs, Bridegroom - 21 yrs.	Nil	40 days before the date of marriage
Dr.Dharmambal - Widow Remarriage	No Income limit	Bride - 20 yrs, Bridegroom - 40 yrs. (Maximum)	Nil	Within 6 months from the date of remarriage
Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Intercaste I & II Scheme**	No Income limit	Bride - 18 yrs, Bridegroom - 21 yrs.	Minimum - Std. X pass For ST - Std. V	Within two years from the date of marriage

** Scheme-I: SC / ST with other community.
Scheme-II: Forward Community with BC/ MBC.

Under Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiya, E.V.R.Maniammaiya, Annai Theresa Marriage Assistance Schemes, the beneficiaries are given

8 gram gold coin along with cash assistance of ₹50,000/- for the graduates and diploma holders and ₹25,000/- cash assistance for others.

In Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiyar and Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Assistance Schemes, the beneficiaries are given 8 gram gold coin along with cash assistance of ₹25,000/- which is disbursed as ₹15,000/- through Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) and ₹10,000/- in the form of National Savings Certificate to non graduates and cash assistance of ₹50,000/- for Degree / Diploma Holders which is disbursed as ₹30,000/- through Electronic Clearance Service (ECS) and ₹20,000/- as National Savings Certificate (NSC).

Under the five marriage assistance schemes, 1,04,795 beneficiaries were benefitted during 2019-2020. From the year 2011-2012 to

2019-2020, 12,50,705 beneficiaries were benefitted.

A sum of ₹726.32 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2020-2021 for all the five marriage assistance schemes.

2.2.2 Sathiyavanimuthu Ammaiya Ninaivu Free Supply of Sewing Machine Scheme

Free sewing machines are provided by the Government to widows, deserted women, women from economically weaker sections, for upliftment of their livelihood through self employment. To avail the benefit under the scheme the annual income ceiling is ₹72,000/-. During the financial year 2019-2020, under this scheme 3,000 beneficiaries were benefitted.

A sum of ₹1.35 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2020-2021.

2.2.3 Government Service Homes

Poor girls, deserted women and widows who are in need of care and protection are provided accommodation, food, health and medical facilities in the Government Service Homes functioning in the eight Districts of Tamil Nadu, namely Chengalpattu, Salem, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai, Krishnagiri and Perambalur.

To enhance their skills, they are also provided with vocational training, spoken english, Computer Training, Counselling and Career Guidance. Women who have discontinued their studies due to various situations can stay along with their children and pursue their schooling. Girl children can stay upto 12th Standard, while the male children can stay upto 5th Standard in these Service Homes.

CCTV Cameras have been installed in all the Service Homes. 479 inmates are accommodated in these homes.

Government provides financial assistance of ₹50,000/- for pursuing Professional Courses and ₹30,000/- for Degree / Diploma Courses to encourage the inmates of the Service Homes who have completed +2.

A sum of ₹6.26 crore for Service Homes and ₹33.78 lakh for Higher Education of girl children have been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2020–2021.

2.2.4 Women Industrial Co-operative Societies

123 Women Industrial Co-operative societies are functioning under the control of Social Welfare Department with the aim that the families will attain progress when women are provided self employment opportunities. Out of which, 98 Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies are functioning under the control of Commissioner of Social Welfare and 25 Weaning Food Manufacturing Women Industrial Co-operative societies are functioning under the control of Director cum Mission

Director of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

The members of Women Tailoring Co-operative Societies are engaged in stitching of 4 sets of cost free uniform for students who are benefitted under Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme, school children of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minority Welfare Department. By this, women of these societies are assured with employment and improvement in the economic status.

Details of Co-operative Societies and members enrolled are as follows:-

Sl. No	Type of Society	No. of Co-operative Societies	No. of members
1.	Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies.	83	82,482
2.	Women Stationery Industrial Co-operative Societies. (also engaged in Tailoring)	15	1,017
3.	Weaning food Manufacturing Women Industrial Co-operative Societies	25	1,450
Total		123	84,949

Eligibility Criteria for membership:

The women living below the poverty line, destitute widows, deserted women and third genders in the age of 18 to 40 years, with tailoring certificate of Government recognized institutions are getting benefitted under this scheme.

During the academic year 2019-2020, 38.99 lakh school children were provided with 4 sets of uniforms. The stitching charges of ₹83.33 crore has been provided for this purpose by the School Education Department.

During 2019-2020, State level award for best Co-operative Society was bagged by 2 societies namely Velappady Women Tailoring and small Industries Co-operative Society, Vellore district and Dharmapuri Women Tailoring Co-operative Society.

2.2.5 Short Stay Homes (Swadhar Greh)

Short Stay Homes (Swadhar Greh) is the scheme implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India through Social Welfare Department to provide safe and dignified life for the women in difficult circumstances. This scheme provides food, clothing, shelter, counselling, training, medical and legal aid to these women. Affected women can stay in these homes upto a period of 5 years. Women more than 60 years of age will be shifted to old age homes. 35 Short Stay Homes are functioning through Non-Governmental Organizations with the capacity of 30 women per home in Tamil Nadu.

A sum of ₹5.58 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

2.2.6 Mahalir Sakthi Maiyyam (Mahila Shakti Kendra-MSK)

Mahalir Sakthi Maiyyam Scheme (MSK) was introduced by Government of India in the year 2017-2018 under the umbrella scheme of “Mission for Protection and Empowerment for Women”. The scheme is to create an environment in which women realize their full potential, through one stop convergent support services to health care, quality education, skill training, employment, social security and digital literacy across the State. The cost sharing pattern of this scheme is 60:40 between Central and State Governments.

The new scheme is envisaged to work at State, District, Block and Panchayat levels.

2.2.6.1 State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW)

The State level MSK is the State Resource Centre for Women, which provides technical

support to the government on issues related to women. It supports the administration along with the existing institutions for monitoring and review of programmes and schemes of Central and State Governments.

A sum of ₹38.90 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021 for SRCW activities.

2.2.6.2 District Level Centre for Women (DLCW)

The District Level MSK which is the District Level Centre for Women provides the required information pertaining to women related schemes to all citizens, preferably women, in the concerned district. It collects information on Government Schemes, services meant for women such as Save girl child & Educate girl child (BBBP) scheme, One Stop Centre, Women Help Line, Women Police Volunteer, Short Stay Home, Ujjawala, etc., and serve as a link between, Block and State level Centres for

Women. These centres give foothold for BBBP scheme at district level. All the districts have been sanctioned District Level Centre for Women by the Government of India in a phased manner.

A sum of ₹3.94 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021 for DLCW activities.

2.2.6.3 Block Level Centre for Women (BLCW)

Block Level Centre for Women is functioning in 8 blocks each of the two aspirational districts namely Virudhunagar and Ramanathapuram. Block Level Centre for Women is envisaged to provide an interface for rural women to approach the government for availing their entitlements and for empowering them through training and capacity building activities. It encourages the spirit of voluntary community service and gender equality in the villages through student volunteers.

A sum of ₹2.83 crore have been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021 for BLCW activities.

2.2.6.4 One Stop Centre

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is a health, human rights and development issue at global level. It has many manifestations in the form of domestic and sexual violence including harmful practices such as dowry, honour killing, child abuse, child marriage, sex selective abortion.

The Government of India helps women through One Stop Centre (OSC) a special scheme also known as 'SAKHI', to women affected by violence in private and public spaces within the family, community and at the workplace. The range of services provided at the One Stop Centre are temporary shelter, medical assistance, psycho-social support, free legal aid, police assistance services and counselling to women in distress. This scheme is implemented with 100% central assistance. In 2019-2020 OSCs have been established in 32 districts.

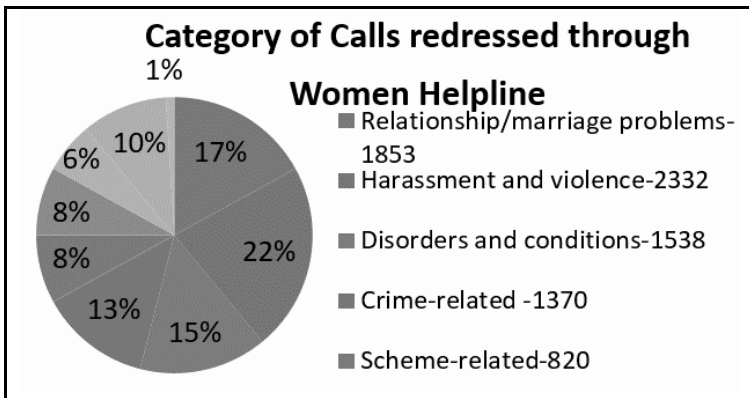
In the financial year 2019-2020, considering the population in Chennai District, two additional One Stop Centres are sanctioned

for Chennai District. So far, 2,371 women were benefitted through these Centres.

2.2.6.5 Women Help Line (181)

Government of India has allocated the short code 181 as Women Helpline under the Scheme of universalization of Women Helpline. It aims to provide 24/7 immediate and emergency responses and services to women affected by violence through referral services. Information regarding Government programmes and schemes pertaining to women can also be accessed through the Women Helpline (181).

The Women Helpline (181) is currently functioning at the Amma Call Centre, Ambathur. Till now, 10,516 calls have been registered and redressed.



2.2.6.6 Nirbhaya Fund

Nirbhaya Fund was set-up in the year 2016 which is administered by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. It has identified 8 cities including Greater Chennai in the Country to initiate projects for safety of women in public places under Nirbhaya Fund. Greater Chennai Corporation submitted a proposal for women's safety in Chennai City, which includes 12 projects at a total cost of ₹425.06 crore, to be implemented by 4 departments viz Greater Chennai Police, Greater Chennai Corporation, Metropolitan Transport Corporation and Social Welfare. It is being implemented from the year 2018-2019 for 3 consecutive years in the sharing pattern of 60:40 between Central and State Governments.

Nirbhaya fund earmarked for Social Welfare Department is utilized for strengthening of Women Helpline to review calls continuously and

provide support services to women seeking help through the Helpline. The department has been sanctioned with ₹12.96 crore for three years, out of which ₹6.48 crore is received for the year 2019-2020.

2.2.7 Social Legislations for Women

To ensure the safety and protection of women and their rights, this Department implements various social legislations as follows: -

1. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 & Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Rules, 2006.
2. Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.
3. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.
4. Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act, 2014 & Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Rules, 2015.

2.2.7.1 Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

Aim of the Domestic Violence Act, 2005 is to provide the women to live in violence free family environment with protection home. This Act ensures a womans' right to reside in her matrimonial home, custody of her children and maintenance.

Salient Features of this Act

- ❖ Cases can be filed under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, even if other legal proceedings are pending between the Parties.
- ❖ Multiple judgements can also be obtained in a single case.
- ❖ This Act gives remedy for verbal as well as emotional ill-treatment.
- ❖ Both petitioner and respondent can prefer appeal to the Court of Sessions within 30 days from the date of order.

Protection Officers and Service Providers

In each District Social Welfare Office, a Protection officer has been appointed. This Protection Officer help the aggrieved women to file the Domestic Incidence Report and get legal redressal. The NGOs act as service providers who are notified under Domestic Violence Act, 2005.

Cases reported under Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (2008 to 2019)

1	Cases Reported	51,115
2	No. of cases filed in the Court	20,060
3	No. of Cases referred to Free Legal Aid	1,882
4	No. of cases given medical treatment	115
5	No. of cases counselling rendered as per Court Order under section 14	1,408
6	No. of cases disposed by Protection Officer	29,787
7	Cases under process	1,268

2.2.7.2 Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961

- The Dowry Prohibition Act was passed in 1961 and amended in 1989 for which Tamil Nadu Dowry Prohibition Rules were framed in 2004.

- The District Social Welfare Officers are designated as the Dowry Prohibition Officers as per the Dowry Prohibition Rules, 2004.
- The Police Department/Court, files the dowry cases after obtaining genuineness report from the District Social Welfare Officers.
- Dowry Prohibition Day is observed on 26th November of every year.

Details on Dowry Prohibition Act (2006 to 2019)

1.	No. of cases reported at DSWOs	11,528
2.	No. of cases counselling done and solved amicably	8,839
3.	No. of cases reported to Police prosecution	2,170
4.	No. of cases - Enquiry in progress	519

2.2.7.3 The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing Sexual Harassment of Women at

Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and notified the District Collectors as District Officers under section 5 of the Act.

The District Social Welfare Officers monitor the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) formed in Offices where more than 10 employees are employed. Complaints that are not reported in ICC can be reported to Local Complaints Committee at the district. LCC has been constituted in all the districts.

The Government of India have launched an Online Complaints Registration system called the SHe-Box (Sexual harassment electronic box) through which complaints on Sexual Harassment of Women can be made from anywhere.

Details of activities under Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013

upto December 2019

1.	No. of LCC	32
2.	No. of cases received so far by the LCC	43
3.	No. of ICCs formed in the Districts	2135
4.	Nodal Officers in Block & Taluk	429
5.	Awareness Creation & Trainings conducted	405
6.	Complaints received through SHe-Box online system	47

2.2.8 Government Working Womens' Hostels

Safe and affordable accommodations are the priorities of the Working Women who have come out of their family to other places. To fulfill their needs, 28 Working Womens' Hostels are functioning in 18 Districts of Tamil Nadu.

A sum of ₹1.88 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2020-2021 for Working Women Hostels.

2.2.8.1 Tamil Nadu Working Womens' Hostels Corporation Limited

During 2019, Tamil Nadu Working Womens' Hostels Corporation Limited as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) was formed as per the Company Act, 2013. This Corporation undertakes required Infrastructure Development, Management and Maintenance of certain projects such as Working Womens' Hostels, Creches, Senior Citizen Homes, Child Care Institutions with modern facilities. This Corporation functions with the funds allotted by the Central and State Government and other agencies.

The object of this project is not only to build hostels with safe and full-fledged facilities but also to develop, redevelop, design, construct, renovate and refurbish the hostels. At present, sites have been selected in three Districts i.e Tiruchirapalli (Abishekapuram), Krishnagiri (Hosur), Chengalpattu (Tambaram &

Guduvancherry) for construction of Working Womens' Hostels under Special Purpose Vehicle.

2.3 SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE

The Tamil Nadu Government has been a forerunner in implementing beneficial programmes for the elderly to lead a safe and dignified life by providing different welfare schemes such as old age pension, old age homes, integrated complexes, mobile medicare units and physiotherapy clinics in collaboration with Revenue and Health & Family Welfare Departments.

2.3.1 The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007

Senior Citizens are invaluable assets to the Nation. Youth should understand that the intelligence and experience of the senior citizens is required for Nation's growth. In order to provide a statutory protection for Senior Citizens

as guaranteed and recognized under the Indian Constitution, the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 has been enacted for which the Tamil Nadu Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Rules, 2009 have been framed and notified.

Salient Features of the Act

- A petition filed under this Act for maintenance allowance shall be disposed off within 90 days.
- The maximum maintenance allowance shall be up to ₹10,000/- per month.
- If the persons responsible for the care and protection of senior citizens abandon them, such persons shall be punished with imprisonment for three months or fine up to ₹5,000/- or with both.

2.3.2 Grievance Redressal Mechanism

The Government of Tamil Nadu has constituted a Tribunal in each sub-division with the Revenue Divisional Officer concerned as a Presiding Officer for speedy disposal of grievance petitions from senior citizens. 92 Tribunals are functioning in the State. An Appellate Tribunal chaired by the District Collector has been constituted in each district to hear appeals against the orders of the Tribunal. The District Social Welfare Officers act as the Maintenance Officers as well as Conciliation Officers.

2.3.3 State Council and District Committees for the welfare of Senior Citizens

A High Level Advisory Committee viz., State Council for Senior Citizens, with the Chief Secretary as Chairperson, 15 official members and 7 Non-official members have been constituted in the State to advise and supervise the effective implementation of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007.

At District level, under the chairmanship of the District Collector a committee has been formed with Sub Collector / Revenue Divisional Officer, District Superintendent of Police, Deputy Director (Health) and District Social Welfare Officer as official members and representatives of two Non-Governmental Organizations and two prominent Senior Citizens as non-official members.

2.3.4 Old Age Homes

Considering the increase in the number of elders and to take care of their welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu provides grants to 21 Old Age Homes run by Non-Governmental Organizations. In each Old Age Home, 40 Senior Citizens are accommodated and there are 723 persons residing in these homes at present. An amount of ₹1,200 per month / per person is sanctioned as feeding charges.

A sum of ₹1.18 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for 2020-2021.

2.3.5 Integrated Complexes of Special Homes for Senior Citizens and Destitute Children

Tamil Nadu has pioneered the Integrated Complexes of Special Homes from 2011-2012 for accommodating the senior citizens and children in the same complex so that they share love and affection between them. This scheme is being run by the Non-Governmental Organizations through State Government grant, in the ratio of 25:75. In each Integrated complex, 25 elders and 25 children are accommodated. 48 Integrated Complexes of Special Homes are functioning in the State, with 1060 elders & 1106 children.

A sum of ₹6.44 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for 2020-2021 for this scheme.

2.3.6. Integrated Programme For Senior Citizen (IPSrC)

To safeguard the life of destitute elders in the age group of 60 years and above, who are homeless and abandoned by their families, the Government of India has introduced Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens. Under the Scheme, Senior Citizen homes, Homes for Senior Citizens afflicted with Alzheimer's disease/Dementia, Mobile Medicare Units, Physiotherapy Clinics and Regional Resource & Training Centres are being run. The State Government recommends eligible institutions for availing grants to Central Government after due inspection. The grants are in the ratio of 90:10 between the Central and the NGO.

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	No. of Homes	No. of Beneficiaries	Budget
1	Senior Citizen Homes	64	1736	₹ 13.80 Crore
2	Mobile Medicare Unit	5	1619	
3	Continuous Care Home	1	50	
4	Physiotherapy Clinics	2	150	
5	Regional Resource Training Centre	2	--	

2.3.7 International Day for Senior Citizens

As per the resolution passed by the United Nations to recognize and safeguard the services of the senior citizens, the International Day for Senior Citizen is celebrated every year on 1st October at State level and at District level in Tamil Nadu. The best Non-Governmental Organization and Social Workers who worked for the welfare of Senior Citizens are felicitated during the Celebration.

A sum of ₹5.70 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

2.3.8 World Elders Abuse Awareness Day

Every year June 15th is observed as World Elders Abuse Awareness Day by the State Government as per the resolution passed by the United Nations. Students and employees are encouraged to partake in pledging to end all forms of abuse against elders on that day.

A sum of ₹4.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

2.3.9 Senior Citizens Honorary (Vayoshreshtha Samman) Award 2019

Tamil Nadu has been awarded with the Senior Citizens Honorary (Vayosreshtha Samman) Award 2019 for providing various services and facilities to the senior citizens under

Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

2.3.10 Elderly Resource Centres

Care for the elderly is part of our society's culture. With the increasing adoption of the nuclear family norm and the need to migrate for education and work, a large number of elderly only households are found in the State. The Government of Tamilnadu in association with J-PAL launched a Longitudinal Panel Survey on issues relating to the elderly by a research team led by Nobel Laureate Dr. Esther Duflo. Based on the findings of the study, the Government will launch a number of initiatives for the elderly. Based on the review, an announcement has been made in the Budget Speech for the year 2020-2021 that the Elders Resource Centres will be formed in two blocks of each district in 37

districts of Tamil Nadu at the cost of ₹37.00 lakh as a Pilot Project.

2.3.11 Action Plan for Senior Citizens

In order to ensure the welfare of Senior Citizens, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India has formulated National Action Plan for Senior Citizen for the years 2019-2025. This Action Plan has been formulated on the basis of the 'National Policy for Senior Citizens and Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007'. To fulfill the preferential need of Senior Citizens, the following 10 components has been included in the Action Plan.

- i. Financial Security
- ii. Health Care and Nutrition
- iii. Shelter and Welfare
- iv. Protection of life and property of Senior Citizens

- v. Active and Productive Ageing with Intergenerational Bonding and State Development
- vi. Accessibility, Transport and Age friendly environment
- vii. Awareness Generation and Capacity Building
- viii. Promoting Silver Economy: Senior friendly industrial goods and services in the society.
- ix. Research and Study
- x. Project Management

Tamil Nadu Government has been implementing various schemes for the welfare of Senior Citizens like Old Age Pension, issue of free Bus Passes to Senior Citizens, Vaccination Programme to Senior Citizens residing at Homes, provision for convenient seats in the public transport buses, geriatric wards in Government Hospitals, effective functioning of Tribunals, conducting redressal programmes for Senior Citizens, etc. Now, a comprehensive

State Action Plan is being prepared in line with National Action Plan for Senior Citizens.

A sum of ₹2 crore has been sanctioned by Central Government for the implementation of the State Action Plan.

2.4 THIRD GENDER WELFARE

Third Genders are facing many problems without any care in the society. Government is taking utmost care on the welfare of Third Gender and implementing various welfare schemes in order to recognize them. The Government of Tamil Nadu has constituted a Third Gender Welfare Board to redress their grievances by providing livelihood opportunities, educational assistance and social security through which the Third Gender are given an identity in the society. The Tamil Nadu Third Gender Welfare Board consists of 11 Official Members under the Chairpersonship of the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Nutritious

Meal Programme and 12 Third Genders as Non-Official Members.

Third Gender who are inclined to earn their livelihood through a decent and respectable profession are provided with financial assistance from ₹20,000/- to ₹50,000/- to start-up small businesses like setting up of grocery shops, rearing of milch animals, canteens, cloth, coir, rice and vegetable vending. Financial assistance is also given for buying auto and goods auto for business activities. An amount of ₹75.00 lakh have been allotted and 150 Third Genders got benefitted.

The Government provides monthly pension of ₹1,000/- to the Destitute Third Gender who are above the age of 40 years. 1000 Third Genders are being benefitted under this scheme.

So far, the benefits availed by the Third Genders are as follows:

No. of Third genders Identified	:	7,536
No. of Identity Card issued	:	6,551
No. of Sewing Machines issued	:	144
No. of Housing Allotment provided through Slum Clearance Board	:	515
No. of Educational Assistance	:	9
No. of Ration Card issued	:	2,531
No. of House Pattas issued	:	1,671
No. of Health Insurance Card issued	:	1,489

Government have proactively initiated the process of providing employment to third genders in various Government Departments to lead a dignified life in the Society. Five third genders are recruited as Sub Inspector and Constables in Police Department and two third genders are posted as Physiotherapist and Lab Assistant in Health Department. In the Social Welfare Department, two third genders have been appointed as Nutritious Meal Organiser and Cook. Two of them have been appointed as Office Assistant and Jeep Driver. Further, eight

Third genders have been appointed as Security guard in Government Medical College, Thanjavur District.

An **“Award for the third gender”** of ₹1.00 lakh and a citation has been instituted from the year 2020 to encourage the third gender who has done eminent work for the welfare of third gender and who has built their career on their own efforts. The award will be felicitated on "Third Gender Day" which falls on 15th April of every year.

Special efforts have been taken by the State Government to create a separate **“Mobile App”** for the third genders at a cost of ₹10.00 lakh to help them to enroll their personal details at a cost of ₹13.07 lakh which has been allocated by Tamil Nadu Third Gender Welfare Board.

A sum of ₹2.50 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2020-2021.

2.5 Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women

The Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women is a statutory body which was constituted in the year 1993 to deal with the cases relating to crime against women and to safeguard their rights. In 2017, the Commission was reconstituted which is headed by a Chairperson and 9 members.

The Commission is empowered to investigate specific problems of women and take action to provide speedy relief to the women. The Commission also takes up studies related to women issues and recommends to the Government. The Commission also ensures the implementation of various Acts like Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act,

2013 and Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.

Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women has received a total of 1,751 petitions in the year 2019-2020. Of these, 1,421 petitions have been resolved. The balance of 330 petitions have been sent to the Departments concerned for follow-up action.

The Commission conducts legal awareness programmes in various Districts with the help of National Commission for Women.

A sum of ₹55.61 lakh has been allotted for the Commission towards expenditure for the year 2020-2021.

2.6 TAMIL NADU SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

The Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board which was constituted in the year 1954 has been working for the development of BPL women and children through Voluntary Institutions in the

State to encourage and promote voluntary effort in the field of women and children and to monitor the programmes aided by Central Social Welfare Board for its effective implementation by the State Government.

2.6.1 State Government Grant to Voluntary Organizations

The Government of Tamil Nadu provides ₹10.00 lakh every year to the State Social Welfare Board to help 200 registered Non-Governmental Organisations who have completed 3 years after its registration who are working for the welfare of women and children for their welfare activities. An amount of ₹5,000/- is being given on 50:50 ratio as matching grant by State Government and the institution.

A sum of ₹10.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021 for this scheme.

2.6.2 Family Counselling Centres (State Grant)

Family Counselling Centres were started to give counselling to couples who have difference of opinion and to re-unite them through counselling.

Six Family Counselling Centres are functioning with State Government's grant in Chennai, Thiruvallur, Villupuram, Thiruvarur, Tirunelveli and Sivagangai run by the Non-Governmental Organisations. Each Family Counselling Centre is provided with the grant of ₹80,000/- per year.

Family Counsellors are working in All Women Police Stations in Chennai to redress the women who are affected in the family disputes due to alcoholism, drug addiction, dowry harassment, etc. The State Government provides an additional honorarium of ₹3,500/-

along with the Central Government honorarium of ₹10,000/- to the family counsellors.

A sum of ₹7.14 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021 for this scheme.

2.6.3 Family Counselling Centre (Central Grant)

57 Family Counselling Centres are functioning in the State since 1984 through Government of India grant. At present all these counselling centers are functioning in Government building. Out of 57 Family Counselling Centres, 2 are functioning at Central Women Prisons in Vellore and Puzhal in Chennai and 3 Family Counselling Centres are functioning in Police Commissioner's Office, Thousand Lights and Flower Bazaar All Women Police Stations in Chennai.

During 2019-2020, a sum of ₹1.82 crore was sanctioned to Family Counselling Centres by Tamil Nadu State Social Welfare Board. 78,300 persons had been benefitted through Family Counselling Centres.

2.7 STATE AWARDS

2.7.1 Avvaiyar Award

The Avvaiyar Award is given to one eminent woman who has rendered excellent service in any one field such as Social Reform, Women Development, Communal harmony, Service for Language, Service in various disciplines in Art, Science, Culture, Press, Administration, etc., on the International Women's Day which is being celebrated on March 8th every year. The recipient of the Avvaiyar Award is honoured with a Gold Medal weighing 8 gram, cash award of ₹1.00 lakh as Cheque, a Shawl and a Citation.

2.7.2 Best Institution and Best Social Worker Award for serving Women

In order to encourage the best services done by an institution and an individual for the welfare of women, Awards are given on Independence Day every year. Best Social Worker award consists of a Gold Medal weighing 10 gram, a Shawl and a Citation and Best Institution award consists of cheque for ₹50,000 in addition to a shawl and a Gold Medal.

CHAPTER - 3

PURATCHI THALAIVAR M.G.R. NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME



3.1 Children can become a Nation's highly respectable human resource in future only when they are educated. Hence, the then Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivar MGR started Nutritious Meal Programme in the year 1982, not only to motivate the children to attend school regularly but also to concentrate in their studies without any hunger pangs. Providing Nutritious Meal to the children, will help in the improvement of their health and also encourage education among children that leads to eradication of malnutrition which is the ultimate aim of the Nutritious Meal Programme. Later, in the year 1991, the scheme was renamed as PT MGR

Nutritious Meal Programme by Dr.J.Jayalalitha, the then Chief Minister, who not only perceived the scheme but also added value by introducing variety meals in the year 2014.

3.2. Aim of the Programme

1. To motivate the children to attend school regularly.
2. Improve the Nutritional status of children
3. Providing employment opportunities to women thereby empowering their families.

3.3. Details of the Scheme

- ❖ Government and Government Aided school children in the class of Std I to X are provided with hot cooked variety meals along with masala eggs on all school working days (220 days in a year)
- ❖ The Nutritious Meal is also provided to the children studying in National Child Labour Project special schools functioning in 15 districts for 312 days in a year.
- ❖ As per the norms, Primary and Upper Primary children are being provided with 100 gm / 150 gm of rice per day respectively.

3.4. Mile Stones

- ❖ Nutritious Meal Programme was introduced on 01.07.1982 in the rural areas to the age group of 2-5 years for preschool children in Anganwadi centres and Standard I to V children in schools.
- ❖ Extended to urban areas from 15.09.1982.
- ❖ Extended to Std. VI to X with effect from 15.09.1984 to both Rural and Urban areas.



3.5 Organogram



★ Drawn from the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department

The Pre-school nutrition centre for children in the age group of 2-5 years is under the administrative control of Director cum Mission Director, Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

3.6 Beneficiaries in Schools (Nutritious Meal Centres)

(2020 – 2021)

S. No	Stage	No. of Nutritious Meal Centres	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Primary (standard I to V)	26,875	23,71,316
2	Upper Primary (standard VI to VIII)	16,162	18,89,808
3	Standard IX & X		5,90,913
4	NCLP	209	4,746
Total		43,246	48,56,783

3.7 Components of Nutritious Meal Programme

Variety Meals

Variety menu is being implemented with effect from 15.8.2014. The menu of variety meals is detailed as below: -

DAYS	FIRST & THIRD WEEK	SECOND & FOURTH WEEK
Monday	Vegetable Biryani with Pepper Egg	Sambar Sadham (Bisibelabath) with Onion Tomato Masala Egg.
Tuesday	Black Bengal Gram Pulav with Tomato Masala Egg.	Mixed Vegetable Rice With Meal Maker and Pepper Egg
Wednes day	Tomato Rice with Pepper Egg	Tamarind Rice with Tomato Masala Egg
Thursday	Rice, Sambar and Boiled Egg	Lemon Rice, Sundal and Tomato Egg
Friday	Curry Leaf Rice / Keerai Sadham with Masala Egg and Chilly Fried Potato.	Rice, Sambar and Boiled Egg with Fried Potato.

Providing of Additional nutrients

Name of the Commodity	Quantity
Black Bengal gram dhal	20gm (weekly once)
Green dhal	
Potato	20gm (weekly once)
Egg	46 to 52gm Agmark specified 'A' medium grade egg (On all School working days)
Banana	100gm (to children not willing to take eggs)

Fortified Salt in Nutritious Meal

Salt fortified with Iodine and Iron is used according to taste.

Fortified Palmolein Oil

3 gm of palmolein oil fortified with Vitamin 'A' & 'D' is used in the Nutritious Meal of every child.

Nutritional Norms

Sl. No	Standard	Government of India Norms		State Govt. Provision	
		Calories (In Kcl)	Protein (In gm)	Calories (In Kcl)	Protein (In gm)
1.	Primary	450	12	557.00	18.92
2.	Upper Primary	700	20	735.00	22.77
3.	IX and X	---	---	735.00	22.77

3.8 National Programme of Mid Day Meal Scheme

National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (*NP - NSPE*) was started by the Government of India on 15th August 1995. The scheme was implemented from 1997-1998 and extended to upper primary from October

2007. The expenditure towards the components of Cooking Cost and Honorarium for Cook cum Helpers are shared by the Centre and State Government in the ratio of 60:40. Cost of Food grains (Rice), Transportation of Food grains and Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) are 100% funded by Government of India.

3.9. Cooking cost

(Per Child per Day Cost in ₹)

Standard	MDM Expenditure (60:40)	Centre (60%)	State (40%)	Additional Contribution by the State	Total
Primary (standard I to V)	4.48	2.69	1.79	2.98	7.46
Upper Primary (standard VI to VIII)	6.71	4.03	2.68	0.85	7.56
Standard IX & X	100% State Government Contribution				9.17

3.10 Procurement of Food Materials

Rice, Dhal, fortified oil, fortified salt, Black Bengal gram, Green gram are being supplied by Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation at the door steps of Nutritious Meal Centres. The

organizers are funded in advance on a quarterly basis for the purchase of vegetables and condiments. Based on the announcement made during the budget speech for the year 2019–2020, feeding charges has been enhanced and this resulted in an additional expenditure of ₹48.43 crore per annum to the Government.

Egg weighing 46 - 52 gm is supplied twice a week to Nutritious Meal centres by the tenderers who are selected through State level annual tender. Approved colour seal is fixed on the eggs to avoid pilferage.

3.11 Infrastructure in Nutritious Meal Centres

The Nutritious Meal Centers are provided with kitchen cum stores which are modernized with LPG connection and cooking vessels.

3.12 Monitoring the activities of the Nutritious Meal Centres

- ❖ The Nutritious Meal given to school children is monitored and ensured by the District and Block officials as to whether it is cooked according to the approved menu and prescribed quantity of ingredients. Before serving, the food is tasted for palatability.

- ❖ All Nutritious Meal centres are registered as per the FSSAI Act (2006) and renewed every year. The budget for every year is ₹43.00 lakh.

- ❖ The accounts of expenditure made for Nutritious Meal Programme is placed in the respective Grama Sabha meetings.

3.13 Ensuring Transparency

To ensure transparency, public can access, the Toll free number or Internet to register their feedback / complaints about the activities of Nutritious Meal Programme.

Toll Free number: 1800-425-8971.

Website: <http://www.middaymeal.tn.gov.in> –Online complaint

3.14 Refresher Training

Training is imparted to Cooks and Cook Assistants regarding food safety, fire safety, personal hygiene and hygienic cooking. During 2019-2020, a special training has been given to the District officers for three days at a cost of ₹5.10 lakh.

3.15 Monitoring of Children's Health

Health Camps are being conducted in all schools by the Department of Health and Family Welfare. During the health camp apart from

General Health check-up, anaemia, eye and dental screening are also carried out. Iron Folic Acid (IFA) & De-worming tablets are distributed. Health Cards are maintained for the children.

3.16 Human Resources in Nutritious Meal Centres

- Nutritious Meal Organizer, Cook and Cook Assistant are posted for each Nutritious Meal Centre.
- In case, the Nutritious Meal beneficiaries in a school exceeds 500, an additional Cook is **appointed**.

Special time scale of pay provided to the employees is as follows:-

Sl. No.	Post	Sanctioned post	Pay scale (Rs.)
1	Nutritious Meal Organizer	42,423	7,700 – 24,200
2	Cook	42,852	4,100 – 12,500
3	Cook Assistant	42,855	3,000 – 9,000

Additional benefits provided to the Nutritious Meal Employees

1.	House Rent Allowance per month	:	1 Grade-I (a)- ₹ 1300 2 Grade-I(b)- ₹ 700 3 Grade-II-₹ 600 4 Grade-III - ₹ 400 5 Grade-IV - ₹ 250
2.	City Compensatory Allowance per month	:	Chennai – ₹ 360 Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem, Trichy and Tirunelveli ₹ 180
3.	Medical Allowance per month	:	₹300
4.	Hill Allowance per month Winter Allowance (4 months only)	:	20% of Basic pay 5 % of Basic pay
5.	Pongal Bonus	:	₹1000
6.	Festival Advance	:	₹ 10,000
7.	Casual Leave / year	:	12 days
8.	Maternity Leave	:	180 days
9.	Promotion	:	Eligible Women Nutritious Meal Employees are given promotion as per seniority as Rural Welfare Officer (Women) & Men employees as Office Assistant on regular time scale of pay.

10.	Lump sum amount	:	Organizer - ₹1,00,000 Cook & Cook Assistant– ₹50,000
11.	Special Pension	:	₹2000 per month.
12.	Special Provident Fund	:	Government contribution ₹ 10,000 is provided as Special Provident Fund
13	Compassionate ground appointment	:	The legal heir of the Nutritious Meal programme employee who dies while in service is provided employment on compassionate grounds
14	Retirement age	:	Organizer– 60 years Cook & Cook Assistant– 58 years

3.17 Special Initiatives

Rice Fortification: Fortified Rice with 9 Nutrient Contents (*Vitamin A, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B6, Vitamin B12, Folic Acid, Iron and Zinc*) are provided to all Nutritious Meal / Anganwadi Centres in five Districts namely, Dharmapuri, Madurai, Thanjavur, Thoothukudi and the Nilgiris on pilot basis from November 2019. A sum of

₹ 5.29 crore has been provided under Tamil Nadu Innovative Initiatives (TANII).

Beneficiaries

S.No	Districts	ICDS Beneficiaries	Nutritious Meal Beneficiaries
1	Dharmapuri	31,440	1,36,312
2	Madurai	39,570	1,54,141
3	Thanjavur	37,408	1,52,455
4	Thoothukudi	26,108	1,22,499
5	The Nilgiris	6,383	35,400
Total		1,40,909	6,00,807

ISO certification to the Nutritious Meal Centres

At present, Certification of ISO for 100 Nutritious Meal Centres is in process to maintain the standards.

Bio Metric Attendance

As a new initiative, Biometric attendance system has been introduced to monitor the actual commitment of children under Nutritious Meal Programme to oversee the genuineness of the beneficiaries in 10 Nutritious Meal Centres functioning under the control of Greater Chennai Corporation at a cost of ₹4.00 lakh.

Formation of Kitchen garden in schools

The formation of kitchen garden in schools aims to inculcate good habits of organic farming, Nutrition, Environment, Life skill development among the students. Based on Hon'ble Chief Minister's announcement, ₹ 5.01 crore has been allotted for formation of kitchen garden in 10,024 schools at a unit cost of ₹5,000/- per school.

Repairs, Renovation of Kitchen cum stores

To carry out minor repairs in kitchen cum stores, ₹2.17 crore has been allotted for 2,167 Nutritious Meal Centres at a cost of ₹10,000/- per Centre.

Supply of Kitchen vessels

A sum of ₹ 9.15 crore has been provided for the supply of Kitchen devices to 6,319 Nutritious Meal Centres.

3.18 Budget Allocation

A sum of ₹2,109.11 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

CHAPTER - 4

**INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES SCHEME**

4.1 Preface

The State of Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in ensuring child rights in terms of food, health and education through the Department of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme. Proper nourishment and care during the first 1000 days of the child paves way to develop the full potential of health, well-being and capacity for the rest of the life. Earlier, the vision was to provide food; while now, the Anganwadi centres have been transformed as vibrant Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centres and as the first entry point of service for the community on nutrition, health and early education. Launched in 1975 with 3 projects, the programme has spread its wings throughout the State.

The main objective of the programme is to break the vicious cycle of malnutrition, mortality and morbidity and impart non-formal pre-school education to children below 6 years by following a holistic approach.

4.2 Foresight of ICDS

Integrated Child Development Services Scheme provides qualitative services with a protective, gender sensitive and child friendly environment so as to improve the nutritional outcomes of maternal and child health, to ensure overall physical, psychosocial, cognitive and emotional development of the child in a holistic manner.

4.3 Goal

To achieve “Malnutrition Free Tamil Nadu” and ensure building on the principle of “Leaving no one behind” as envisaged in sustainable development goals.

4.4 Approaches

- Reaching the unreached through active involvement of stake holders and various line departments converging to establish positive behavioural and social changes with concerted effort and relevant targets.
- Creating awareness and dissemination of updated information using various channels of information, print and visual media.
- Capacity building and real time monitoring by adept use of technology.

4.5 Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services

Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, was restructured as Umbrella ICDS during the year 2017 by the Government of India with the under mentioned sub schemes: -

1. Anganwadi Services Scheme
2. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
(implemented by Health and Family Welfare Department since 2018-2019)
3. National Creche Scheme

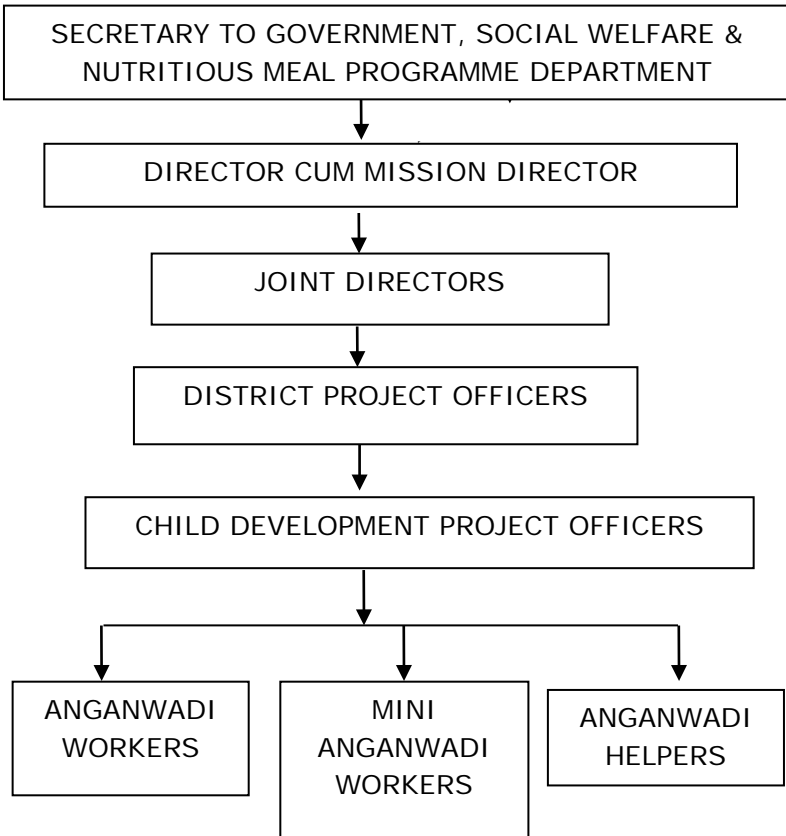
4. Child Protection Scheme
5. POSHAN Abhiyaan-National Nutrition Mission.
6. Scheme for Adolescent Girls

4.6 Operational Status

In Tamil Nadu, the Department of ICDS is operational with 54,439 Anganwadi centres of which 49,499 are main centres and 4,940 are mini centres. The services reach children under 6 years, antenatal women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls in 385 rural projects, 47 urban projects and 2 tribal projects in the State.

Population norms have been revised for the operation of Anganwadi centres in rural and urban projects, as 400 to 800 population for main Anganwadis and 150 to 400 for mini Anganwadis. For Tribal projects, this varies from 300 to 800 for main Anganwadi centres and 150 to 300 for mini Anganwadi centres.

4.7 Organisational Set Up



4.8 Budget

A sum of ₹2,703.46 crore has been provided in the budget estimate for the year 2020-2021 for Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

4.9 Supplementary Nutrition

ICDS platform is viewed as a base for providing a continuum of care in a lifecycle approach, aimed towards impacting mother and child development. Good nutrition during pregnancy and early childhood plays a foundational role in enabling a child to grow, learn and thrive. The first 1000 days between a woman's pregnancy and her child's 2nd birthday offers a unique window of opportunity to build a healthier future.

Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) is an important component, as it acts as a pivotal intervention point for other services provided by the Anganwadi centres. In order to

bridge the protein and energy gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) and average dietary intake of ICDS beneficiaries i.e., children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers, various efforts are being taken.

4.10 Complementary Feeding

Exclusive breast feeding is recommended for children upto 6 months. From the age of 6 months onwards, a baby needs more energy and nutrients than it receives through breast milk, to promote health, support growth and enhance development. At this age, the baby's digestive system is equipped to digest a broad range of food such as starch, protein and fat from solid food items. A baby that does not get sufficient meals during a day or consumes insufficient meal sizes, will not be able to absorb necessary nutrients.

Hence, to encourage the mother to initiate timely complementary feeding, 'sathumavu', as suggested by an expert committee is provided to

children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years so that they attain optimum nutritional status.

The growth of a child begins in the mother's womb and a nutritious diet intake during pregnancy is linked to good foetal brain development, a healthy birth weight and reduction in risk of many birth defects. A balanced diet will also reduce the risk of anaemia. Most of the nutrients required during pregnancy is derived from food, in which prenatal vitamin supplements play an important role. Micro-nutrient fortified complementary food is given to the pregnant women from the day of registration at the Anganwadi centres till the child is 6 months old to ensure optimal nutrition.

Adolescent girls of 11-14 years who are out of school are also given complementary food to support their growth spurt.

4.11 The Composition of Complementary Food

Sl. No.	Raw Materials	Percentage
1	Wheat Flour	45.50
2	Malted Ragi Flour	5.00
3	Full Fat soya bean flour	10.50
4	Jaggery	27.00
5	Roasted Ragi Flour	6.00
6	Fortified Palm Oil	5.00
7	Vitamins and Minerals Premix	1.00
Total		100.00

Complementary food is provided 300 days in a year, to all eligible beneficiaries.

‘Sathumavu’ is procured from twenty five weaning food manufacturing Women Industrial Cooperative Societies and two Private manufacturers in the ratio of 65:35. At present, there are 1,450 members enrolled in the 25 Co-operative Societies. Most of the women members are widows, deserted or destitute women. These societies are managed by an elected board of members and a Government Official in the cadre of Industrial Cooperative

Officer who is appointed as an Executive Officer to the society.

4.12 Hot Cooked Variety Meals to Children attending Anganwadi Centres (In the age group of 2 to 5+ children)

The State of Tamil Nadu introduced the revolutionary nutritious meal programme to encourage children to take up education and at the same time compensate the lack of resources caused by abject poverty. Since, children require adequate nutrition for healthy growth and development, along with hot cooked meals, they are provided black bengal / green gram on Tuesday, potato on Friday and egg on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. In order to avoid monotony, also considering the special digestive capacity of small children below the age of 6 years after due consultation with nutrition

experts, the following Variety Meal Programme was introduced in one block of each district on 20.03.2013 on a pilot basis, and based on the positive feedback, the scheme was extended to all Anganwadi centres in the State with effect from 15.08.2014.

Day	Menu
Monday	Tomato Rice + Boiled Egg
Tuesday	Mixed Rice + Boiled Black Bengal gram / Boiled Green gram
Wednesday	Vegetable Pulav Rice + Boiled Egg
Thursday	Lemon Rice + Boiled Egg
Friday	Dhal Rice + Boiled Potato
Saturday	Mixed Rice
Sunday	Dry Ration as Take Home Ration

While the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation is the nodal agency for supply of Rice, Dhal, Black Bengal Gram, Green Gram and fortified oil, double fortified salt is provided by Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation. Eggs are procured through open tender system and all the food items are delivered at the Anganwadi centres. Further, to meet out the expenditure towards

vegetables, condiments and fuel, the Government have enhanced feeding charges for the Variety Rice Scheme from ₹1.13 to ₹1.52 during the days dhal is used and from ₹1.35 to ₹1.81 for the remaining days. The average cost per day towards providing variety meals to children is around ₹5.41.

4.13 Weekly Food Schedule

Sl. No.	Category	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
1	Children 6 months to 1 year	'Sathumavu'							Nil
2	Children 1 year to 2 years	Sathumavu (SM) and One egg on Wednesday							
3	Children 2 years to 6 years	SM, Tomato Rice and Egg	SM, Mixed Rice and Black Bengal Gram or Green Gram Sundal	SM, Vegetable Pulav and Egg	SM, Lemon Rice and Egg	SM, Dhal Boiled potato	SM and Mixed Rice	Dry Ration (Rice and Dhal)	
4	Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers & Adolescent girls (11-14 years out of school)	Sathumavu (SM)							Nil

4.14 Beneficiary Details

Sl. No.	Category	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Children (6m-1 yr)	4,07,575
2	Children (6m-1 yr) (SUW)	
3	Children (1-2 yrs)	6,74,441
4	Children (1-2 yrs) (SUW)	
5	Children (2 to 3 yrs)	7,32,720
6	Children (2 to 3 yrs) (SUW)	
7	Children (3 to 5+ yrs)	6,63,693
8	Children (3 to 5+ yrs) (SUW)	
	Total Children	24,78,429
9	Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers	7,04,203
10	Adolescent Girls (11-14 out of school)	1,033
Total		31,83,665

SUW – Severely Under Weight.

4.15 Usage of Fortified Food Ingredients

Micro-nutrients are required by human beings for stimulation of cellular growth and metabolism. Deficiencies of Iron, Iodine and Vitamin-A are the most common and widespread form of micro-nutrient malnutrition. The other micro-nutrients like Folic Acid, Zinc etc., help prevent specific disease conditions and aid growth.

In order to combat 'Hidden Hunger' i.e., micronutrient deficiency, the following fortified food ingredients are used in supplementary nutrition.

- Iodised salt has been used in nutritious meal preparation from the year 1991. Presently, the salt used is double fortified with Iron and Iodine.
- Cooking oil (palmolein) is fortified with Vitamin A and Vitamin D.
- The complementary food provided to children, pregnant women, lactating

mothers and adolescent girls is fortified with Vitamin and Minerals to enhance the nutritive value.

- To address micro nutrient deficiency, Fortified Rice Kernels with 9 Nutrient contents (Vitamin A, B1, B2, B3, B6, B12, Folic acid, Iron and Zinc) has been introduced under Nutritious Meal Scheme in five districts namely Dharmapuri, Madurai, Thoothukudi, Thanjavur and The Nilgiris from November 2019 on a pilot basis.

4.16 National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan)

Government of India have set up the National Nutrition Mission with a goal to make improvements in the nutritional status of children from birth to 6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers in a time bound manner in three years, commencing from 2017-2018.

The scheme was rolled-out in 5 Districts under Phase-I, 6 Districts under Phase-II and

21 Districts under Phase-III, with the funding pattern of 80:20 (GOI: State). The Goals of National Nutrition Mission are as follows: -

Sl. No	Objective	Target
1	Prevent and reduce stunting in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% per annum
2	Prevent & reduce under – nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% per annum
3	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among young children (6-59 months)	By 9% @ 3% per annum
4	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among Women and adolescent girls in the age group of 15-49 years	By 9% @ 3% per annum
5	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW)	By 6% @ 2% per annum

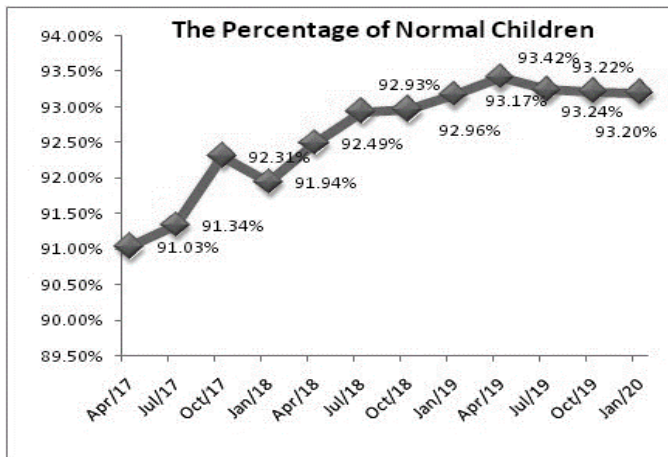
To implement National Nutrition Mission and to achieve the goals, the State Project Management Unit (SPMU) has been constituted, which will also act as State Nutrition Resource

Centre (SNRC), in order to provide a synergised set up for implementation of schemes to combat malnourishment. Help Desk personnel at the District and Block levels will support SPMU to achieve the goals of National Nutrition Mission. Help Desks have been constituted in all districts.

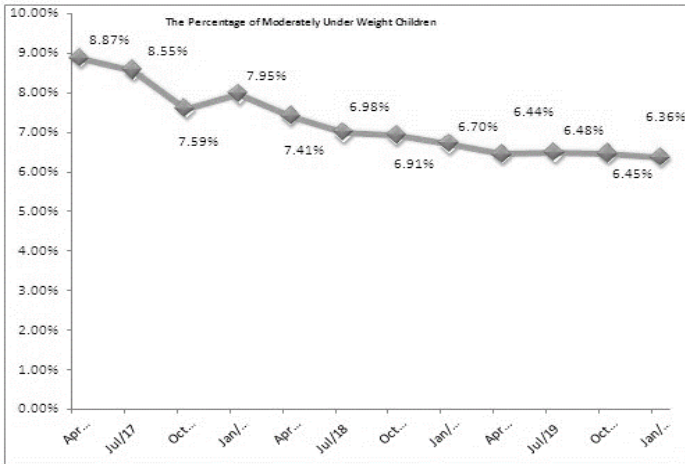
For timely implementation and focussed monitoring, a number of components have been defined as part of National Nutrition Mission.

- ICDS-CAS is one such component wherein the Anganwadi workers and Supervisors are provided with smart phones configured with the Common Application Software to digitise and automate 10 out of 11 registers used by Anganwadi workers. The application aims to augment system strengthening in Anganwadi service delivery and looks at improving nutrition outcomes through effective monitoring and timely intervention. 59,488 smart phones with Power Bank have been procured and the Anganwadi workers and Supervisors have been trained well on the implementation of ICDS-CAS.

- In order to monitor the nutritional status of pregnant women, lactating mothers, new born babies and children up to 6 years, 54,439 sets of Growth Monitoring Devices namely Infantometer, Stadiometer, Infant weighing Scale and Adult Weighing Scale (Mother and Child) have been procured and supplied to all Anganwadi centres.
- Details of Normal Children



- Details of Moderate Under Weight Children



- Convergence Action Plan Committees at State/ District/ Block Level have been formed to facilitate and coordinate convergence of various nutrition and health related schemes across various departments. The Committees at all levels should be convened once in three months to ensure and assess progress in implementation of National Nutrition Mission.

4.17 Performance Based Incentives

- Performance Based Incentives to Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers on the Usage of Smart Phones under Common Application Software has been encouraged by providing a monthly incentive of ₹500/- to Anganwadi workers and ₹250/- to Anganwadi helpers.

The primary objective of this monthly performance based incentive is;

- To encourage and sustain the use of ICDS-CAS by the Anganwadi workers for improved monitoring and management of services.
- To facilitate focus on services delivery during the first 1000 days window.

A sum of ₹22.87 crore has been distributed to the Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers as incentives during 2019-2020.

4.18 Incremental Learning Approach (ILA)

To improve the counselling capacity of the field functionaries and to instil the importance of the first 1000 days of a child (Golden 1000 days), the Incremental Learning Approach (ILA) has been planned by way of 21 modules.

Training is planned in cascade model to reach the grass root level. State Resource Group (SRG), District Resource Group (DRG), Block Resource Group (BRG) and Sector level Resource Group (SLRG) are formed to disseminate the ILA content from State level to sector level.

4.19 Community Based Events (CBE)

For the benefit of target beneficiaries viz., lactating mothers, pregnant women, children and the community, varied community based events are organized at Anganwadi centre level, twice a month.

The key messages covered during CBE are topics like Ante Natal Care (ANC) checkup, pregnancy care, mother and child protection (MCP) card, early initiation of exclusive breast feeding, cash benefits, Iron Folic Acid (IFA) & Calcium tablets, immunisation, care of weak newborn, healthy diet, deworming, complementary feeding, weight gain, iodized salt, hand washing and other health related messages.

The key messages are covered under 5 major themes viz., 1) Inviting women during 1st & 2nd Trimester of Pregnancy, 2) Timely introduction of complementary feeding, 3) Orienting Husbands on their role in maternal and child care, 4) Preparing the children for Pre School at Anganwadi Centre and 5) Messages related to public health for improvement of Nutrition and to reduce illness.

4.20 e-ILA (Incremental Learning Approach – The Digital Way)

Besides regular ILA, in order to improve the capacity of counselling aspects, digital modes covering 21 modules under 5 themes, have been designed, the main advantage being self-learning and saving time.

The Supervisors and Anganwadi workers of all the districts have completed the e-ILA modules and have received a system generated certificate.

4.21 People's Mass Movement (Jan Andolan)

People's Mass Movement under National Nutrition Mission is an integrated approach to reach every household with the message of Poshan (Nutrition awareness) with inclusive participation of public representatives of local bodies, government departments of the State,

social organizations and the public and private sector at large.

Necessary funds were released to districts to carry out the following activities under Jan Andolan component.

- Samudhaya Valaikappu (Community Bangle Ceremony)
- Breast feeding week
- POSHAN Maah (Nutrition month) celebrations
- Hand Washing day
- Exhibitions at State level, district level and block levels
- Parambariya Unavu Thiruvizha (Traditional food festival) at all districts
- Health and nutrition education for Adolescent Girls

Rashtriya POSHAN Maah (National Nutrition Month) was celebrated in September 2019. This

month-long celebration covered the following critical areas viz., First 1000 days of the Child, Anaemia, Diarrhoea, Hand Wash and Sanitation and Poshtik Aahar (wholesome meal with diet diversity). Totally 39,91,313 activities were conducted thereby reaching nutrition and health messages to a majority of the population.

4.22 National Nutrition Mission Incentive Award

1. Tamil Nadu has received the first rank at the National Level for the effective implementation of Capacity Building (ILA), Convergence and Behavioural Change and Community Mobilisation. This award includes a cash incentive of ₹1 crore.
2. Tamil Nadu has won the first place in overall excellence of implementation, where an Award & a cash prize of ₹1.50 crore was given.
3. Tamil Nadu has received the second place in ICDS-CAS implementation and an

award with a cash incentive of ₹50 lakh was given.

Certificates and medals were awarded to the district of The Nilgiris and Killiyoor Block in Kanniyakumari District, for 'Field Level Leadership and Convergence' as the best district and the block respectively.

A cash award of ₹2.50 lakhs has been awarded to two best field teams (Anganwadi Worker, Anganwadi Helper, Village Health Nurse and Supervisor) from Thiruvadanaï of Ramanathapuram District and Chinnasalem of Villupuram District, for effective implementation of National Nutrition Mission.

State level award has been announced to the State of Tamil Nadu for effective implementation of National Nutrition Mission in 3 districts and 10 blocks, and also a cash award of ₹50,000/- each has been announced to 147 field teams for their achievement.

4.23 Provision of Medicine Kit and Hygiene Kit to all Anganwadi Centres

- Anganwadi centres are provided with Medicine Kits to attend to minor ailments like, fever, diarrhoea, skin infections etc., as a first aid. The Anganwadi workers are duly trained by the Public Health Department on drug administration. Children who need further treatment are referred to the nearest Primary Health Centre.
- To promote good hygiene practices among children, a hygiene Kit consisting of nail cutter, combs, soaps and hand towels is provided to all Anganwadi centres.

A sum of ₹7.79 crore has been provided to implement this scheme in the year 2020-2021.

4.24 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

ECCE programme aims at repositioning the Anganwadi centres as Vibrant Early Childhood Development Centres providing joyful learning environment with emphasis on a dedicated four hours of ECCE sessions that cover developmental priorities of providing care, early stimulation needs of children below 3 years of age and developmentally appropriate pre-school education activities for 3 to 6 year old children. It enables a more structured and planned school readiness for children.

“Aadi Paadi Vilayadu Pappa”, an annual content based curriculum, has been developed by ICDS in line with the National ECCE Policy 2013 and the same was validated by the Government of India. This curriculum consists of 11 theme based activities for 11 months while the 12th month is reserved for revision of syllabus. Necessary Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs) such as ECCE curriculum books for Anganwadi workers, activity books, assessment

cards, pre-school leaving certificates and pre-school education kit materials have been provided to all Anganwadi centres.

4.25 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Day

The 19th of every month is celebrated as ECCE day in each Anganwadi centre involving parents and community for an all round and optimal development of the children.

ECCE training is carried out in three phases to enable Anganwadi worker understand the concept and policy better, who will in turn provide comprehensive care and early learning opportunities to the children. 42,680 Anganwadi workers have been given third phase of ECCE training.

4.26 Introduction of LKG/UKG classes in convergence with School Education Department

In order to encourage the parents to send their children to Angawadi centres, the

Government have issued orders for introduction of Montessori Education based LKG/UKG classes on pilot basis and has been rolled out in 2,381 Anganwadi centres in all districts located within the Government Middle School premises, in convergence with School Education Department from the year 2019-2020.

The scheme helps in increasing the enrolment of children in Government schools, improving their learning skills, developing reading and writing competencies in English language, imparting good primary education, and reducing the economic burden of parents.

Anganwadi centres functioning in the middle school premises come under the administrative control of Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services and pre-school related activities are handled by the teachers of School Education under the supervision of the Head Master/ Head Mistress concerned. Books on Tamil, English, Mathematics and Environmental Science have been developed in convergence

with School Education Department and supplied to all the children studying in LKG and UKG. Four sets of uniforms have also been provided to the children.

4.27 Cost free supply of two sets of stitched readymade colour uniforms to Anganwadi children in 17 Districts

To encourage the parents in the community to send their children to Anganwadi centres and to encourage / improve enrolment, two sets of cost free stitched ready-made colour uniforms are being provided in 10 districts viz., Chennai, Vellore, Theni, Tiruchirappalli, Dindigul, Villupuram, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Nagapattinam and Tirunelveli since 2013 onwards. As the scheme was well received by the community, this scheme was extended to 7 more districts viz., Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Thiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur, and Virudhunagar to benefit 2,35,832 Anganwadi Children during 2019-2020. The programme is being implemented exclusively through the State funds. A sum of ₹16.04 crore has been

sanctioned for provision of two sets of stitched readymade colour uniforms to 6.11 lakh children at ₹262.50 per child in these 17 districts.

4.28 Infrastructure Development

(a) Construction of Anganwadi Centres

From the year 2016 onwards, construction of Anganwadi centres is carried out in convergence with MGNREGA Scheme. Under the scheme, from 2016-2020 sanction has been accorded for construction of 4,303 Anganwadi centres, out of which 2,202 Anganwadi centres have been constructed and put into use.

(b) Construction of Baby Friendly Toilets

In order to inculcate the habit of using toilet among children, construction of baby friendly toilets are being carried out in a phased manner. During the year 2019-2020 a sum of ₹1.53 crore has been sanctioned for the construction of 1,282 baby friendly toilets in convergence with Rural Development and

Panchayat Raj Department, and construction is in progress.

(c) Upgradation of Anganwadi Centres

The Anganwadi centres functioning in Government owned buildings are being upgraded at ₹2.00 lakh per centre on need basis to carry out works like laying concrete roof in lieu of Asbestos sheet, securing EB connection/wiring, provision of fan and tubelight, construction of ramp, construction / renovation of baby friendly toilets, construction of compound wall etc. During the year 2019-2020 upgradation of 1,200 Anganwadi centres were taken up at a total cost of ₹24.00 crore.

(d) Drinking water facility to Anganwadi Centres

In order to ensure that drinking water facility is available in all Anganwadi centres, Government have sanctioned ₹10,000/-per Anganwadi centre. A sum of ₹1.13 crore was sanctioned for providing drinking water facility in

1,137 Anganwadi centres for the year 2019-2020.

(e) Gas connection to Anganwadi Centres

Under modernisation of Anganwadi centres, out of 54,439 Anganwadi centres, 52,963 (i.e., 97%) centres have been provided with LP Gas connection, gas stove, pressure cooker, kitchen platform by utilizing Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS) funds.

(f) Annual Maintenance Grant to Anganwadi centres

A sum of ₹12.22 crore was sanctioned for 40,744 Anganwadi centres functioning in own building at ₹3,000/- per centre during the year 2019-2020 to carry out minor repair works, procurement of kitchen utensils etc.,

(g) Equipment and Furniture to Anganwadi centres

A sum of ₹10.59 crore was sanctioned to 9,900 main Anganwadi centres at ₹10,000/- per centre and to 988 mini centres at ₹7,000/- per

centre during the year 2019-2020 for procurement of equipment and furniture.

(h) Promoting Kitchen Garden in 655 Anganwadi Centres

A sum of ₹17.68 lakh was sanctioned for promoting Kitchen Gardens in 655 Anganwadi Centres in 10 Districts., viz., Ariyalur, Dindigul, The Nilgiris, Villupuram, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirappalli, Thiruvallur, Kanniyakumari, Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar. Farm fresh vegetables will be utilized for preparing variety/nutritious meal for Anganwadi children. This will also help in creating awareness among the ICDS beneficiaries (children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers) about home grown fresh nutritious vegetables/fruits.

4.29 Scheme for Adolescent Girls

This scheme has two components viz. Supplementary Nutrition Component and Non-Supplementary Nutrition Component. The State Government provides 50% financial

assistance towards Supplementary Nutrition Component in which the out of school adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years registered in Anganwadi Centres are provided with 165 gram of Complementary Food in the form of Take-Home Ration (THR) per day for 300 days in a year.

The scheme aims at motivating 'out of school' girls in the age group of 11-14 to join mainstream formal schooling or undertake skill training under non-nutrition component of the scheme. Iron-Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation, Health check-up & Referral services, Nutrition & Health Education, Life Skill Education & Counselling and orientation towards accessing public services like banks, post offices and police station etc., form part of other services under non-nutrition component.

The Government has allotted ₹1.24 crore for the Non-Nutrition Component of the Scheme for Adolescent Girls during the year 2020-2021.

4.30 National Creche Scheme

Creches play a vital role in safeguarding children of working mothers, between the age group of 6 months to 6 years and also in empowering women to take up employment. It is also a crucial intervention aimed at protecting and developing children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years. At present, under the National Creche Scheme 598 creches are being run by Non-Governmental Organisations.

A sum of ₹5.50 crore has been sanctioned towards grants-in-aid to 598 creches during the year 2019-2020 with a fund sharing pattern of 60:30:10 (Government of India: State Government: NGO) as per the Government of India guidelines.

4.31 Training

Tamil Nadu has a noteworthy and efficient pattern of three tier training methodology for the ICDS field functionaries. The Tamil Nadu model has been widely appreciated for the decentralized pattern, its efficacy and cost effectiveness.

The various types of training viz., Job Training to Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) and Instructress of Anganwadi Training Centres are conducted at State Training Institute (STI), Taramani, Chennai. Job training to Supervisors is conducted at Middle Level Training Centre (MLTC) Chennai.

As Tamil Nadu follows the cascade training model, Job Training of Anganwadi workers (AWWs) and orientation to Anganwadi helpers (AWHs) are also parallelly conducted at the Project Level.

Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices is an integral and comprehensive training programme imparted to field workers to impress upon the importance of colostrum and breast feeding to infants, besides feeding of young children below 5 years and to sensitize them about the mother and child protection card. Job Training has been given to 275 Supervisors, 490 Anganwadi workers and 900 Anganwadi helpers.

The State Training Institute has been functioning with four training faculties and three supportive staff for implementing training programme for the ICDS functionaries in the State.

The ICDS functionaries are also given need based trainings through Government run training institutions such as Anna Institute of Management and Natesan Institute of Co-operative Management.

Tamil Nadu was the first State in India to roll out online job training for Child Development Project Officers in collaboration with National

Institute for Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD). 133 Child Development Project Officers have successfully completed online training.

A sum of ₹8.00 crore has been provided in the Budget for conducting the Training Programme during the year 2020-2021.

4.32 Information, Education and Communication

Information, Education and Communication (IEC) plays a vital role in bringing about the desired change or reinforce the behaviour in the community regarding specific areas of concern within a predefined period of time. To create favourable changes, a well planned and effectively implemented IEC strategy is being adopted.

The goal of IEC is to promote and support appropriate changes in behaviour especially among the vulnerable high-risk population.

Integrated Child Development Services effectively uses the IEC component which comprises Approaches, Activities and Outputs. From Mass media to interpersonal communication, relevant messages are disseminated on Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition, to establish positive behavioural changes among the general population and to assist those at risk. Several activities are planned to provide training in communication skills, undertake research and determine what information would be necessary to evaluate behaviour.

Effective materials and clear messages pertaining to Nutrition and Health that can be remembered and communicated easily are used to kindle the interest of local population.

Printed materials such as brochures, posters, wall calendars, advertisements, murals, Desktop flip chart, post cards etc., are issued to

the field functionaries to aid successful communication.

Print and Visual media as well as social media play an important role and are put to the best use to create awareness among the public. Employing art forms, conducting workshops and exhibitions, displaying advertisements and LED hoardings etc, give a broad base for information to reach every area.

Community awareness events such as rallies, walkathons, musical concerts, theatrical performances etc., are conducted and celebrations such as breastfeeding week, nutrition month (Rashtriya Poshan Maah) fortnight events on nutrition (Poshan Pakhwada) are being observed.

The '***Chittukuruvi Seidhi Theriyuma?***' newsletter published bimonthly, provides opportunity to reinforce the tone of the work

environment and reflects the values of the scheme. The newsletter acts as a platform to communicate ideas, events, share experiences and best practices and connect employees and target group.

4.33 Aadhaar Enrolment in Integrated Child Development Services

As per Government of India guidelines, the Director of Integrated Child Development Services is notified as Registrar under UIDAI for Aadhaar Enrolment towards enrolment of Aadhaar for children in the age group of 0-5+ years in coordination with Information Technology Department.

The Child Development Project Officers, Supervisors and Anganwadi workers who have cleared Aadhaar Online Examination are being associated with UIDAI in enrolling Aadhaar for children through the department of Integrated Child Development Services .

At present 2,175 Aadhaar Enrolment Operators have been trained by UIDAI officials for usage of Aadhaar enrolment kits in the field, and enrolment of Aadhaar for children is being continued successfully across the State.

4.34 Sustainable Development Goals

The Department of Integrated Child Development Services is one of the departments that address Goals one and two viz., Goal No. 1 - aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere, and Goal No.2 - aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable growth.

The Department strives to tackle all forms of malnutrition and its effects such as stunting in children under 6 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and women in the age group of 15-49 years.

4.35 Monitoring and Evaluation

To monitor and review the progress in implementation status of Integrated Child Development Services, committees at different levels viz. State Level Monitoring and Review Committee (SLMRC), District Level Monitoring and Review Committee (DLMRC), Block Level Monitoring Committee (BLMC) and Anganwadi Level Monitoring and Support Committee (ALMSC) have been constituted by the Government. The SLMRC Committee is headed by the Chief Secretary, the DLMRC is headed by the respective District Collectors, the BLMC is headed by the Sub Division Magistrates/ Sub Collectors/ Revenue Divisional Officers and ALMSC is headed by the Child Development Project Officers / Supervisors Grade-I. The Committees will meet as per the mandated time schedule framed by the Government.

4.36 ISO Certification Grading and Accreditation of Anganwadi Centres

Under ISO grading and accreditation of Anganwadi centres, the internal & external areas of existing Anganwadi centres have been remodelled into a child friendly and educative space. During 2017-2018, four Anganwadi centres in each of the 32 districts totalling to 128 have been issued ISO Grading and Accreditation certificates at an expenditure of ₹32.80 lakhs.

This is an unique effort to ensure health and nutrition outcomes through third party evaluation mechanism.

4.37 Welfare of Anganwadi Employees

In accordance with the 7th Pay Commission recommendations, the employees of 54,439 Anganwadi centres functioning in Tamil Nadu are being given Special Time Scale of Pay as follows: -

1	Anganwadi Workers	₹7,700-₹24,200
2	Anganwadi Helpers	₹4,100-₹12,500
3	Mini Anganwadi Workers	₹5,700-₹18,000

The Anganwadi Employees are provided with Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance, Medical Allowance, Hill Allowance and Winter Allowance. They are also given an annual Increment.

Since 01.10.2017, lumpsum grant of ₹1,00,000/- and ₹50,000/- is given to Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers respectively at the time of their retirement.

Since 01.10.2017, Special Pension of ₹2,000/- is being provided to Anganwadi Workers, Mini Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers.

Two uniform sarees are being provided to all the Anganwadi employees every year at the cost of ₹8.32 crore.

Summer holidays are provided since May, 2018 as follows: -

Anganwadi Workers	2 nd week of May
Anganwadi Helpers	3 rd week of May
Mini Anganwadi Workers	4 th week of May

Differently abled Anganwadi employees are provided with conveyance allowance of ₹2,500/- per month.

Family Security Fund of ₹3 lakh is given to the family of the deceased Anganwadi employees.

Special GPF Scheme has been implemented and GPF Account is being maintained for Anganwadi employees from the year 2015.

On medical grounds, Anganwadi employees are permitted to avail Voluntary Retirement Scheme with all retirement benefits.

Anganwadi workers below 42 years of age with 2 years work experience are eligible for

Village Health Nurse (VHN) Training and subsequent postings.

4.38 Various Insurance coverages provided to the Anganwadi Employees :-

1. Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana

The Anganwadi employees in the age group of 18-59 years are eligible for ₹2.00 lakh towards life risk and death due to any reason.

2. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana

The Anganwadi employees in the age group of 18-59 years are eligible for ₹2.00 lakh in case of accidental death and permanent full disability, ₹1.00 lakh will be given for partial but permanent disability.

3. Anganwadi Karyakarti Bima Yojana

The Anganwadi employees in the age group of 51-59 years are eligible for ₹30,000/- for life risk and death due to any reason.

4.39 Conclusion

Investing in nutrition of the mother and child yields permanent and inalienable benefits. This transforms the life of an individual and enables proper growth and development, leading to prosperity of the Nation. The Department of Integrated Child Development Services has been functioning with the aspiration to guarantee the basic needs with regard to nutrition and health to the deprived population. The intervention mechanisms operate with care and passion in delivering services to the weaker sections of the society to break through the barriers in the social structure.

The commitment of the department is to give every child a fair start to life, by sowing the right seeds, to raise well nourished individuals and thereby combat the global crisis of malnutrition to take the way forward in the

accomplishment of the motto of the Government

- "Malnutrition Free Tamil Nadu".

"Investing in early childhood
nutrition is a sure-fire strategy.

The returns are incredibly high"

- **Anne M. Mulcahy.**

* * * * *

CHAPTER - 5

SOCIAL DEFENCE

5.1 The State of Tamil Nadu is front runner in India in nurturing and safe guarding the two most vulnerable categories of children viz., “children in need of care and protection” as well as “children in conflict with law”. The Department of Social Defence is catering to their basic needs of proper care, protection, development, treatment, social integration by adopting a child friendly approach in the adjudication and disposal of matters in the best interest of children in mind. The State has pioneered a child protection mechanism by establishing approved schools as early as in the year 1887. The Madras Children Act, 1920 was subsequently enacted for the protection of children and management of Child Care Institutions. Now, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 is in force.

In 1947, the Department was bifurcated from the Prison Department and started functioning as Department of Certified Schools and Vigilance Services headed by the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools.

Subsequently, the nomenclature of the Department was changed from time to time as detailed below: -

1975 - Department of Correctional Administration

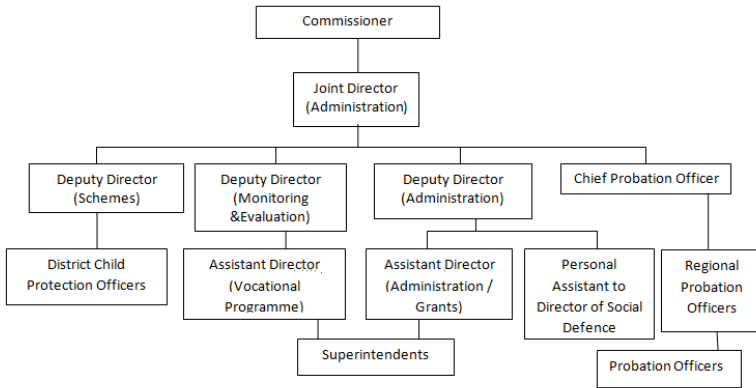
1981- Department of Approved Schools and
Vigilance Services

1990 - Department of Social Defence

The Social Defence Department is committed to meet the objectives of providing institutional care and protection to children in need of care and protection as well as those who have fallen in conflict with law and also for the protection and well-being of women in moral danger. This Department implements two important legislations namely, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act,

1956. Under the various provisions of these Acts, the Department is running and monitoring a number of institutions viz., Children Homes, Observation Homes, Special Homes, Place of Safety, After Care Organizations and Vigilance / Protective Homes.

The Administrative Set up of Department of Social Defence



5.2 The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 aims at ensuring proper care, protection, development, treatment and

social reintegration of children in difficult circumstances by adopting a child-friendly approach keeping in mind the best interest of the child. The Act provides the legal framework to deal with “children in need of care and protection” and “children in conflict with law”. The Government of Tamil Nadu had framed the Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017 for the management of institutions and implementation of the provisions under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.

**Details of Institutions under the Juvenile Justice
(Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015**

S.No.	Institutions	No. of Institutions	No. of Beneficiaries		
			Boys	Girls	Total
1.	Children Homes	1,138	22,880	26,165	49,045
2.	Observation Homes	09	239	03	242
3.	Special Homes	02	45	-	45
4.	Place of Safety	01	18	-	18
5.	Open Shelters	11	82	49	131
6.	Specialized Adoption Agencies	21	125	154	279
Total		1,182	23,389	26,371	49,760

5.3 Children in need of Care and Protection

As per section 2(14) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, “child in need of care and protection” is a child who is found without any home or settled place or abode and without any ostensible means of subsistence, found working in contravention of Labour Laws, who is mentally ill or physically challenged, whose parent or guardian is found to be unfit or incapacitated, street children, who is in imminent risk of marriage before attaining the appropriate age, does not have a parent and no one is willing to take care of him / her or abused or whose parents have abandoned him / her or who is a missing or a runaway child and whose parents could not be found after reasonable inquiry.

5.4 Child Welfare Committees

The Child Welfare Committees are the authority to dispose of the cases for the care, protection, treatment, development and rehabilitation of “children in need of care and protection” and to provide their basic needs and

protection of child rights. Child Welfare Committees are functioning in 32 districts of Tamil Nadu. Child Welfare Committees are functioning as a Committee comprising of one Chairperson and four Members of whom atleast one member shall be a woman. The committees are vested with the powers of Metropolitan Magistrate or Judicial Magistrate of First Class as per the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. To ensure their effective functioning, adequate infrastructure and support have been provided to them.

A sum of ₹ 6.64 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.5 Children Homes

A number of “children in need of care and protection” who enter the juvenile justice system through the Child Welfare Committees (CWC) are in need of residential care and protection and subsequently for their long term care, treatment, education, training, development and rehabilitation. 1,138 Children Homes are

functioning in Tamil Nadu under the control of Department of Social Defence, to cater to the needs of the children requiring care and protection and they have been registered as envisaged under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. Among them, 36 Children Homes are run by the Government and 152 Homes are run by the Non-Governmental Organizations with financial assistance from the Government and the rest are run by NGOs with their own fund. A Grant-in-aid of ₹2,160/- per child per month for the maintenance of children is provided to the fund receiving Non-Governmental Organizations.

Details of Children Homes and Beneficiaries

S. No.	Institutions	No. of Institutions	No. of Beneficiaries		
			Boys	Girls	Total
1.	Children Homes run by Government	36	523	1,156	1,679
2.	Children Homes run by Hindu Religious and Endowment Department	17	99	131	230

3.	Children Homes run by NGOs with financial assistance from Government	152	5,623	6,035	11,658
4.	Children Homes run by NGOs with their own funds	933	16,635	18,843	35,478
Total		1,138	22,880	26,165	49,045

A sum of ₹115.53 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.6 Open Shelters

A number of urban marginalized children are in need of day care services and there are some children who require residential care for a temporary period for one or more reasons. In Tamil Nadu, there are 11 Open Shelters in Urban and Semi-urban areas which offers day and night shelter facilities to the children in need of support services for a temporary period, while efforts are made to rehabilitate them. Open

Shelters cater to all needs of children coming under the category of children in need in urban areas, particularly the homeless, street and working children, rag pickers, small vendors, street performers, orphaned, deserted, trafficked, run away children, children of migrant population and any other vulnerable group of children.

A maintenance grant of ₹2,160/- per child per month is provided to Non Governmental Organisations which are running these Open Shelters.

Details of Open Shelters in Districts and Beneficiaries are give below:-

S.No.	District	No. of Institutions	Beneficiaries
1.	Chennai	7	97
2.	Tirunelveli	1	25
3.	Trichirapalli	1	11
4.	Salem	1	25
5.	Coimbatore	1	25
Total		11	183

A sum of ₹2.35 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.7 Special Initiatives taken by the Government

5.7.1 Conducting State Level Annual Sports and Cultural Meet

Government have sanctioned a sum of ₹25.00 lakh for conducting State Level Annual Sports and Cultural Meet for the children of 36 Government Children Homes as well as 152 Grants receiving NGO run Children Homes functioning under the Department of Social Defence for the year 2019-2020. Zonal sports meets were conducted in the month of January, 2020 in which 3,667 children had participated. The State Level competition, for the winners and runners of the zonal meets, was conducted on 27th and 28th January, 2020 at Jawaharlal Nehru

Stadium, Chennai and 300 children had participated and exhibited their talents as well.

5.7.2 Children Educational Tour Scheme

To give exposure to children of Government Children Homes educational tour has been conducted every year. Government have sanctioned a sum of ₹10.00 lakh for the children of 36 Government Children Homes under the Department of Social Defence during the year 2019-2020.

5.7.3 Child Information System

For effective monitoring of the service given to children as well as for capturing and recording the entire data of children who are dealt under the Juvenile Justice System, Government have issued orders for the Development of new portal namely "Child Information System" at a cost of ₹65.00 lakh. The Tamil Nadu e-governance Agency has been entrusted with the

development of the system and is in progress. Through this portal all the functionaries will submit their reports and assessment of children. This will ensure timely submission and receipt of reports, system for monitoring the quality of reports and continuous monitoring of the progress of the child. Management of all Individual Care Plan, Social Investigation Report, Health Report, etc., will be maintained electronically for easy access and print as per requirement. A database of all children who come into juvenile justice system will ensure a knowledge based approach for child protection services.

5.8 Infrastructure and Development

- i) The Government have sanctioned a sum of ₹4.79 crore for construction of a new building for Annai Sathya Government Children Home, Ramanathapuram.

- ii) Construction of second phase for Government Observation Home in Kellys, Chennai, at a cost of ₹4.53 crore is in progress.
- iii) The Government have sanctioned a sum of ₹1.00 Crore for construction of second floor in the annex building and providing additional facilities in the Directorate of Social Defence and the work is in progress.
- iv) The Government have sanctioned a sum of ₹1.53 crore for construction of various buildings such as (i) Multipurpose Hall for Government Children Home for Boys at Thanjavur and Tattaparai, (ii) Training Centre for Government After Care Organization at Athur, Chengalpattu and (iii) Construction of Dining Hall in Annai Sathya Government Children Home, Vellore and the work is in progress.

- v) The Government have sanctioned a sum of ₹1.10 Crore for construction of first floor, office and dispensary in the Reception Unit building of Government Children Home for Boys, Royapuram, Chennai and the work is in progress.

The above infrastructure development projects are 100% funded by State Government.

- vi) Non-recurring grants for the purchase of required materials and upgradation of facilities under “Child Protection Services” amounting to ₹41.90 crore has been provided to 152 children homes run by Non Governmental Organisations who are receiving grant from the Government.

5.9 Child Adoption

“Adoption” means the process through which the adopted child is permanently separated from his biological parents and becomes the legitimate child of his adoptive parents with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities that are attached to the relationship. As such, orphan, abandoned and surrendered children who are without biological parents or legal guardian or whose legal guardian is not willing to take or capable of

taking care of the child could be placed in adoption.

The Government encourages adoption of an abandoned / orphaned / surrendered child. A child is to be placed in institutional care as a step of last resort after reasonable inquiry.

The Adoption of children is governed by Adoption Regulations, 2017 framed by Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. To have transparency in the adoption programme, the Adoption Regulations, 2017 insist on online registration, information on adoptable children and information on adoption agencies through web portal www.cara.nic.in of CARA and the procedure is uniform throughout the country.

5.9.1 State Adoption Resource Agency

The State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) functioning in the Commissionerate of Social Defence is entrusted with the implementation of adoption programme under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Rules made there under in the State. A “Hand Book on Child Adoption” has been published by the SARA for easy understanding and display boards have been placed in all District Collectorates, District Child Protection Units, Specialized Adoption Agencies and Public Places to create greater awareness and dissemination of information among public. Awareness programmes were conducted among health professionals and other stakeholders to prevent illegal adoption.

5.9.2 Specialized Adoption Agencies

There are 21 Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) functioning in Tamil Nadu to promote in-country and inter-country adoption. These agencies are situated two each in Madurai and Salem, three in Kancheepuram and one each in the districts of Ariyalur, Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Krishnagiri, Nammakkal, Tiruchirapalli, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Thiruvannamalai and Vellore.

The children placed in "adoption" from 1993 to December 2019 are given below: -

Sl. No	Nature of Adoption	No. of Children Adopted		Total
		Male	Female	
1	In-Country	1413	4035	5448
2	Inter-Country	109	391	500
Total		1522	4426	5948

The children placed in “adoption” during the year 2019-2020 (upto December 2019) are as follows: -

Sl. No	Nature of Adoption	No. of Children Adopted		Total
		Male	Female	
1	In-Country	96	109	205
2	Inter-Country	3	3	6
Total		99	112	211

5.10 Sponsorship

To prevent institutionalization of children sponsorship support is provided to family to enable a child to remain in the family and continue his/her education. It is an effort towards preventing children from becoming vulnerable, running away, forced into child marriage, forced into child labour etc., Every child under the programme is given financial assistance of ₹2,000/- per month for 3 years.

1229 children have benefitted under this scheme during 2019-2020. Government have incurred an expenditure of ₹2.62 crore for this programme.

5.11 Children in Conflict With Law

Child in conflict with law means a child who is alleged or found to have committed an offence and who has not completed eighteenth year of age as on the date of commission of such offence.

5.12 Juvenile Justice Boards

Juvenile Justice Boards have been constituted in 32 districts as per the provisions of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, to deal with matters relating to children in conflict with law. Juvenile Justice Board consists of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the first class with two Social Worker Members (including

one woman Social Worker Member). The Board would conduct the proceedings in a child-friendly manner and not like a regular court proceedings.

A sum of ₹3.57 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.13 Observation Homes

Children in conflict with law who enter the Juvenile Justice System through the Juvenile Justice Boards are in need of adequate residential care and protection during the pendency of any inquiry regarding them. Observation Homes are meant for temporarily keeping the “children in conflict with law” who are facing the enquiry before the Juvenile Justice Boards. As of now in Tamil Nadu, there are 9 Observation Homes run by the Government one each in Chennai, Chengalpattu, Cuddalore, Thiruchirapalli, Thanjavur, Salem, Tirunelveli,

Madurai and Coimbatore. The children residing in the Observation Homes are provided with not only basic amenities like shelter, food, clothing, bedding but also several services like education both formal and non-formal, vocational training, medical facility and counseling as a part of their short term rehabilitation. To ensure regular monitoring, the Government have provided surveillance and security equipments to all Observation Homes.

A sum of ₹8.60 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.14 Special Homes

Children in conflict with law found to have committed an offence by the Juvenile Justice Boards are sent to Special Homes for long term rehabilitation and protection under institutional care. Children shall stay in the special homes for

a maximum period of 3 years. In special homes children are provided services like education, vocational training, counseling and facilities for co-curricular activities. There are two Government Special Homes, one at Chennai for girls and another at Chengalpattu for boys.

A sum of ₹2.67 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.15 Place of Safety

A person above the age of 18 years but have committed an offence when he was a child or a child in conflict with law, who is between the age of 16 to 18 years and is accused of or convicted for committing a heinous offence is to be placed in "Place of Safety" as per the orders of the Juvenile Justice Board or the Children's Court. In Tamil Nadu place of safety is established at Vellore.

A sum of ₹45.66 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.16 The Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice Fund

“The Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice Fund” has been created with a corpus of ₹25.00 lakh for undertaking welfare and rehabilitative activities for children as mandated under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The fund facilitates to implement activities which are of urgent need as well as programmes that are not covered under regular government programmes. The funds have been applied to facilitate education, health, training, sports, raw material or capital requirement for income generating activities. 20 children have been provided assistance under this fund in the year 2019-2020.

5.17 Exclusive De-addiction and Rehabilitation Centre for children

A de-addiction and rehabilitation centre exclusively for children has been established by the Government and functioning through a Non-Governmental Organisation in Chengalpattu District. The De-addiction and rehabilitation Centre addresses the problem of addiction to drugs and substances among children especially those in conflict with law. 70 children have been benefitted under this programme during the year 2019-2020.

A sum of ₹24.94 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.18 Probation System

The Probation is an effective tool for early rehabilitation and restoration with the participation of children at every stage. The

Department of Social Defence is having one Probation Officer each in 32 Districts. In Chennai, 3 Probation Officers are additionally appointed due to high volume of cases. The Probation Officers are assigned with preparation of Social Investigation Reports to assist the Child Welfare Committees as well as the Juvenile Justice Boards in arriving at proper disposition of cases brought before them. Follow-up of children in conflict with law in specific cases and after care of children who are discharged from children homes are regularly done by Probation Officers.

Considering the important role of Probation Officers and the need for periodical training, capacity building, review and monitoring, Government had sanctioned one post of Chief Probation Officer at Chennai and one post of Regional Probation Officer each at Chennai and Madurai. The Probation Wing in the Department

of Social Defence is periodically organizing review meetings and committed to improve the probation services by achieving early and effective rehabilitation of children. In addition to 35 Probation Officers in a regular time scale of pay, 29 Legal cum Probation Officers are also appointed in the Districts under the Child Protection Services.

5.19 Other Initiatives taken by the Government for Children in conflict with law

5.19.1 Video Conferencing Facility

To ensure safety and security of children who need to be produced before Juvenile Justice Board of their respective District, Government has installed video conferencing facilities which provide a link between various homes of “children in conflict with law” and respective Juvenile Justice Boards, and this facilitates production of children before Juvenile Justice

Board without physical shifting/transportation of children.

In 2016-2017, video conferencing facilities have been set up between the Government Observation Home, Tirunelveli and three Juvenile Justice Boards of Sivagangai, Virudhunagar and Ramanathapuram Districts at a cost of ₹38.91 lakh. This facility has also been extended between the Government Observation Home, Chennai and five Juvenile Justice Boards of Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur, Thiruvannamalai, Vellore and Villupuram Districts in the year 2017-2018 at a cost of ₹49.72 lakh.

In 2019-2020 Government have also sanctioned a sum of ₹2.61 crore for providing Video Conferencing facilities between remaining Juvenile Justice Boards and Government Observation Homes, Thanjavur, Thiruchirappalli, Salem, Cuddalore, Coimbatore, Madurai and

Place of Safety, Vellore. Now, Video Conferencing Facilities have been provided in 32 Juvenile Justice Boards and Government Observation Homes, Special Homes and Place of Safety in the State.

5.19.2 Psychological Counselling for Children

A number of "Children in conflict with law" who have entered the Juvenile Justice system through Juvenile Justice Boards have emotional and psychological problems including withdrawal of addiction in some cases. In order to help them to overcome the psychological trauma, the Government has provided counselling services to the inmates of the Observation Homes and Special Homes through counsellors. The scheme provides for engaging psychological experts for counselling children for 180 days in a year on a honorarium basis of ₹1,000/- per day for each counsellor.

5.20 After Care Organizations

Any children without family or other support who leave institutional care after they attain 18 years of age to sustain themselves have been provided after care during the transition from institutional to independent life in order to facilitate child's re-integration into the mainstream of society. The Government provide ₹2,000/- per month per child to those Non Governmental Organisations who are running after care services and there are 196 beneficiaries under this programme. Further Government is running After Care Institution for Boys at Athur (Chengalpattu) with 21 beneficiaries and Madurai with 10 beneficiaries and for Girls at Vellore with 8 beneficiaries at present. A Non-Governmental Organisation in Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam District is supported under 'child protection services' for running an After Care Organization for mentally

challenged young adults and 190 beneficiaries are housed here.

A sum of ₹2.12 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.21 Educational and Vocational Training in Child Care Institutions

School sections are functioning within the campus of the Government Child Care Institutions to provide formal education recognized by the Department of Education. In Child Care Institutions, where schools are not available, children are sent to nearby schools. Children of Observation Homes and Reception Units are provided with non-formal and vocational training since, their stay in these homes are for a short term.

Vocational training is imparted to children in tailoring, book binding, screen printing, basic

computer training and bakery as a short term courses to improve their skills. 878 children were benefitted under this programme during 2019-2020.

Short term Skill Training programmes such as Sewing Machine Operator, Electrician Helper, Plumber Assistant, Air Condition Servicing and Two Wheeler Mechanism have been organized through the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation. 291 children are benefitted under this training during 2019-2020.

A sum of ₹28.09 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.22 Childline 1098

CHILDLINE (1098) is a round the clock toll free phone outreach service for children in distress. For Child Line, the common number for the whole Nation is **Ten Nine Eight (1098)**.

The CHILDLINE services are administered by Non-governmental organizations under the control of Childline India Foundation with financial assistance from Government of India. Under this service, in Tamil Nadu 24,767 calls had been received for intervention during the year 2019-2020.

5.23 Child Protection Services (CPS)

The State is successfully implementing the 'Child Protection Services' under the Umbrella of "Integrated Child Development Services" (ICDS) by creating adequate service delivery structures at the District and State Level.

The scheme has strengthened prevention of child right violation, enhanced infrastructure for protection services, provided financial support for implementation of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, increased access to a wider range and better quality of

protection services, increased investment in child protection and is continuously drawing focus on the right of all children to be safe.

These objectives are achieved by

- Improving access and quality of child protection services
- Raising public awareness about child rights and current situation prevailing in India
- Enforcing responsibility and accountability for child protection
- Creating child protection data management system, child tracking system and monitoring of child protection services
- Ensuring appropriate inter-sector response at all levels.

5.24 Service Delivery Structures under Child Protection Services

The State has established the following structures for effective implementation of Child Protection Services: -

- State Child Protection Society (SCPS)
- District Child Protection Units (DCPUs)
- State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA)

An Outreach Programme, training of stakeholders at various levels, integrated service provisions through an interface with various sector, including health, education, judiciary, police and labour, among others have been done by these service delivery structures to cater to the multiple needs of child protection.

A sum of ₹24.78 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

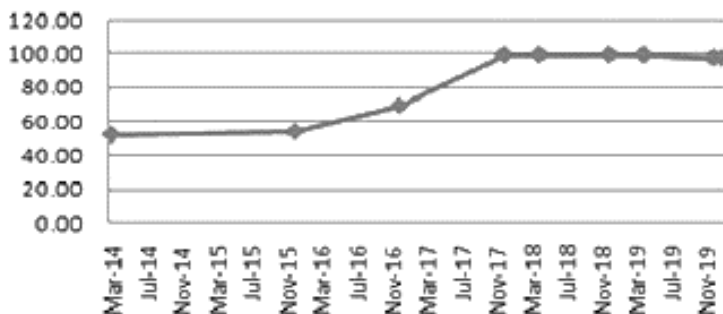
5.25 Registration of all Child Care Institutions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 postulates the registration of all Child Care Institutions under the Act. The

Child Care Institutions functioning without registration are liable for legal punishment. The registration of child care institutions helps to regulate, streamline and monitor the activities and ensure minimum standards in Child Care Institutions.

1,182 institutions have been registered from 2014 to December 2019. 869 institutions are closed down for not having the minimum standards / facilities to run the institutions from 2014 to 31.12.2019. The registration to Child Care Institutions is accorded based on the fulfillment of minimum standards prescribed under the Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017 viz, space for dormitory, building stability, building license, fire safety and sanitation. Around 49,760 children are accommodated in the registered Child Care Institutions.

**The progress of registration of CCIs in Tamil Nadu
(in percentage)**



5.26 Inspection and Monitoring of Child Care Institutions

Government has constituted State Level Inspection Committee (SLIC), District Level Inspection Committees (DLIC) in addition to the existing inspection bodies like Juvenile Justice Boards, Child Welfare Committees and District Child Protection Units to effectively monitor the functioning of all Child Care Institutions and to ensure prescribed standards of Care and Protection.

The State Level Inspection Committee consists of the Secretary, State Child Protection Society as Chairperson and Registrar (Law) State Human Rights Commission, One Member of Tamil Nadu Commission for the Protection of Child Rights, Director of Medical Services or his nominee and one Non-Governmental Organisation representative, as members.

The District Level Inspection Committee has been constituted by the concerned District Collectors in which District Child Protection Officer is the Member Secretary and other 4 members are from Child Welfare Committee / Juvenile Justice Board, Medical Officer, one Mental Health Expert and one Member from civil society nominated by the Collector.

5.27 Child Tracking System

Government of India had set up a National Portal on Missing Child Tracking System (www.trackthemissingchild.gov.in) through

National Informatics Centre to trace missing and found children. The child tracking system facilitates matching of missing and found children and also enables follow up of the progress of children. Thus, proper monitoring and welfare of the children under the Scheme would also be ensured through the portal.

Child Tracking System is linked with all the Police Stations, District Child Protection Units, Child Welfare Committees, Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Care Institutions in all parts of the State through this National portal.

5.28 Individual Care Plan

Individual Care plan is a dynamic document to be prepared for all the children time to time by the Child Care Institutions to assess the progress, design intervention strategies in institutions and to plan effectively for the rehabilitation, restoration and reintegration into society. Periodical training has been given to

prepare quality Individual Care Plan to the staff of Child Care Institutions functioning in the State. So far, 1366 number of trainings have been given at the District and State level. Individual Care Plan has been prepared for 49,589 children and continuous reviews have been conducted to improve the quality of Individual Care Plan.

The functioning of child protection services are monitored by a 3 tier system.

1. Village Level Child Protection Committee (VLCPC)
2. Block Level Child Protection Committee (BLCPC)
3. District Child Protection Committee (DCPC)

5.28.1 Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPC)

There are 12,579 Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPC) and they are headed by Panchayat President as Chairperson,

Village Administrative Officer (VAO) functions as the Member Secretary. One member each from Health, Education, Police, ICDS, Magalir Thittam, NGO and 2 children representatives are the other members of the Village Level Child Protection Committees.

5.28.2 Block Level Child Protection Committees (BLCPC)

There are 385 Block Level Child Protection Committees in the State which monitor the implementation of Child Protection Services in the Block Level. The committee consists of Panchayat Union Chairman as Chairperson, Block Development Officer (BDO) as Member Secretary and other members of the Committee are Child Development Project Officer, Block Education Officer, Medical Officer from PHC, apart from one member from District Child Protection Unit and 3 Chairpersons of Village

Level Child Protection Committees, 2 NGO representatives and 3 members from Self Help Groups.

5.28.3 District Child Protection Committees (DCPC)

Government reconstituted the District Advisory Committees under Juvenile Justice Act as District Child Protection Committees to monitor the implementation of Child Protection Services based on the district specific indicators.

The Committee has the following composition: -

1	District Collector	Chairperson
2	District Judge or Chief Judicial Magistrate or Judicial Magistrate	Co – Chairperson/Member
3	Superintendent of Police / Commissioner of Police	Member
4	District Social Welfare Officer	Member
5	District Differently Abled Welfare Officer	Member

6	Chief Educational Officer, Dean, District Medical Officer	Member
7	Probation Officer (Social Defence Department)	Member
8	The Superintendent or Officer in – charge of Observation Home, Children’s Home, Special Home functioning in the District	Member
9	Labour Officer	Member
10	One Councillor from District Panchayat (Nominated by District Collector)	Member
11	Rotary / Lion’s Club, District Governor	Member
12	Representatives from two Non Governmental Organisations (to be nominated by the District Collector)	Member

5.29 Safety and Precautionary Structures in Child Care Institutions

In order to ensure safety and security of children, following steps have been taken under child protection services in all child care institutions in the State. There are 6234 cameras installed and functioning in 1,165

institutions. The staff members working in the Child Care Institutions are subject to police verification so as to ensure that they have no history of criminal precedence. 13,149 number of Police verification Certificates for staff members have been obtained and 2,056 number of staff have applied for Police verification Certificate. In order to effectively tackle inadvertent situations like natural calamities, accident etc., 672 number of disaster management trainings have been conducted so far. As a measure of precaution to avoid contagious diseases, periodical water samples from child care institutions are sent for chemicals, micro-biological testing at authorized laboratories. 3213 children have been covered under Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS).

5.30 Enrollment of Aadhaar, Opening of Bank Account to Children in Child Care Institutions

48,599 children have been provided Aadhaar Cards and 558 have been enrolled for Aadhaar. Action has been taken to enroll for Aadhaar for 603 children. Bank accounts have been opened for 45,391 out of 49,760 children in Child Care Institutions in the State.

5.31 The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 intends to combat trafficking and sexual exploitation of women for commercial sexual purposes. The Act brings the traffickers, abusers and pimps before the court of law and gives directions to rehabilitate the victims of trafficking.

5.32 Vigilance / Protective Homes

Vigilance / Protective homes are meant for keeping the women victims who are in moral danger. In such homes women are being admitted as per the orders issued by the courts under the various provisions of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. In these homes services like residential care, medical treatment, counseling, vocational training are provided to inmates as part of rehabilitative measures. A financial assistance of ₹10,000/- is provided to the victims under "Victim Relief Fund".

The State Government is maintaining five Government Vigilance/Protective Homes each one in Chennai, Madurai, Salem, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli for the rehabilitation of women victims of trafficking under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.

A video conferencing facility has been installed between the Government Vigilance

Home, Mylapore and Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Saidapet at a cost of ₹20 lakh to facilitate “Virtual appearance in lieu of physical production to Court” for the victims of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 thereby maintaining their dignity and facilitate speedy trial by the court.

A sum of ₹5.29 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2020-2021.

5.33 Ujjawala Scheme

Trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation is a crime against human rights. To ensure safety and proper rehabilitation of victims, Ujjawala Scheme is being implemented with Centre and State assistance. This scheme is a comprehensive scheme for prevention of trafficking, rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.

There are 5 Non-Governmental Organizations implementing this scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu. 260 women have benefitted under this scheme during the year 2019-2020.

A sum of ₹1.08 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2020-2021.

5.34 De-Addiction Programme

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the centrally sponsored Drug Abuse Prevention Programme. The Integrated Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers functioning under this Scheme is for the addicts of alcohol / drug to provide 21 days free in-patient treatment. There are 28 centers functioning across the State through the Non-Governmental Organizations with financial support by Government of India. 5,546 alcohol/drug addicts have been treated during 2019-2020.

Besides, Government of India had launched a new scheme under the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) which aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy involving education, de-addiction and rehabilitation of affected individuals and their families. Government of Tamil Nadu under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) (2018-2023) has proposed to undertake programmes for (a) Preventive Education and Awareness Generation (b) Capacity Building (c) Specific Intervention Programme on Drug Demand Reduction. Government of India had sanctioned a sum of ₹2.74 crore for the year 2019-2020 to implement the scheme in the State.

5.35 The Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights

The Tamil Nadu Government has constituted the Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights under section 17(1) of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005. The Commission consists of one Chairperson and 6 Members and is functioning from 18.01.2013.

The main objective of this Commission is monitoring the implementation of child related legislations that are in force. The Commission also ensures the protection of child rights and welfare of the children effectively.

A sum of ₹92.14 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2020-2021.

5.36 Convergence with other Departments for Child Protection

Social Defence Department is closely coordinating with other Government Departments and NGOs to mainstream the children who are suffering from difficult circumstances and vulnerability.

It ensures the care and protection of all the children with the effective co-ordination with line Departments i.e. Social Welfare, Revenue, Municipal Administration and Water Supply, Education, Labour Welfare, Rural Development, Welfare of Differently Abled, Medical and Health, Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, National Child Labour Project, Railway Police, Childline, Police and Judicial.

At District Level, District Child Protection Committee meetings are conducted periodically under the Chairmanship of District Collector, in

which all stakeholders including judiciary participate.

Suitable rescue operations are planned by identifying cases of sexual abuse, child marriage, child trafficking, using the children for begging, physical and mental abuse and child labour. Conduct of awareness campaigns with the help of Government Departments and Institutions are also planned at District Level.

5.37 New Initiatives taken by the Government for Children in need and Care of Protection

5.37.1 State Girl Child Protection Day

This year, the Tamil Nadu Government has declared the birthday of the Hon'ble former Chief Minister Dr.J.Jayalalitha i.e. 24th of February every year as "**State Girl Child Protection Day**" in the State and ordered to observe the same every year at the State and District level by organizing various activities

such as human chain, taking oath/pledge, rallies, seminars, workshops, street plays on girl child protection. Accordingly, the “State Girl Child Protection Day” was celebrated on 24.02.2020.

5.37.2 Special Assistance Package

If the safety and economic status of the Girl Children not having parent or guardian is affected after leaving child care institutions on completing 18 years of age, the Government as a “*parens patriae*” will provide a special assistance package to ensure socio-economic security. The package includes assistance for Higher Education, Skill Development, Employment, Self employment etc., till they attain 50 years of age.

The Government has proposed to deposit a sum of ₹2.00 lakh in the bank account of children of Government Children Home not having parent and guardian, while attaining

21 years of age with the intention to help them to build a full-fledged life after leaving the children home.

5.37.3 Foster Care Assistance

In order to provide a good care and development in a family environment for orphan and abandoned children in the Child Care Institutions by identifying suitable families, Government is providing a sum of ₹2,000/- per month for 3 years at present as Foster Care assistance. This amount will be enhanced to ₹4,000/- per month for 5 years for the Foster Parents.

5.37.4 Employment Opportunities

The Scheme of providing employment to the children left after training in the Children Homes, Observation Homes, After Care Institutions and the Women from Vigilance and Protective Homes under "C" and "D" category

posts which do not fall under the purview of Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission is in existence at present.

The orphan and abandoned children will be provided employment in all the Departments under the Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department such as Social Welfare, Social Defence and ICDS in "C" and "D" category posts which do not fall under the purview of TNPSC subject to their age, education and other eligibility conditions on priority basis. Apart from the above, they will be employed in the posts under Nutritious Meal Programme and Anganwadi Centres on priority, based on their eligibility.

CHAPTER-6

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals are a collection of **17** global goals and **169** targets designed to be a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all". The NITI Aayog is the Central Nodal Agency for India to monitor implementation of SDG. In Tamil Nadu, the Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department is the Nodal Department for Goal 5 which aims to "Achieve Gender Equality and empower all women and girls". It is imperative that Gender equality and women's empowerment are to be integral for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Sustainable Development Goal unit of the Social Welfare Department has been formed vide G.O.MS.No.58, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme (SW3(1)) Department, Dated: 27.11.2019, to work in

close coordination with the Sustainable Development Goal cell under the PD&SI Department, the Working Groups, State, District and Field Offices and other institutions working on Sustainable Development Goals from time to time in furtherance of achieving the SDG for the State.

The department is implementing several state specific schemes and centrally sponsored programs for the welfare of vulnerable section of the society so as to achieve the relevant targets and indicators pertaining to goal 5 of sustainable development goals.

Indicator 5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all Women and Girls everywhere.

The Department with an aim to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against girls, is implementing **Cradle Baby Scheme** since 1992.

The State government is implementing the **Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme** which is a longterm Deposit scheme to improve Child Sex Ratio and to benefit the girl children of poor families.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme, is under implementation in 11 districts with ₹5.5 crore financial assistance of Government of India to address the declining Child Sex Ratio and to ensure the survival, education and protection of the Girl Child and in other districts through advocacy and media campaign programmes.

Indicator 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

The department has been taking several collaborative convergence based initiatives with other departments to address gender specific violence and to provide immediate relief to aggrieved women and children through **child helpline (1098) and Women Helpline(181)**.

The state is implementing **One Stop Centres**, also known as **“SAKHI”** in all districts, to provide range of services like temporary shelter, psycho-social support, free legal aid, referral services, police assistance services and counselling to women in distress and affected by violence in private and public spaces, within the family, community and at the workplace.

Rescue and provision of basic amenities such as food, clothing, shelter etc., are extended to the Women and Children victims rescued under Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 through the department of Social Defence.

Vigilance / Protective Homes run by the Department of Social Defence to provide care, food, clothing, medical and health assistance for rehabilitation of women and girl victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and Cash assistance of ₹5,000/- (or) material assistance of ₹10,000/- is given from the Tamil Nadu Social Defence Welfare Fund to them for self employment.

In co-ordination with the Department of Home Affairs and Greater Chennai Corporation, the department is utilizing **Nirbhaya Fund**, by strengthening the Women Help Line Services, to make public spaces safer for women and children in the Chennai city.

To ensure the safety and protection of women and their rights the Department implements various **Social Legislations** like:

1. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and its Rules, 2006.
2. Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.
3. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.
4. Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act, 2014 and Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Rules, 2015.
5. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.

Mahalir Sakthi Maiyyam (Mahila Sakthi Kendra - MSK), a Government of India Scheme is now functional in 32 districts to provide One Stop Convergent Services for empowering Women with knowledge of all Acts and schemes being implemented by different departments exclusively for women and girls to ensure and

safeguard their rights, both in and out of their homes.

In addition to that, **Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women** is functioning to safeguard the welfare of women and enquire into the gender issues relating to women.

Indicator 5.3: Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

Child marriage is prevalent and predominant in certain districts of Tamil Nadu, and it has no rural and urban divide. Child marriages destroy the life of adolescents, by affecting their health, aspirations and opportunities. Hence, the department is implementing the prohibition of Child Marriage Act very effectively. Marriage Assistance Schemes have been designed in such a way that it benefits women, who have completed 18 years of age.

The department in collaboration with **UNICEF and State Planning Commission** works for adolescent empowerment, prevention of Child Marriages and Teenage Pregnancies by networking with different stakeholders, to strengthen the existing systems and to make it more accessible and accountable to the vulnerable communities.

Indicator 5.4 : Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and Social Protection Policies.

Service Homes are run by the Department for destitute and deserted women who can live with their children and pursue their education or vocational training. This Department also functions as nodal agency for various **Social Security Pension Schemes** implemented through the Commissionerate of

Revenue Administration, to protect the vulnerable section of the society.

The department has been implementing **old age homes, integrated complexes** and The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, to ensure the care and protection of Senior Citizens and self employment programs for Third Genders to help them lead a respectable life in the society.

Indicator 5.5: Ensures womens' full & effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making, in political economic and public life.

The government through Rural Development and Municipal Administration has ensured **50% Reservation for women in local bodies**, to enhance their participation in decision making posts in political life, to oppose

gender specific issues and help women at all levels.

The **working women hostels** in all districts provide affordable and safe accommodation for working women from lower and middle income groups.

Tamil Nadu implements various special schemes for the socio economic development of women through **Co-operative Societies**. The empowerment of women not only fulfills their economic needs but also makes them independent by using their skill which paves the way for gender equality.

Gender Budgeting has been adopted as a tool for mainstreaming gender perspective at various stages of planning, budgeting, implementation, impact assessment and revisiting of policy / programme objectives and

allocations. In the Budget 2020-2021, Tamil Nadu has made Budget outlay of ₹78796.16 crore earmarked for Women in which constitute 38.83% out of total Budget.

Indicator 5.6 : Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights of women as agreed in international conference on population and development.

The public health system is recognised for its critical role in addressing violence affected women for rehabilitation and also to safeguard their reproductive rights of women. The health department has been implementing various programmes for universal access to health and achieve targets in this indicator.

The department is also contributing for Goal 1 & 2, which aims to eradicate poverty and

hunger by implementing Nutritious Meal Programme catering to 49,85,335 school children in the age group of 5-15 years to reduce their hunger through 43,283 Noon Meal Centres and also to retain them in schools so as to complete their secondary education. The scheme, thus addresses the reduction of poverty in vulnerable families by enabling them to send their children to schools without landing them in child labour.

Integrated Child Development Services Scheme is a flagship programme being implemented by the department to address the needs of nutrition, health and pre-school education of children upto 6 years. It also takes care of health and nutrition of adolescents, pregnant and nursing mothers.

The department is thus striving hard to fulfill the objectives of Goal 5 and support other goals through convergence by working

closely with line departments and by evolving new strategies based on need to promote gender equality in the society.

Awareness is being created to public in all forums about Sustainable Development Goals, to avail programmes and services of the department and take part in the national movement to ensure peace and prosperity of all people.

CHAPTER – 7

SOCIAL SECURITY PENSION SCHEMES

7.1 Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State at the national level in the implementation of 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, farmers, deserted wives, unmarried women of the age 50 years and above who are destitute and poor. The monthly pension for all categories of pension schemes has been enhanced from ₹500 to ₹1,000 per month with effect from 17.05.2011. The norms of the scheme have been relaxed, making it accessible to the majority of the population, especially the elderly and the disabled. As on 05.02.2020, a total of 31,63,247 beneficiaries are benefited under various pension schemes as detailed below: -

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme	No. of Beneficiaries (as on 05.02.2020)
1	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme	13,53,736
2	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme	61, 863
3	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme	5,62,334
4	Differently Aabled Pension Scheme	2,86,931
5	Destitute widow Pension Scheme	4,59,588
6	Chief Ministers Uzhavar Paadhukaapu Thittam-Pension Scheme	2,95,711
7	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme	1,15,091
8	Un-Married Women Pension Scheme	23,382
9	Pension to Srilankan Refugees	4,611
Total		31,63,247

Details of Social Security Pension Schemes

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Age Criteria	Government of India Contribution	State Government Contribution
1.	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	60 to 79 years	₹200/-	₹800/-
		80 years and above	₹500/-	₹500/-
2.	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)	18 to 59 years	₹300/-	₹700/-
3.	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	40 to 59 years	₹300/-	₹700/-
4.	Differently Abled Pension Scheme (DAPS)	18 and above	-	₹1000/-
5.	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme (DWPS)	18 and above	-	₹1000/-
6.	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Paadhukappu Thittam (CMUPT) – Pension Scheme	60 years and above	-	₹1000/-
7	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWPS)	30 years above	-	₹1000/-
8	Pension to Poor Unmarried Women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	50 years and above	-	₹1000/-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Age Criteria	Government of India Contribution	State Government Contribution
9	Pension to Srilankan Refugees (IGNOAPS) (DAPS) (DWPS) (DDWPS)	Age Criteria as stipulated for the pension scheme under which pension is sanctioned.	Funding pattern as stipulated for the pension scheme under which pension is sanctioned.	

7.2 Fund Allotment

In order to sanction pension to all the pending eligible applicants in addition to the existing beneficiaries, Government have sanctioned additional funds for 5 lakh beneficiaries under Social Security Pension Schemes. Under Hon'ble Chief Minister's Special Grievance Redressal Scheme conducted at the end of year 2019, 1,56,854 new beneficiaries were identified and pension has been sanctioned to them.

The Government have allotted a sum of ₹4306.76 crore for the financial year 2020-2021.

7.3 Relaxation of Eligibility Criteria

Conditions stipulated for defining a person as a 'Destitute' in order to avail pension under the above Social Security Pension Schemes has been amended on 29.01.2020 as follows so as to expand the coverage: -

- Eligibility Criteria with regard to the value of fixed assets of the applicant has been enhanced from ₹50,000 to ₹1,00,000.
- If free house has been assigned to the beneficiary under any of the schemes of the Government, the value of the fixed assets may not be taken into account.

In order to reach out to larger sections of the people who are differently abled, the Government have modified the eligibility condition of disability by reducing the required disability percentage from 60% to 40% under State Scheme. The income criteria for persons

who are differently abled has been enhanced by the Government to ₹3.00 lakh per annum.

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

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

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

Sl. No.	Scheme	Criteria
1	Differently Abled Pension Scheme (DAPS)	Eligibility: Unemployed. If private / self employed, the annual income of the beneficiary should not exceed ₹3.00 lakh. Age: 18 years and above. Disability level: 40% and above
2	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme (DWPS)	Eligibility: Destitute Widow. Age: 18 years and above, Fixed assets value: Not exceeding ₹1,00,000/-
3	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Padhukaapu Thittam(CMUPT)- OAP	Eligibility: Destitute. Age: 60 years and above. Landless agricultural labourers Fixed assets: Not exceeding ₹1,00,000/-
4	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWPS)	Eligibility: 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 ₹1,00,000/-
5	Pension to Poor Unmarried Women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	Eligibility: Destitute and Unmarried women. Age: 50 years and above. Fixed assets: Not exceeding ₹1,00,000/-

In order to address the difficulties of 2.19 lakh old age pensioners who are 80 years and above, pension is being disbursed at their door-steps by e-Money Order through Indian Postal Department from January,2019 by incurring an additional expenditure of ₹1.09 crore per annum.

7.4 Other Benefits to the Pensioners

One saree per female pensioner/one dhoti per male pensioner is distributed twice a year i.e. at the time of Pongal and Deepavali festivals to all the 31.63 lakh pensioners.

7.5 Relief Schemes

7.5.1 Accident Relief Scheme

Financial Assistance under National Family Benefit Fund is extended to families living below poverty line in case of accidental death of the primary bread winner in the age limit of 18-59 years and in respect of 44 notified occupation categories. The Government have enhanced the relief amount being given to legal heirs

from ₹15,000/- to ₹20,000/- with effect from 30.12.2015.

7.5.2 Distress Relief Scheme

Financial assistance under National Family Benefit Fund is extended to families who are living below poverty line in case of natural death of the primary bread winner in the age limit of 18-59 years. The Government have enhanced the relief amount being given to legal heirs from ₹10,000/- to ₹20,000/- with effect from 30.12.2015.

7.6 Launching of Online Web Application for applying to Social Security Scheme Pensions

In order to streamline the existing system and to enhance the ease of seeking Government benefits, Revenue Department is introducing a simple one-page format that can be submitted online through the Common Service Centre / e-Sevai Centre for those who seek pension under Social Security Schemes. The application will be forwarded to the concerned Revenue

Authorities by the system initially for verification. The Village Administrative Officer, after verification, forward the same to the higher authorities for scrutiny and sanction of pension. The status of the application can be tracked through online. This system will ensure effective accountability, transparency and monitoring of pending applications by higher officials, which leads to improved governance. At present the Online Web Application is put in to use for Differently Abled Pension Scheme. TNeGA is in the process of expanding the Online Web Application for all other Social Security Pension Schemes.

Dr. V. SAROJA
MINISTER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE
AND
NUTRITIOUS NOON MEAL
PROGRAMME

ANNEXURE – 1
Details of Important Days observed by
Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme
Department

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | January 24 th | National Day for the Girl Child |
| 2. | February 24 th | State Girl Child Protection Day |
| 3. | March 8 th | International Day for the Women |
| 4. | April 15 th | Third Gender Day |
| 5. | June 12 th | Anti Child Labour Day |
| 6. | June 15 th | World Elder Abuse Awareness Day |
| 7. | October 1 st | International Day of Older Persons |
| 8. | November 14 th | Children's Day |
| 9. | November 20 th | Universal Child Rights Day |
| 10. | November 26 th | Dowry Prohibition Day |

ANNEXURE - 2
BUDGET ESTIMATE – 2020-2021
DEMAND No.45
SOCIAL WELFARE AND NUTRITIOUS MEAL
PROGRAMME DEPARTMENT

TOTAL BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 2020-2021
₹ 5,93,512.51 lakh

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 2020-2021		
HEAD OF ACCOUNT		(₹ in lakh)
REVENUE SECTION		Allocation
2059	Public Works	258.30
2225	Directorate of Social Welfare	38.05
2235	Directorate of Social Defence	16,536.08
2235	Directorate of Social Welfare	1,15,756.88
2235	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	16,467.16
2236	Secretariat	35.69
2236	Directorate of Social Welfare	1,89,072.61
2236	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	2,49,914.85
2251	Secretariat	614.53
2551	Directorate of Social Welfare	--
REVENUE SECTION TOTAL		5,88,694.15

CAPITAL SECTION		
4235	Directorate of Social Welfare	.01
4235	Directorate of Social Defence	845.49
4236	Directorate of Social Welfare	.01
4236	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	3,947.84
CAPITAL SECTION TOTAL		4,793.35
LOAN SECTION		
7610	Loans to Government Servants etc.,	25.01
LOAN SECTION TOTAL		25.01
Grand Total		5,93,512.51

GROSS TOTAL

Revenue Section : ₹ 5,88,694.15 lakh

Capital Section : ₹ 4,793.35 lakh

Loan Section : ₹ 25.01 lakh

TOTAL : ₹ 5,93,512.51 lakh

or

₹ 5,935.13 crore

A sum of ₹ **4,306.76 crore** has also been provided in the Budget Estimate for 2020-2021 under the Demand No. 41 Revenue Department for the implementation of Social Security Pension Schemes.

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