

**Demand No.45**  
**Social Welfare and Women Empowerment**  
**Department**

**Policy Note 2024–2025**

**CHAPTER-1**

**Introduction**

**“Strong Women  
Aren’t simply born,  
They are made  
By the storms  
They walk through”**

is a famous saying. Women who are made stronger by life storms, are made the strongest, when provided with welfare measures. The Government, whose foundation is based on social justice, social equality and inclusiveness has made social welfare the focus of its governance, especially the welfare

of women and children, thereby creating an environment where women have equal rights, opportunities access to resources and decision making power; Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department embodies one of the core functions of the Welfare of the State, by reaching out the most vulnerable, disadvantageous and marginalized sections of the Society, especially women who are suppressed, exploited, uneducated and children who need care, protection and nurturing, senior citizens who require healthcare, nutrition, protection and rehabilitation and Transgenders who are in need of empathy, social inclusiveness and economic support are given special attention.

There are three Directorates working under the control of the Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment, namely the Directorate of Social Welfare, the Directorate of Integrated Child

Development Services and the Directorate of Children Welfare and Special Services.

Broadly, the **Directorate of Social Welfare** looks after the implementation of various schemes and programmes related to women welfare and empowerment, transgender community, senior citizens and Noon Meal Programme.

**The Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** is responsible for survival, growth and development of 0-6 years Children. The ICDS was launched in 1975 as a welfare scheme for Children between 0-6 years, pregnant and lactating women and aims to address the issue of malnutrition among children, fulfil other needs for the complete development of children and provide health care services to pregnant women and lactating mothers.

**The Directorate of Children Welfare and Special Services** looks after the 'welfare and development' of children from the vantage point of providing protection to 'children in need of care and protection' and reformation and rehabilitation of 'children in conflict with law' by providing institutional and non-institutional services. The Department also provides after-care services and implement programmes for facilitating self-sustainability for those leaving institutional care.

### **Directorate of Social Welfare**

Social Welfare Department reflects the focus of the Government in ensuring equal rights of women in Education, Health, Economic, Political, family etc., and a holistic empowerment of women of Tamil Nadu, which is crucial for societal progress and equality.

Women Empowerment is a process through

which women are assured of lives without fear of oppression, exploitation, apprehension, discrimination and perceived persecution. It also implies acquiring of power for women to understand her rights and perform her responsibilities effectively. It fosters greater autonomy in decision making by women, through proper access to information and providing control over factors affecting their performance. By creating awareness and capacity building, women could acquire various skills and capacities to remove gender disparity and attain sociological, psychological, political, familial and economic empowerment of women, which would be reflected in individual, group and community levels.

### **Constitutional Provisions for equal rights for Women**

The Constitution of India provides equal opportunities and rights to Women. Some of the

significant Articles in the Constitutions are as follows :-

- ❖ Equality before law [Article 14]
- ❖ No discrimination by State on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them [Article 15(i)]
- ❖ Special provision by State in favour of Women and Children [Article 15(3)]
- ❖ Equality of opportunity in matters relating to employment [Article 16]
- ❖ Securing adequate means of livelihood for men and women equally [Article 39(a)]
- ❖ Equal pay for equal work [Article 39(d)]
- ❖ Promoting Justice on the basis of equal opportunity and to provide free legal aid [Article 39(A)] and Renounce practices derogatory to women [Article 51(A)(e)]
- ❖ 1/3<sup>rd</sup> reservation for women in

panchayats [Article 243(D)] and in municipalities [Article 243(T)]

- ❖ Right to Property to Women [Article 300(a)]

Tamil Nadu Government is a forerunner in implementing various women centric and path breaking schemes such as “ **Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Educational Assurance Scheme-Pudhumai Penn Scheme**” in which so far 2.73 lakhs girls are benefited with a direct transfer of Rs.1000/- per month to their bank account throughout their undergraduation, ITI and Diploma courses. This scheme will enable women to make strong decision about their higher education and career options and also the age at which they should marry, choice of life partners without getting into the trap of child marriage, early pregnancy, repeated abortions, etc. It will ensure economic empowerment through

employment opportunities and entrepreneurship.

**The free bus travel for Women and transgenders ensures** their mobility to the Schools, Colleges, Study Centre and Work place without depending on anyone, financially.

**Tamil Nadu Working Women Hostel Corporation Limited,** branded "Thozhi", has been established to develop more working women hostels for the safety and security of women. It enables the working women to pursue the employment opportunities and empower them economically.

Six Service Homes are run for the needy, marginalized women to enable them to continue their education, skilling and employment trainings. Various facilities such as Women Help Lines, One Stop Centre and Shakti Sadan Homes are being run to accommodate and support women



psychologically, physically, socially, legally and economically, if they are victims of violence at home, public spaces and in the community.

There are 99 (98 women + 1 Transgender) Women Tailoring Co-operative Societies supporting 84,400 members who get their livelihood through stitching of free uniforms for the school children.

Various legislations which protect women rights, such as the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and Rules 2004, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and Rules, 2006, Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013 Tamil Nadu Hostels and Home for Women and Children (Regulation) Act, 2014 and Rules, 2015 are being implemented through the Department of Social Welfare.

To safeguard the Girl Children from the evil of infanticide, various schemes such as Cradle Baby Scheme, Chief Ministers Girl Child Protection Scheme and Child Marriage Prohibition Act, 2006 are being implemented by this Department.

Tamil Nadu is pioneer in bringing socio economic welfare for the transgender through the formation of **Transgender Welfare Board** and by taking up various Welfare activities such as issuing of Identity cards, pension scheme and providing them financial assistance to start economic activities for their livelihood.

Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to the welfare of the elderly. Tamil Nadu is the pioneer state which gave pension to the senior citizens (OAP). As per the report in "Elderly in India 2021" - released by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation - Government of India, the projected population in Tamil Nadu has

13.6% of Senior Citizens, second only to Kerala.

A statutory body, **Tamil Nadu State Commission for Woman** was constituted in 2008 to deal with the cases related to crime against women.

In 2022, the **Widow and Destitute Women Welfare Board** was created to address the issues related to Widows, Destitute Women and unmarried Woman.

### **Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services**

Pediatric malnutrition has always been a challenge to the Government, though various preventive measures have been taken from time to time. In 1974, a well-defined National Policy for children has been adopted. In pursuance of this policy, it was decided to start a holistic multicentric programme with a package of

services. It led to the formulation of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) – one of the most prestigious and premier National Nutrition Programmes of the Government of India. It was launched on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 1975 in 33 (4 rural, 18 urban, 11 tribal) Blocks. In subsequent years, it was expanded progressively.

The Integrated Child Development Services Scheme covers 28.67 lakh direct beneficiaries i.e., children availing Health services, weight monitoring, counselling etc., antenatal, postnatal mothers and adolescent girls through 54,439 Child Centres (comprising 49,499 Main Anganwadi Centres and 4,940 Mini Anganwadi Centres) functioning in 434 Child Development Blocks.

### **Advantages and Impact of ICDS**

- ICDS plays an important role in fighting malnutrition across the State.

- Through ICDS every child gets access to free preliminary education, which is quite important for the complete development of children.

The Government of Tamil Nadu thus ensures holistic, psychological, cognitive and emotional development of children under six years of age in a child-friendly, environment. Greater emphasis is laid on children under 3 years and promotion of optimal early childhood care, development and learning, including adolescent and maternal care.

### **Directorate of Children Welfare and Special Services**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has an enviable history in taking proactive initiatives towards the care, protection and rehabilitation of children in difficult circumstances. The State has built a strong structure along with necessary implementation and monitoring system to fulfil the mandates enshrined under the Juvenile Justice

(Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

Though the State has created a conducive environment in the child care institutions, for every child to grow and develop, institutionalization of children is considered as a last resort and it is considered best to keep them in families. Accordingly, the focus has been to promote adoption, foster care and sponsorship programmes, so that children could enjoy the warmth of love, individual attention and affection of a family. Action plan has been drawn up to improve foster care in the State by identifying suitable families for children when the biological family is found incapacitated or unfit to keep the children.

The Government has not only fulfilled the commitment of the State towards welfare and protection of its children, but is also well oriented in evolving a suitable approach towards child

protection in consonance with the ground realities and changing environment in the society, so that every single child is protected and “no one is left behind”.

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## **Chapter 2**

### **Social Welfare**

The department of Social Welfare implements welfare schemes and enforces social legislations to protect and safeguard the rights of marginalized sections of the society i.e. women, children, transgender and senior citizens.

#### **2.1 Women Welfare**

Investing in women's welfare fosters a more inclusive and prosperous society, where everyone can thrive. The Government of Tamil Nadu envisions such a prosperous society by providing necessary recognition, rights, power, safety and protection, various social legislations and schemes such as Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Pudhumai Penn Thittam, marriage assistance schemes, working women hostels, women co-operative societies and service homes facilities.



### **2.1.1 Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance Scheme (Pudhumai Penn Scheme)**

Education is a stepping stone of women's empowerment, providing them with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to pursue their aspirations. It enables women to make informed choices about their lives, participate more actively in the workforce, and engage in decision-making processes. **In a paradigm shift from focusing on Women's marriage, the Government of Tamil Nadu is now focusing on empowerment of women through education.** Hence, Pudhumai Penn scheme is being implemented to encourage girl students, pursuing higher education by providing them a financial assistance. This programme envisages to achieve a behavioral change leading to reduction in early marriages and

improving the enrolment in higher education, and increasing retention of girl students in higher education. The scheme targets the girl students who have studied 6th to 12th standard in Government schools.

The scheme has been extended to all girl students pursuing higher education who have studied in Government aided schools from 6th to 12th standard in Tamil medium from the academic year 2024-2025.

### **Objectives of the Scheme**

- ❖ To promote higher education of girl students and instill motivation to pursue higher education, giving them better foundation to improve gender parity.
- ❖ To enable the creation and participation of skilled women workforce.

- ❖ To prevent drop outs beyond higher secondary and increase the retention ratio in higher education.
- ❖ To enable girl students to get involved in public spaces and enhance career opportunities.
- ❖ To ensure Socio-Economic Empowerment of women.

### **Benefit of the Scheme**

An incentive of Rs.1,000/- per month per beneficiary is credited directly to the bank account of girl students to pursue higher education. The stream wise details of girl students benefitted under Pudhumai Penn Schemes is as follows:

### **Pudhumai Penn Scheme - Educational Category Wise Beneficiary Details (March 2024)**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Educational Stream</b>	<b>No. of Beneficiaries</b>
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1.	Agriculture	1467
2.	Arts & Science	205045
3.	Diploma in Elementary Education	409
4.	Engineering	28958
5.	Fisheries	62
6.	Indian Medicine	539
7.	ITI	2821
8.	Law	794
9.	Medical Science	24625
10.	Music and Fine Arts	62
11.	Polytechnic	7208
12.	Public Health and Preventive Medicine	1498
13.	Veterinary Science and Food Science	108
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,73,596</b>

**A sum of Rs.370.00 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **2.1.2 Free Bus Travel for Women (Vidiyal Payanam)**

Commutation plays a crucial role in women's empowerment by providing access to education, employment, and healthcare. It enables women to pursue opportunities outside their immediate surroundings, breaking down geographical barriers that may otherwise limit their options.

Provision of free bus travel scheme (**Vidiyal Payanam**) has helped women to participate more actively in economic and social spheres, contributing to household incomes and decision-

making, pursue higher education, travelling to their work places by themselves apart from reduced dependence on others for their mobility. This also enables women to use the amount thus saved on other essential expenses like food, clothing, education, etc.

From 12.07.2021 to 05.06.2024, about 482.34 crore trips were availed by women including working women and girl students pursuing higher education. So far 29.12 lakhs free trips have also been availed by the transgender persons.

### **2.1.3 Marriage Assistance Schemes**

Marriage can impact women's empowerment in various ways and it influences every woman's life. In order to prevent the scourge of child marriage and teenage pregnancy, the Department is implementing marriage assistance schemes. To

facilitate social transformation and promote social justice, inter-caste marriages and widow remarriages are encouraged through financial assistance under these schemes.

### **2.1.3.1 Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Ammaiyar Ninaivu Inter-Caste Marriage Assistance Scheme**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing the Inter-Caste Marriage Assistance Scheme since 1968 to eradicate caste based discrimination and promote social equality among communities.

#### **Eligibility for Assistance**

1. No income limit.
2. Bride should have completed 18 years. There is no upper age limit.

3. Category-I: One of the spouse from SC / ST community and other from a different community.
4. Category-II: One of the spouse from forward community and the other from BC / MBC.

### **Time limit for submitting applications**

Applicant should apply within 2 years after marriage.

### **2.1.3.2 Dr. Dharmambal Ammaiyar Ninaivu Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme**

This scheme was launched in the year 1975 to encourage social reformation through remarriage of poor young widows and to ensure dignity, respect and their acceptance in the society.

### **Eligibility for Assistance**

1. Minimum age of bride is 20 years.  
Maximum age limit for bridegroom shall



not be more than 40 years.

2. No income limit

3. The bride should produce the widow certificate, invitation for re-marriage and age certificate.

### **Time limit for submitting applications**

Applicant should apply within six months from the date of remarriage.

#### **2.1.3.3 E.V.R.Maniammaiya Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme For Daughter Of Poor Widows**

This scheme was started in the year 1982 with an intention to help the poor widows to get their daughters married with requisite financial assistance.

#### **Eligibility for Assistance**

- ❖ Annual family income should not exceed Rs.72,000/-.

- ❖ Widows receiving pension under social security scheme are not required to provide income proof and widow certificate.
- ❖ Bride should have completed 18 years. There is no upper age limit.

### **Time limit for submitting applications**

Application should be submitted 40 days before the marriage date. In exceptional circumstances, the application can be submitted one day prior to the marriage date.

### **2.1.3.4 Annai Theresa Ninaivu Orphan Girls Marriage Assistance Scheme**

This scheme was launched in the year 1985, to ensure a safe future and secured life for poor orphan girls and enable them to get married.

### **Eligibility for Assistance**

- ❖ Beneficiary should be an orphan girl.
- ❖ No income limit.
- ❖ The bride should have completed 18 years. There is no upper age limit.

- ❖ Copies of certificates showing that the applicant is an orphan from M.P/MLA or the death certificate of the father and mother.

### **Time limit for submitting application**

Application should be submitted 40 days before the marriage date. In exceptional circumstances, the application can be submitted one day prior to the marriage date.

**For all the four kinds of marriage assistance schemes, a sum of Rs.98.16 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **2.1.4 Sathiyavanimuthu Ammaiyaar Cost Free Supply Of Sewing Machines**

Sathiyavani Muthu Ammaiyaar Ninaivu cost free sewing machine scheme is in existence for decades in Social Welfare Department. This

scheme targets the beneficiaries between the age of 20-40 years widows, destitute, deserted women, socially affected women, women from economically weaker sections, differently abled men and women. This scheme paves the way for their livelihood, by way of self employment.

Under this scheme, motorized free sewing machines are provided to the beneficiaries. During the year 2023 – 2024, Motorised Sewing Machines and Modernised High-end sewing machines were provided to 2412 beneficiaries at an expenditure of Rs.2.08 Cr.

### **2.1.5 Women Industrial Cooperative Societies**

Towards improving the economical activities of women, 99 Women Industrial Tailoring Cooperative Societies are functioning under the control of Commissioner of Social Welfare, 25 Weaning Food Industrial Cooperative Societies are

run under the control of Director cum Mission Director of ICDS.

Women in the age group of 18 to 40 years with tailoring skill, who are below poverty line can enroll and become members of the Women Industrial Cooperative Societies.

Through the Women Industrial Tailoring Cooperative Societies, 4 sets of uniforms are stitched and provided to school children studying in Government and Government Aided schools who are benefitted under Nutritious Meal Programme. In addition, the students studying in Adi Dravida and Tribal Welfare, Backward Class and Most Backward class school are also provided uniforms.

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

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Type of Society</b>	<b>No. of Co-operative Societies</b>	<b>No. of enrolled members</b>
1.	Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies.	99	84400
2.	Weaning food Manufacturing Women Industrial Co-operative Societies	25	625
<b>Total</b>		<b>124</b>	<b>85,025</b>

During the academic year 2023 – 2024, 41.22 lakh school children were provided with 4 sets of uniform. Stitching charges to the tune of Rs.97.28 Cr. is sanctioned as wages by School Education Department.

### **2.1.6 Working Women Hostels**

The objective of the scheme is to promote availability of safe and conveniently located

accommodation for working women in urban, semi urban, or even rural areas where employment opportunity for women exists. To meet this need, the Government runs Working Women Hostels throughout the State. 10 hostels run by Department have been taken over by TNWWHCL to upgrade and operate with modern amenities and safety facilities for the benefit of Working Women. Action is being taken to establish Working Women Hostels in all districts to encourage more women to take up employment and be economically independent.

#### **2.1.6.1 Tamil Nadu Working Women Hostels Corporation Limited (TNWWHCL)**

Tamil Nadu Working Women Hostels Corporation Limited was established as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under the Company Act, 2013 and registered as Public company. It has a mandate to undertake infrastructure development,

management and maintenance of certain projects such as Working Women Hostels, Creches, Senior Citizen Homes, Child Care Institutions with modern facilities. The objective of this project is to provide hostel facilities as an alternate “**home away from home**”, enabling secure and comfortable accommodation at affordable prices.

In Phase 1, new working women hostels were constructed at a cost of Rs. 31.07 Crore and is now operational at three places in Trichirapalli, Guduvanchery and Tambaram benefitting 687 working women. Working Women Hostels at 7 places have been retrofitted at a cost of Rs.4.21 crore to provide safe accommodation for 458 women. These hostels are functional since 13.07.2023 with upgraded facilities as Biometric entry, CCTV surveillance, 24X7 security, Wifi, RO water, online booking, geyser, housekeeping, laundry, parking, etc... The entire maintenance is



done through facility management services and food is provided to the residents through caterers.

In Phase 2, new working women hostels are being constructed at a cost of Rs.35.86 Crore in 3 places namely Hosur, Tiruvannamalai and St.Thomas Mount (Chengalpattu) to benefit 432 working women through TNWWHCL.

In the year 2024-25, new "Thozhi" hostels will be constructed in important cities such as Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai, at a cost of Rs.26.00 crore to benefit 345 women.

### **2.1.7 Mission Shakti**

"Mission Shakti" is a scheme aimed at strengthening interventions for women safety, security and empowerment. This is an integrated umbrella scheme launched by Government of India to spearhead a concerted effort to ensure

gender equality under 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission grant.

### **Sub-Schemes of Mission Shakti:**

Mission Shakti has two sub schemes, one for women safety (Sambal) and other for women empowerment (Samarthya).

One Stop Centre (OSC), Women Helpline-181(WHL), Save Girl child, Educate Girl child (SGEG), and Women Courts (Nari Adalats) are covered under Safety sub scheme. On the other hand Short Stay Homes (Ujjawala and Swadhar Greh), Construction of Working Women Hostel, Maternity Benefit scheme (PMMVY), National Creche Scheme, Gender Budgeting and Hub for Empowerment of Women (Sankalp) are covered under the Empowerment sub scheme.

### **Objectives of Mission Shakti:**

- To provide immediate and comprehensive continuum of care, support and assistance to women affected by violence and for those in distress.
- To provide quality mechanism for rescue, protection and rehabilitation of women in need.
- To make people aware of Government schemes and programmes, as well as legal provisions to fight social evils in the society.
- Capacity building and training of functionaries on various schemes and legislations.
- To prevent gender biased sex selective elimination and thereby ensure survival, protection, education and development of girl children.
- Create awareness among masses for including positive behavioral change towards women and girls.

**2.1.7.1 Save Girl Child, Educate Girl Child Scheme (SGEG) Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)**

Government of India launched this Scheme to address declining Child Sex Ratio and to ensure survival, protection and education of the girl children. A declining child sex ratio reflects both gender based pre-birth sex selection (foeticide) and post-birth infanticide against girl children.

### **Implementation of the Scheme**

In Tamil Nadu, the scheme is being implemented in all districts. From 2022-2023, the scope of the scheme also includes skill Development, Career Counseling for better future, identifying sporting talent among girls etc. under "Mission Shakti".

In order to create mass awareness among the public about the scheme, awareness activities

are being carried out in all Panchayats, Blocks and Districts.

### **Financial Allocation to Districts**

- A sum of Rs. 40 lakhs per district per annum is allocated to districts with sex ratio at birth  $\leq 918$  (less than National average)
- A sum of Rs. 30 lakhs per district per annum is allocated to districts with sex ratio at birth  $\geq 918$  and  $\leq 952$  (Natural SRB as per WHO)
- A sum of Rs. 20 lakhs per district per annum is allocated to districts with sex ratio at birth  $SRB > 952$  (Less than international standard for Natural SRB, as per WHO)

The following activities are being carried out under this scheme,

- Orientation and Sensitization
- IEC materials
- Outreach Activities

- Capacity Building
- Skill Building
- Higher Education & Career guidance
- Safety & Security
- Monitoring & Documentation

### **State and District Task Force Committees:**

The State Task Force Committee headed by Chief Secretary will meet once a year and District Task Force committees headed by District Collector will meet every quarter to review and monitor the implementation of Save Girl Child, Educate Girl Child (SGEG) activities for strategic interventions in convergence with stake holder departments such as health, education, etc. to achieve its objectives.

**A sum of Rs.10.97 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **2.1.7.2 One Stop Centre-(OSC)**

One Stop Centers are implemented throughout the state with 100% financial assistance from Government of India, to provide integrated support and assistance under single roof for the women who are affected by violence both in private and public spaces within family, community and in workplace.

In Tamil Nadu 48 One Stop Centres (OSC) are functioning; 38 OSCs in district and 10 additional OSCs in Chennai, Coimbatore, Dindigul, Madurai Tirunelveli, Trichirapalli, Tuticorin, Salem, Tirupur and Tiruvallur Corporations. All OSCs are operational and provide services like temporary shelter, medical assistance, Psycho-social support, free legal aid, Police assistance and counseling services to women affected by gender-based harassment and domestic violence.

**A sum of Rs.16.83 Cr have been allocated for the financial year 2024-25.**

### **2.1.7.3 Women Helpline -181 (WHL)**

The Women Helpline provides 24x7 telecom services through a single universal toll-free number 181, to women affected by violence seeking support and information throughout the country since 2018. It is integrated with the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS), One Stop Centres (OSCs) and other helplines to help the women in need for emergency and non-emergency purposes.

Women Helpline also provides information about government schemes and appropriate support services available to women. It refers women in distress to various institutional and



schematic set ups for their psycho-social counseling, legal aid and police support.

**A sum of Rs.77.56 Lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **2.1.7.4 State and District Hub For Empowerment Of Women (HEW)**

Hub for Empowerment of women (HEW) aims at facilitating inter-sectoral convergence of schemes and programs meant for women at the Central, State and District levels. The support under the Hub would be guiding, linking and hand holding women for their development.

HEW will act as Project Management Unit (PMU) at state level for all components under Mission Shakti. The District Hubs have been formed in all the 38 districts and will work in convergence with line departments to create awareness about various women centric

schemes of Central and State Government.

**A sum of Rs.13.44 Cr have been allocated for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **2.1.7.5 Short Stay Home (Shakti Sadan)**

Short stay home (Shakti Sadan) provides shelter, food, clothing, counselling, primary health facilities and other essential daily needs to women in distress who require an institutional support for more than 5 days.

Vocational training and social security benefits including medical benefits are arranged in convergence with relevant departments. The nearby One Stop Centre provides other services like psycho social counselling and legal aid.

Each short stay home (Shakti Sadan) run by the Non-Governmental Organizations can accommodate a maximum of 50 women per home for upto 3 to 5 years.

The scheme is implemented through Non- Governmental Organizations with a sharing pattern of 60:40 between Union and State Governments respectively. Presently 33 Short Stay Homes (Shakti Sadan) run by NGOs functioning in Tamil Nadu.

**A sum of Rs.35.87 Cr have been allocated for the year 2024-2025**

### **2.1.8 Tamil Nadu State Policy For Women**

The State aims to narrow down the gap existing in the society by addressing the challenges such as gender disparity, social stereotyping, domestic violence, abuse, discrimination, etc., through an exclusive policy for women. The Tamil Nadu State Policy for Women was released on 21.02.2024 by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

The Policy intends women to acquire power, understand her rights and perform her responsibilities effectively. It fosters greater autonomy in decision making by women through proper access to information and providing control over factors affecting their performance.

### **2.1.9 Social Legislations for Women**

Social legislations play a major role in promoting the legal rights of women and in building a society where every woman can experience justice, liberty, equality, human dignity and fraternity guaranteed by the Constitution of India. Effective enforcement of the provisions of these social legislations help women to develop themselves and to realise their cherished goals and aspirations as women and as citizens of the country.

In order to protect women from violence

and exploitations and to promote their legal rights, the Department implements the following Social Legislations:

1. Dowry Prohibition Act,1961 and State Rules, 2004
2. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and Rules, 2006
3. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplaces (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and Rules, 2013
4. Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes (Regulation) Act, 2014 and State Rules, 2015

#### **2.1.9.1 Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961**

Dowry Prohibition Act aims to prohibit giving or taking dowry in marriage or before solemnization or during continuance of the marital relationship.

Dowry Prohibition Act was passed in 1961 to prohibit the practice of giving or receiving

dowry. It was amended in 1984 and 1986, respectively with stringent enforcement and enhancing the punishment to curb the evil practice of dowry.

- District Social Welfare Officers have been designated as the Dowry Prohibition Officers as per Section 8(B) of the Dowry Prohibition Rules, 2004. Necessary training has been imparted to the District Social Welfare Officers for the effective implementation of the Act.
- The Police Department/Court files the dowry case after obtaining genuineness report from the District Social Welfare Officers.
- Offences under this Act are cognizable offences, non-bailable and non-compoundable.

## **Details of cases filed under Dowry**

### **Prohibition Act, 1961**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Jan-2022 to Dec-2022</b>	<b>Jan-2023 to Dec-2023</b>
1.	No. of cases registered at District Social Welfare Office	1454	1580
2.	No. of cases redressed amicably	769	920
3.	No. of case reports submitted to Police	327	521
4.	No. of cases pending with District Social Welfare Officer	358	79

### **2.1.9.2 Protection of Women From Domestic Violence Act, 2005**

Domestic violence is violence that takes place in domestic settings such as marriage and cohabitations and usually committed by intimate partner and his relatives against the women in multiple forms as physical, verbal, emotional,

economic, religious, reproductive, financial abuse or sexual abuse.

### **Special Features under the Act**

- Cases can be filed under the Act in addition or even if other cases and legal proceedings are pending between parties.
- Though this Act has civil and criminal provisions, it also enables a woman to get immediate civil remedies within 60 days.
- Multiple Judgments can be obtained in a single case under this Act.
- Relief can be obtained for verbal and emotional abuse also.
- Both petitioner and respondent can prefer Appeal to the Court of Sessions within 30 days from the date on which the order is made.
- The offences under this Act shall be cognizable and non-bailable.



## **Protection Officers**

Protection officer has been appointed in each district to inform the aggrieved women about her right to make an application and help her to file petition/DIR for obtaining-

- A relief by way of a protection order
- an order for monetary relief
- a custody order
- a residence order
- a compensation order or
- more than one such order and
- free legal services.

## **Service Providers**

The NGOs notified under the Domestic Violence Act 2005 function as Service Providers and help aggrieved women in filing the Domestic Incident Report (DIR), provide accommodation in the short stay homes along with the children, counsel them and help to get

medical treatment, if required. Based on the need, they also impart vocational training to secure employment for sustainable income.

**Cases reported under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Jan-2022 to Dec-2022</b>	<b>Jan-2023 to Dec-2023</b>
1.	No. of Cases reported	6214	6125
2.	No. of cases not willing for legal proceedings	2846	2980
3.	No. of cases DIR filed in the Court	2639	2934
4.	No. of cases under process	729	211

	with Protection Officers		
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### **2.1.9.3 Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act 2014**

Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes Act is implemented with an aim to regulate hostels, lodging houses, homes for women and children and ensure safe and secured accommodation for them.

Every person desiring to establish, maintain or conduct hostel, lodging house or home for women and children shall make an application for licence to the Collector in prescribed form accompanied by fee not exceeding three thousand rupees. Since 01.07.2022, all hostels and homes are required to get registered through an online registration process at [\*\*https://tnswp.com\*\*](https://tnswp.com)

Any person who fails to obtain a licence under section 5 or 6 of the Act shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to two years and with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees.

#### **2.1.9.4 The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.**

Sexual harassment of women at work place will affect their mental health, self-esteem and it can hinder professional advancement of women. The Act came into force since 2013. The Government has notified the District Collectors as District Officers under Section 5 of the Act.

Section 4 of the Act mandates for Internal Complaints Committees to be constituted in all workplaces which have more than 10 employees. The District Social Welfare Officer is the Nodal Officer at the District who monitors the

implementation of the Act. Notification have been issued in Newspapers by the District Collector directing all offices (both Government and Private) to set up the Internal Complaints Committee in the Districts. Any employer who fails to comply is liable for the punishment with fine upto Rupees Fifty Thousand. If not constituted, the Government or local authority is empowered to cancel their license or registration.

Local Complaints Committees have been constituted at District Level by the District Collector for safety of Women working in unorganized sector, if the complaint is against the employer and the workplace with less than 10 employees, as per the section 6 of the Act. Local Complaints Committee (LCC) have been formed in all the 38 Districts in the State.

The Concept of Complaint Box has been introduced for women to open-up about their

problems. The Internal Committee inquiries into these complaints.

### **2.1.10 Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women**

Government have constituted the Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women to safeguard the welfare of women in the year 1993. Since then it has been reconstituted once in 3 Years. It is functioning headed by a Chairperson, a member secretary and with 7 other members. The present women commission established with new members in the year 2022.

The mission mode working of the present Commission and its efforts in partnership with both the governmental and nongovernmental structures, continue to progressively remove the barriers to foster gender equality and ensure empowerment of women.

The Commission has been pursuing complaints tirelessly from aggrieved women, concerning deprivation and denial of what is due to them, offences against women, their harassment at work place and other instances of violence against them including problems faced in their day-to-day life at home and at other places. Suo Moto cognizance of a large number of incidents is also being taken by the Commission which are invited public attention for the rights of women.

It is also taking activities for enabling dissemination of knowledge and information to all stakeholders through a series of seminars, workshops, legal awareness programmes, gender sensitization trainings etc., organised in collaboration with various organisations.

An international conference was also conducted by Commission on 11.12.2023 to create a forum for national and international dialogue on

emerging trends in crimes against women such as domestic violence, Cyber Crimes, Human trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation, labour and economic exploitation, Financial Abuse and transnational crimes against women. United for a common purpose, law enforcement officers, professionals, practitioners, researchers, and policy makers from more than 20 countries partnered with the Tamil Nadu Government to cohesively exchange expertise and best practices on reducing crimes against women worldwide, in the conference.

**A sum of Rs. 60.82 lakh has been provided to Tamil Nadu State Commission for women in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024 – 2025.**

#### **2.1.11 Widows and Destitute Women Welfare Board**

To remove the various problems faced by



widows, women abandoned by their husband, marginalized women, destitute women, spinsters etc., in Tamil Nadu and to improve their livelihood. 'Widows and Deserted Women Welfare Board' was formed in September 2022 to ensure their safe and dignified life in the society.

As a measure to improve the livelihood of widows, women abandoned by their husband, marginalized women, destitute women and spinsters, various welfare schemes are proposed to be implemented to improve their lives through skill training, self-employment and provide financial assistance for their children's education.

**A sum of Rs. 106.43 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

## **2.2 Child Welfare**

Children are the future and asset of the family as well as the State. Ensuring the safety, education, physical and mental health and overall well being of the children especially girl children is the top most priority of the State. To safeguard the interest of children, the Government has taken various initiatives.

### **2.2.1 Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme**

The Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme, is an innovative scheme which aims at prevention of female infanticide, prohibition of child marriage and promotion of girl child education.

#### **Objectives of the Scheme:**

- To discourage the preference for male child
- To eradicate female infanticide
- To prevent child marriage
- To promote girl child education
- To promote small family norm

- To increase the Child Sex Ratio

<b>Scheme Type</b>	<b>Eligibility Criteria for both schemes</b>
<p><b>Scheme-I:</b> An amount of Rs.50,000 is deposited in the name of the girl child as Fixed Deposit.</p> <p>The application should be submitted before a girl child completes 3 years of age.</p> <p><b>Scheme-II:</b> An amount of Rs.25,000 each is deposited in the names of two girl</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annual family income should not exceed Rs.72,000/-</li> <li>2. Either of the parents should have undergone sterilization within 40 years of age.</li> <li>3. Family should have only one/two female children and no male child. In future, no male child should be adopted.</li> <li>4. The parents/ grand parents should be a domicile of Tamil Nadu for a period of 10 years at the time of submitting the application.</li> <li>5. The scheme has been extended to girl children of Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees in the Refugee Camps.</li> <li>6. On completion of 18 years of age, the amount deposited with accrued interest will be given to the girl child for her</li> </ol>

children as fixed deposits. The application should be submitted before the second girl child completes 3 years of age.	higher education.
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### **Beneficiaries of the Scheme**

<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>During the year 2023-24</b>		<b>Cumulative total till 2023-24</b>	
	<b>Number of Girl Children (up to Mar - 2024)</b>	<b>Amount (Rs. In Crores)</b>	<b>Number of Girl Children</b>	<b>Amount (Rs. In Crores)</b>
New Deposits	36800	92.00	11,19,560	1887.95
Maturity disbursements	72160	165.93	1,95,218	478.94

**A sum of Rs.92.01 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **2.2.2 Homes for Children with Special Need**

Government of Tamil Nadu provides grant to 4 Homes for children with special needs run by Non-Governmental Organizations.

The abandoned babies with disabilities are taken care in these special homes. To protect these children, Government provides grant. At present, 129 children are taken care in these Special Homes. A grant of Rs.120 per child per day is given as a grant to Non-Governmental Organizations for the maintenance of the Special Need Children.

**A sum of Rs.59.13 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **2.2.3 Government Service Homes**

The Government runs Service Homes in six districts, viz. Chengalpattu (Tambaram), Cuddalore, Salem, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli and Sivagangai in Tamil Nadu for poor girls, deserted women and widows in need of care and protection. Service Homes provide accommodation, food, education, medical facilities, educational tours and vocational training to the inmates. Spoken English, computer training, counselling and career guidance facilities are also given to these girls in the Service Homes.

Girl children who have completed 12th standard in Service Homes are encouraged to take up higher studies for which, the Government provides financial assistance of Rs.50,000 for pursuing professional courses and Rs.30,000 for Degree / Diploma courses. During the year 2023-

2024, 583 girl children benefitted under the scheme.

**A sum of Rs.6.88 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **2.2.4 The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act-2006**

The Prohibition of child Marriage Act was enacted in the year 2006 and the state rule has been framed in 2009. As per the Act, any male below the age of 21 and any female below the age of 18 years contracting marriage is a cognizable and non-bailable offence. It is also voidable and can be annulled.

The State Government has designated District Social Welfare Officers as child marriage Prohibition Officers. They can file petition for annulling the child marriage, to pay maintenance

to the female contracting party of the child marriage till her marriage and can seek orders for the custody and maintenance of the children of child marriage.

A male adult above 18 years of age, contracting a child marriage is liable for punishment with rigorous imprisonment. Any person whoever promotes, permits, performs, conducts, negligently fails to prevent, or directs or abets any child marriage are punishable with rigorous imprisonment which may extend for 2 years or with fine up to Rs.1.00 lakh.

### **Steps taken for creating awareness to prevent Child Marriages**

- Awareness posters about the ill effects of child marriages with Child helpline numbers were printed and issued to all field functionaries to display them in public buildings, bus stands, schools, colleges to create awareness and eradicate child marriages.



- Awareness programmes are being conducted through Block level field functionaries in child marriage prone areas.
- On receipt of information about child marriages, field functionaries immediately reach the spot and prevent child marriages.
- Village Level Child Protection Committees have been formed with various field officials and local people who meets regularly and monitor the children related issues in the village Panchayats.
- Various Welfare Schemes implemented by the State Government are designed in such a way to benefit the Girl Children who have completed 18 years of age in order to prohibit child marriage and to encourage higher education for girls.
- As part of Social Media, an exclusive Youtube channel -**“Tamil Magalir Kural-Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment”** has been created and short films are uploaded in the public domain.

**1995 child marriages have been stopped during the year 2023.**

### **2.3 Senior Citizen Welfare**

In India, any person who has attained the age of 60 and above is legally termed as 'Senior Citizen'. Senior citizens are treasure troves of knowledge and experience and thus form a valuable and integral part of the society. According to the report 'Elderly in India 2021' released by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, the elderly population of Tamil Nadu is projected to increase to 18.20% in 2031. The Government is committed to providing a protective and conducive ecosystem for its senior citizens and is constantly addressing the challenges towards creating an enabling environment through various schemes and initiatives. The State is fully committed to fulfil the mandatory obligations stipulated in the Maintenance and Welfare of

Parents and SeniorCitizens Act, 2007 towards all senior citizens.

### **2.3.1 Tamil Nadu State Policy for Senior Citizens-2023**

To serve the senior citizens of the State in a holistic manner thus enabling them to lead a safe,healthy, active and dignified life to promote an age friendly society through public and private partnerships. Through this policy the State will ensure timely access to health, nutrition, shelter, safety, security, financial stability and protection from abuse which would enhance the quality of life of every senior citizen.

### **2.3.2 The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007**

The Act provides statutory protection for the maintenance and welfare of parents and

senior citizens. In order to implement the Act the State has framed rules in 2009.

As per the Act, the children and legal heirs have the bounden duty to take care of their parents. A senior citizen including parent who is unable to maintain himself from his own earning or property owned by him, shall be entitled to make an application to the Tribunal set up under this Act on issues related to the physical health, mental health and property for which they can get relief.

### **Salient features of the Act**

- This Act includes senior citizens and biological, adoptive, step father, step mother as parents.
- Any senior citizen who is aggrieved for not being maintained by their children/legal heirs, can file a petition before the Maintenance Tribunal constituted under this Act at the revenue

divisional level for receiving a maintenance allowance upto a maximum of Rs.10,000/- month. A petition filed under this Act for maintenance allowance shall be disposed off within 90 days

- If the person responsible for the care and protection of senior citizen abandons him, such person is liable for punishment with imprisonment for three months or fine up to Rs.5,000/- or with both
- If any senior citizen who after the commencement of this Act, i.e. 31.12.2009 has transferred by way of gift his property to his children or legal heirs, subject to the condition that the transferee shall look after them and such transferee fails to do so, then the parent or senior citizen shall give a petition to cancel the gift deed.

### **Grievance Redressal under the Act Maintenance Tribunal**

Revenue Divisional Officers (RDO) are appointed as Maintenance Tribunal by the Government under section 7 of the Act for the

purpose of adjudicating, deciding and issuing orders for maintenance application under section 5 of the Act. There are 94 such Tribunals functioning in the State. The tribunals have been vested with the powers of a Civil Court.

### **Conciliation and Maintenance Officer**

District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO) is notified as the Conciliation and Maintenance Officer under this Act. If an aggrieved senior citizen and the opposite party agree to compromise, then the tribunal shall refer the case to DSWO or appoint such person acceptable to both parties by forwarding the related documents to work out a settlement agreeable to both parties within 30 days.

Under Section 18(1) of the Act, Government has nominated the DSWO as

Maintenance Officer who shall represent a parent, if the parent so desires, during the proceedings of the Tribunal or Appellate Tribunal, as the case may be.

### **Appellate Tribunal**

The State Government has designated the District Collector as Appellate Tribunal, who will hear the appeal petition against the orders passed by the Maintenance Tribunal. An appeal can be made within 60 days by the appellant against the orders of the Tribunal.

### **State and District Committee for the welfare of Senior Citizens**

Government has constituted a High-Level Advisory Committee, viz., State Council for Senior Citizen, under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary at the State level and District Committee under the Chairmanship of District

Collector of the respective district for the effective implementation of the Maintenance and welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.

### **2.3.3 Old Age Homes Run By The Ngos With State Grants**

In order to safeguard the life of destitute elders above 60 years of age who are abandoned by their families, the State Government is providing maintenance grant for the old age homes run by the Non-Governmental Organisations at the sharing pattern of 5:1 between the State and NGO. Food, shelter, clothing, health care, recreational facilities, expenses on final rites etc are provided in these homes. In each home, 40 inmates can be accommodated and Rs. 1,200/- as feeding grants per month per person is sanctioned.



In the financial year 2023-2024, 812 elders have been benefited from 23 Old Age Homes.

**A sum of Rs.1.17 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **2.3.4 Integrated Complexes for Senior Citizen and Destitute Children**

Integrated Complex of Special Homes for Senior Citizens and Destitute Children are run with the financial support from the State Government in a sharing ratio 75:25 between State and NGO. In each Integrated Complex, 25 elders and 25 children are accommodated. Rs.1200/- per month per elder and Rs.900/- per month per child is given as feeding grants.

In Tamil Nadu for the financial year 2023-2024, 44 Integrated Complexes were

provided grants in which 882 children and 1033 Senior citizens were benefitted.

**A sum of Rs.6.62 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **2.3.5 Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC)**

The Union Government with recommendation from State Government provides grants directly to NGOs for implementing 66 old age homes, 1 continuous care home, physiotherapy clinics, 3 Mobile Medicare Units and 1 Regional Resource Training Centre projects grants released at the ratio of 90:10 (GoI: NGO).

### **2.3.6 Senior Citizen Helpline (14567)**

The toll free senior citizen helpline number '14567' is being operated since

28.04.2021. It is functional from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on all days.

The following services are provided through elder helpline:

- ❖ Rescue services
- ❖ Information on Old Age Homes
- ❖ Information on senior citizen welfare schemes
- ❖ Psycho Social Counseling
- ❖ Legal guidance on the provision of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007

From 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 up to March 2024, around **1,77,826** calls were received in this helpline.

## **2.4 Transgender Welfare**

Government of Tamil Nadu has assiduously been striving towards achieving inclusiveness of transgender and mainstreaming them in the

society. The state has played a lead role in the country in bringing welfare measures to the transgender community by the formation of "Tamil Nadu Transgender Welfare Board". The Board implements various welfare programmes for the transgenders.

#### **2.4.1 Tamil Nadu Transgender Welfare Board**

The Transgender Welfare Board was formulated in 15.04.2008 to implement the welfare schemes for giving social and economic support to the Transgender. The following welfare measures are extended through the Transgender Welfare Board.

- ❖ Provision of Identity card
- ❖ Financial assistance to Higher Education
- ❖ Individual and business oriented and integrated skill development training

- ❖ Provision of cash assistance upto Rs. 50,000/- per person to promote self-employment initiative for transgender.

Ration card, house site pattas, housing tenements and sewing machines are provided to transgenders in convergence with various line departments. To ensure the livelihood of Transgenders, Self-Help Group are formed to promote income generating activities by providing credit linkages through banking sector.

#### **2.4.2 Monthly Pension Scheme for Transgender**

From March 2023 onwards, transgender monthly pension has been enhanced from Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 to the destitute transgenders above the age of 40 years. 1482 transgender persons are benefitted during the year 2023-2024.

### **2.4.3 Education Dream Project for Transgenders**

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer in the country in successfully implementing various innovative schemes for the welfare of transgenders. Higher education is essential to ensure the socio-economic development of transgender people and their success in life. However, currently only a very small number of transgenders are pursuing higher education in Tamil Nadu. Therefore, the Government of Tamil Nadu has introduced the Educational Dream Scheme to provide all educational expenses including tuition fees and hostel fees to transgenders who wish to pursue higher education.

**A sum of Rs.5.70 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **2.4.4 Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019**

Transgender individuals face numerous challenges in society, including discrimination and violence. Prejudice and stigma often lead to social exclusion and economic marginalization, hindering their educational and employment opportunities. To address these issues, Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act was passed in 2019 by Government of India and The Tamil Nadu Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Rules were framed in December, 2022.

#### **Salient Features of the Act**

The Act seeks to recognize the identity of transgender persons and prohibit discrimination in the fields of education, employment, health care, holding or disposing of property, holding public or

private office and access to and use of public services and benefits.

It provides right to self-perceived gender identity and casts an obligation on the district magistrate to issue a 'certificate of identity' as a transgender person without a requirement of any medical or physical examination.

## **2.5 Awards**

### **2.5.1 State Award for Girl Child Empowerment (January 24<sup>th</sup>)**

To recognize and encourage the abilities of a girl child and to appreciate her efforts in opposing the injustice faced by girl children the State Government has initiated a state award since 2018. This award is given to a girl child under the age of 18 years who extraordinarily performed to prevent child labour, child marriage and other social evils. A cash prize of Rs.1.00 lakh as cheque along with an appreciation certificate is



given to the awardee on the National Girl Child Day every year.

### **2.5.2 Best District Award**

**(February 24<sup>th</sup>)**

The District Collectors who initiate innovative actions to increase sex ratio at birth and to reduce teenage pregnancy, infant mortality rate, abortion rate, higher order birth are recognized by the Government of Tamil Nadu every year. Gold, silver and bronze medals and Certificates are given to top performing three District Collectors to recognize their efforts on the above indicators.

### **2.5.3 Avvaiyar Award (March 8th)**

The Avvaiyar Award is given to an eminent woman who has rendered excellent service in any of the fields such as social reform, women development, communal harmony, service for language, service in various

disciplines in art, science, culture, press, administration, etc., on International Women's Day, which is being celebrated on March 8<sup>th</sup> every year. The recipient of the Avvaiyar Award is honoured with cash award of Rs.1.50 lakh as cheque and a citation.

#### **2.5.4 Transgender Award (April 15<sup>th</sup>)**

In order to encourage the transgenders who have done eminent work towards the welfare of transgender and who had built their career through their own efforts, a State Level Award has been instituted from the year 2020. This award carries Rs.1.00 lakh cheque and citation.

#### **2.5.5 Best Institution And Best Social Worker Award (August 15<sup>th</sup>)**

In order to encourage the best services done by the institutions and individuals for the welfare of women, every year on Independence

Day, awards are given. Best Social Worker award consists of Rs.50,000 cheque along with certificate and Best Institution award consists of Rs.1.00 lakh cheque and a certificate.



## CHAPTER -3

### NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME

“பசிப்பிணி மருத்துவன் இல்லம்  
அணித்தோ சேய்த்தோ கூறுமின் எமக்கே”

(Purananuru 173)

Purananuru exalts a King who fed the hungry and cured the ailments caused by hunger.

#### **3(a) Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme**

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State in the Country in launching the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme with an objective to increase the enrolment in schools and also empower women by providing employment opportunities. The Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme was successfully launched as a pilot basis on 15.09.2022 by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Subsequently the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme (CMBFS) was expanded to all

Government Primary Schools covering 15,75,900 students in 31,008 Government Schools across the State with effect from 25.08.2023.

An announcement has also been made by the Finance Minister of Tamil Nadu in the floor of assembly on 19.02.2024, that the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme (CMBFS) will be expanded to 2,56,705 students studying in primary classes in 4154 Government Aided Schools in rural areas during 2024-2025.

### **Objectives.**

- To ensure that the children attend schools without hunger
- To ensure that the children do not suffer from malnutrition.
- To enhance the Nutritional status of the children, particularly in preventing Anemia.
- To increase the attendance / learning

skills of the children in the schools

- To decrease the burden of the working mothers.

### **Coverage**

<b>Implementing Agencies</b>	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Students</b>
Greater Chennai Corporation	358	65030
Other Corporations Except Chennai and All Municipalities & Town Panchayats (adjacent to Corporation/Municipality)	2257	248007
All Village Panchayats & Town Panchayats (adjacent to Village panchayat)	28380	1540558
<b>Total</b>	<b>30995</b>	<b>1853595</b>

## Menu for the Breakfast:

The following types of menu are provided in the breakfast:

<b>Mondays &amp; Thursdays</b>	Uppuma variety	Rava / semiya / Rice / Wheat Rava
<b>Tuesdays &amp; Friday</b>	Kitchadi variety	Rava + Vegetable / Semiya + Vegetable / Wheat Rava + Vegetable
<b>Wednesday</b>	Pongal variety	Rice / Rava
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vegetable Sambar will be provided on all days</li></ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Millet based Breakfast shall be provided at least for two days in a week depending upon the local availability.</li></ul>		

## Method of Implementation:

- Greater Chennai Corporation implements the scheme in Chennai.
- In other Corporations and Municipalities, the scheme is being implemented by the Municipal Administration through cluster/common kitchen respectively.
- In Rural areas the scheme is being implemented by the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu

Corporation for Development of Women.

- In Urban areas cooking is done in common kitchens and in Rural areas by Self Help Groups in the respective schools.

## **Monitoring Mechanism**

### **I. CMBFS App:-**

An exclusive mobile Application and web based dashboard has been developed for real time monitoring. The cooking start time (Urban & Rural), cooking end time (Urban & Rural), Loading time (Urban), Delivering time (Urban), Serving time (urban & Rural) entries are made in the App in all the centres by SHGs (Rural) and in charge person (Urban).

### **II. Formation of Committees**

Government order has been issued to form the Monitoring Committees at various levels vide G.O Ms. No. 60,SW & WE (SW -4 - 1), dt.



11.9.2023. Based on the above, State level Steering Committee, State level Monitoring Committee, District level Monitoring Committee, Greater Chennai Corporation Monitoring Committee, Corporation Monitoring Committee (except Greater Chennai Corporation), Municipal Level Monitoring Committee, Block level Monitoring Committee and School level Monitoring Committee have been formed at various levels to monitor the programme.

**A sum of Rs.600 crore has been earmarked in the budget speech for the year 2024 - 25 for the implementation of Chief Minister Breakfast Scheme in all Government primary school and Government aided primary schools in rural areas.**

### **3(b) Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Nutritious Meal Programme**

The Mid-day meal scheme was introduced in the year 1925 in Madras Municipal Corporation, the first of its kind in India. The scope was enlarged when the Noon Meal Programme was introduced in all districts of Tamil Nadu subsequently. The evolutionary growth of the scheme is given below:

#### **Evolutionary Growth**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Nutritious Meal Programme Growth</b>
1925	Started in Municipal Corporation Chennai
1962	Started Mid Day Meal Programme all over Tamil Nadu.

1982	Started Purachi Thalaivar M.G.R Nutritious Meal Programme
1984	Extended the Programme to 6 <sup>th</sup> std to 10 <sup>th</sup> std children
1989	Introduced one Egg fortnightly.
1998	Introduced one Egg per Week for 2-15 Year children
2004	Introduced again one Egg per Week for 2-15 year children
2006	Introduced two Eggs per Week for 2-15 Year children
2007	Initiated three eggs per Week for 2-15 year children and launched one egg per week for 1-2 year children
2010	Introduced Five Eggs per Week for 5-15 year children on all working days.

2014	Introduced Variety Meal with Masala Eggs.
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Hot cooked Nutritious variety meal along with Masala Eggs is being provided to the children in Primary and Upper Primary classes upto 10<sup>th</sup> Std. in all Government and Government aided schools.

### **Aims and Objectives:**

1. Motivate children to attend school regularly.
2. Maximise enrolment and reduce dropout rate in schools.
3. Universalization of the primary education.
4. Improving the nutritional status of children and enhancing the literacy rate of the children
5. By providing more employment opportunities to women under Nutritious Meal scheme and empower them economically.

## **Salient Features of the Scheme:**









- i. Primary school children in the age group of 5-9 years and Upper Primary school children in the age group of 10-15 years are provided with hot cooked nutritious variety meals along with masala eggs for 220 school working days.
- ii. Food Entitlement Norms: Primary school children (1<sup>st</sup> Std. to 5<sup>th</sup> Std.) are provided 100 gm per child/per day of rice and upper primary children (6<sup>th</sup> Std. to 10<sup>th</sup> Std.) are provided 150 gm/per day/per child.


## **Details of Mid-Day Meal Beneficiaries:**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Type of School</b>	<b>No. of Centres</b>	<b>No. of Students</b>
1	Primary	27,003	20,74,039
2	Upper Primary	16,128	15,06,081
3	9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> Standard		6,91,833
<b>Total</b>		<b>43,131</b>	<b>42,71,953</b>






## Components of Nutritious Meal Programme Variety Menu

As a special Nutritional intervention Variety Menu with 5 kinds of egg masala is being provided as of now:-

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 Meal Maker with Vegetable Rice and Pepper Egg
Wednesday		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.
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### Additional Nutrition

Food Provided		Quantity
	Black Bengal gram / Green Gram	20g (Weekly once)
		
	Potato	20gram (Weekly once)
	Egg	" agmark graded weighing 46g - 52g (on all school working days)
	Banana	100g (to the non egg eaters.)

**Double Fortified Salt** Double Fortified Salt with iodine and iron are used for cooking.

**Double Fortified Oil:**

Double fortified oil with vitamin “A” and “D” is being used daily in the Nutritious Meal Programme.

**Nutritional Norms per child per Day under MDM**

S. No	Stage	GOI Norms *		State Government Provision	
		Calories (In Kcl)	Protein (In gms)	Calories (In Kcl)	Protein (In gms)
1.	Primary	450	12	557	18.92
2.	Upper Primary	700	20	735	22.77
3.	IX & X	---	---	735	22.77

**Prime Ministers Nutrition Programme (PM POSHAN):**

Government of India started the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP – NSPE) on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1995 and



implemented from 1997-1998. Then it was extended to upper primary from October 2007. As per the Letter. No.1-3 /2021- Desk (MDM), the Government of India, Ministry of Education, Dept. of School Education & Literacy dt.6.10.2021 conveyed the approval of centrally Sponsored Scheme "Pradhan Mantri POSHAN Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)" for providing hot cooked meal in Government and Government aided school erstwhile National Programme for Mid-Day Meal scheme

The Government of India assists the scheme in the components of Cooking Cost and Honorarium to Cook cum Helpers at a fixed norm in the sharing pattern between Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu in the ratio of 60:40. Moreover, 100% funding by Government of India is given for the Cost of Food grains (Rice),

Transportation of Food grains and Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) .

### **Food Supply Management**

As per the requirement of Nutritious Meal centre, TNCSC supplies rice, dhal, fortified cooking oil, fortified salt, Black Bengal Gram and Green Gram at its doorstep. Once in three months, vegetables & condiments advance is credited to bank account of the Noon Meal Organizers for onward payments.

Egg weighing between 46 to 52 gram is supplied by the successful tenderer twice a week to the Nutritious Meal Centre. To prevent pilferages prescribed colored seal for every week is marked on the eggs.

## **Cooking cost (Material Cost) GOI Norms**

(Per Child per Day Cost in Rs.)

<b>Class</b>	<b>MDM Norms (60:40)</b>	<b>Centre (60%)</b>	<b>State (40%)</b>	<b>Additional State Contribution</b>	<b>Total</b>
Primary (1 to 5 Std.)	5.45	3.27	2.18	4.80	10.25
Upper Primary (6 to 8 Std.)	8.17	4.90	3.27	2.40	10.57
9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Std.	100% State Government Contribution				15.51

### **Enhancement of Feeding Charges:**

The feeding charges for Primary Children have been increased from Rs.1.51/- to 1.79/- per day per child for Vegetables and Condiments and fuel charges from Rs. 0.60/- to Rs. 1.25/- per day per child.

Likewise, the feeding charges have been increased from Rs.1.65/- to 2.11/- per day per child for Vegetables and Condiments and for fuel

charges from Rs. 0.60/- to Rs. 1.25/- per day per child.

### **Monitoring Mechanism of NMP Centre**

- Three tier monitoring system is ensured (State/District/Block).
- As per the prescribed menu and operative procedures, NMP functionaries at field level monitor the quality and quantity of food.
- Before serving the Noon meal, the taste of the food is checked by the Headmasters and Teachers at school level.



- Tamil Nadu is the pioneer state in ISO certification of Noon Meal centre. So far 100 Nutritious Meal centres are certified under International Organisation for Standardization (ISO).
- Tamil Nadu is the only state which has registered all the Nutritious Meal centres under Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) Act and being renewed every year.

- The accounts of NMP centres are placed in Special Grama Sabha conducted in Village Panchayats for ensuring transparency and
- **Supply of Hygiene Kit, commodity weighing scale & Registers**
- In order to cook the meals hygienically, all the Nutritious meal cook /cook assistants have been provided hygiene kit to Noon Meal centres with 2 aprons, 1 head cap, 1 nail cutter, 5 hand towels, 6 anti septic soaps.
- Commodity weighing scales has been supplied to Noon Meal Centres and Integrated Registers have been supplied to all Noon Meal Centres

### **Supply of Kitchen Devices**

- New Kitchen devices are being provided to the Noon Meal Centres  
at a total cost of Rs.25.41 Cr during 2022-2023.

### **Capacity Building and Training**

- Training programmes were conducted at all levels for improving the knowledge and skill of the Frontline functionaries in delivering their services,
- Food Safety Training and Certification [FoSTaC] training was imparted to Noon Meal Organizers, Cook & Cook Assistant by

empanelled training partners registered under FSSAI and were given certificates.

### **Social Audit**

- During 2021-2022, Social Audit has been completed by the Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu (SASTA) in 5 Noon Meal centres among 5 districts in the month of November 2021.
- As per revised guidelines 2 % or 20 no of centres at each district has to be covered. Based on the said norms 954 centres will be covered.

### **Setting up of School Nutrition Garden**

School Nutrition Garden has been set up to address the issue of malnutrition and micro nutrient deficiencies among children by providing freshly grown vegetables,

- 28870 School Nutrition Gardens have been setup through special initiative and Government of India funds. During 2024-25, it has been planned to set up kitchen

gardening in 7020 Noon Meal Centres @  
Rs.5,000/- centre.

### **Human Resources:**

Each noon meal center is sanctioned with 3 Posts  
viz 1 noon meal Organizer, 1 cook and 1 cook  
assistant.

### **Scale of Pay**

These employees are classified as 'Part Time  
Permanent Employees' and are being paid under  
the following Special Time Scale of pay:-

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Scale of Pay</b>	<b>GoI Share (consolidated)</b>
1.	Noon Meal Organiser	₹7,700- 24,200	₹600
2.	Cook	₹4,100-12,500	₹600
3.	Cook Assistant	₹3000 - 9,000	₹600

### **Festival Advance**

All Noon Meal Employees are sanctioned with festival advance of Rs.10,000 every year. The advance amount will be deducted from their salary in 10 equal installments.

### **Pongal Bonus**

Rs.1,000 is being given to all Noon Meal employees every year as Bonus at the time of Pongal Festival (i.e.) during January.

### **Hill Allowance and Winter Allowance**

Hill Allowance and winter allowance are provided to all the Noon Meal Employees working in hill areas. 20% of Basic Pay is being given as hill allowance throughout the year. Winter allowance is being given at the rate of 5% of basic pay for 4 months in a year.



## **Casual Leave**

All Noon Meal Employees are provided with 12 days of casual leave every year.

## **Maternity Leave to Noon Meal Employees**

The paid absence on Maternity Leave to married women Noon Meal Employees has been enhanced from 90 days to 180 days with effect from May 2015.

## **Compassionate Ground Appointment**

Powers have been delegated to the District Collectors for providing compassionate ground appointments to the female family members of the deceased Noon Meal Employees. Orders of the Government are being obtained and communicated for relaxation of rules if any required by forwarding necessary proposals duly obtained from the District Collectors.

## **New Health Insurance Scheme:**

Under New Health Insurance Scheme upto Rs 5.00 lakhs is admissible for Speciality Medical Treatment in a Block of 4 Years

## **Family benefit Fund:**

Family Benefit Fund of Rs.5.00 lakhs is being given to the family of deceased noon meal employees

## **Retirement benefits:**

- Cook and Cook Assistant retirement age has been increased from 58 to 60 years.
- The Noon meal worker Cook, cook Assistant are eligible for lump sum grant at the time of retirement, Rs.1,00,000/- is being paid to noon meal organiser and Rs.50,000/- is being paid to Cook and cook Assistant with effect from 01.10.2017, noon meal employee are paid monthly special pension Rs.2,000/- with effect from 01.10.2017

- Special General Provident Fund Scheme is being implemented for noon meal employees since 2015.
- On medical grounds, the noon meal employees are permitted to go on Voluntary Retirement with all retirement benefits.

### **Budget Provision**

**A sum of Rs. 2834 Crore has been allotted in the Budget Estimate of the year 2024-2025 for implementing the Nutritious Meal programme.**

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## **Chapter – 4**

# **INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

### **Introduction**

Tamil Nadu has a long history of providing organized child care services with emphasis on nutrition to children outside the home under institutionalized care, with an aim to overcome malnutrition, which has a severe consequence on a child's physical growth, immune system and cognitive development, which ultimately affects the child's health and productivity. In order to improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age group of 0-6 years, the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) was launched in Tamil Nadu in the year 1975.

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme

stands as a holistic community-based flagship program. It encompasses vital components such as supplementary nutrition, immunization and preschool education, which makes it one of the world's largest initiatives aimed at holistic development of children. This program is a resolute testament to the nation's dedication to its young and nursing mothers, addressing the dual challenge of breaking the cycle of malnutrition and offering non-formal preschool education.

The Anganwadi services scheme now operates under the umbrella of Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (referred to hereafter as Poshan 2.0). It is meticulously crafted to tackle the aforementioned challenges by emphasizing transparency, accountability, dietary diversity, enhanced grassroot level participation and efficient last-mile service delivery through 54,449 Anganwadi centres which includes 10 newly

opened Anganwadi centres in Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) habitations. The integration of the Supplementary Nutrition Programme within Anganwadi Services, the Scheme for Adolescent Girls, and Poshan Abhiyaan under Poshan 2.0 signifies a comprehensive approach for providing integrated nutritional support.

#### **4.1 Vision**

Poshan 2.0 targets malnutrition in children (up to the age of 6 years), pregnant/lactating mothers, and adolescent girls (14-18 years). Its main vision aligns with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 4 (Quality Education) to make a meaningful impact. Poshan 2.0 prioritizes nutrition, early childhood care, and education for holistic development and healthier future generations.

## **4.2 Objectives**

- To contribute to the country's human capital development.
- To tackle the challenges of malnutrition head-on.
- To promote nutrition awareness and foster healthy eating habits for sustainable health and well-being.
- To address nutritional deficiencies through targeted strategies.

## **4.3 Anganwadi Services Scheme**

The Anganwadi services scheme offers an integrated package of six services to eligible 1 nutrition

- Pre-school non-formal education
- Nutrition and health education
- Health check-ups
- Immunization
- Referral services

Out of these six services, three services namely immunization, health check-ups and referral services are delivered through the National Health Mission and Public Health Infrastructure under the Health and Family Welfare 1

The main beneficiaries of the scheme are children and women, specifically, children under the age of 6 years, Antenatal and Postnatal mothers, girls and women aged 14 to 49 years, who are the primary recipients of benefits including supplementary nutrition, growth monitoring immunization, health checkups, referral services, nutrition & health education and early childhood care and education. The selection of beneficiaries is carried out through a comprehensive family survey in the area, ensuring that every eligible individual can access the services without exclusion.



## 4.5 Project Beneficiaries

<b>Category of beneficiaries</b>	<b>Service Offered</b>	<b>Number of beneficiaries (as on 31.03.2024)</b>
6 months to 1 year children	Supplementary Nutrition, Immunization, Health Checkups Referral Services	3,98,324
1 – 2 years children		7,09,597
2 - 3 years children	Supplementary Nutrition, Immunization, Health Checkups Referral Services Preschool Non-Formal Education	4,03,818
3-6 years children		6,99,775
Antenatal Mothers	Supplementary Nutrition, Immunization, Health Checkups Referral Services Nutrition and Health Education	3,26,532
Postnatal Mothers		2,84,034
Adolescent Girls the age group of 14 – 18 year in two aspirational districts	Supplementary Nutrition Life Skill Education	45,065
<b>Total beneficiaries</b>		<b>28,67,145</b>

## 4.6 Project Cost / Budget Estimate for 2024 – 2025

The project cost for the year 2024-2025 is as follows: **(Rs. in crore)**

Gross total project cost	GoI Share	State Share	Exclusive State Share	Total State Share (3+4)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
3269.91	58.10	36.30	1875.51	2511.81

The expenditure incurred is shared by the Government of India and State Government in the fund-sharing pattern of 50:50 in respect of Supplementary Nutrition, 60: 40 in respect of Anganwadi Services (General).

## 4.7 Supplementary Nutrition Programme

Supplementary Nutrition, one of the six components under Anganwadi services is provided to the beneficiaries viz., children, pregnant woman,

lactating mothers, and adolescent girls in the age group of 14 – 18 years in two aspirational districts of Tamil Nadu through the 54,449 Anganwadi centres across Tamil Nadu. The provision of Supplementary Nutrition for beneficiaries aims to narrow the existing gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) and the Average Daily Intake (ADI) of the beneficiaries.

The National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 mandates the provision of Supplementary Nutrition to every pregnant woman and lactating mother up to 6 months after childbirth and every child in the age group of 6 months to 6 years (including those suffering from malnutrition).

The Supplementary Nutrition Programme has two major components:

1. Sathu Mavu
2. Hot cooked meal

Supplementary Nutrition is to be provided for 300 days a year to beneficiaries as mandated under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

**Approved GoI cost norms and nutritive values are detailed below**

Category	Nutritional norms per beneficiary per day		Financial norms per beneficiary per day (Rs.)
	Protein (gms)	Energy (kcal)	
Children 6 months to 6 years	12-15	500	8.00
Children 6 months to 6 years (Malnourished)	20-25	800	12.00
Antenatal & Postnatal Mothers	18-20	600	9.50
14-18 Years Adolescent Girls	18-20	600	9.50

#### **4.7.1 Sathu Mavu**

An Expert Committee was formed by the Government of Tamil Nadu to suggest suitable formulation/composition of Sathu Mavu to enhance the standard of Sathu Mavu being provided to ICDS beneficiaries.

ICDS Food Supplement (Sathu Mavu) is provided to the beneficiaries based on the recommendation of an expert committee formed by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Sathu Mavu in two different compositions are provided to ICDS beneficiaries. One is for 6 months to 6 years children and the other one is for adolescent girls and antenatal woman and postnatal mothers. The ICDS Food Supplement (Sathu Mavu) is provided to children adhering to **BIS Standards 11536:2022 from January 2023.**

**Composition of ICDS Food Supplement (Sathu Mavu) for children**

<b>SI. No</b>	<b>Ingredients</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1.	Roasted Wheat flour	45.50
2.	Malted Ragi Flour	5.00
3.	Full Fat Soya Flour	16.50
4.	Jaggery	24.00
5.	Roasted Ground Nut Kernel flour	8.00
6.	Vitamins and Minerals Premix	1.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>

**100 Grams of ICDS Food Supplement (Sathu Mavu) for children contains minimum 400 Kcal of Energy and 15 grams of Protein.**

**Composition of ICDS Food Supplement (Sathu Mavu) for Adolescent Girls and Antenatal (AN) / Postnatal (PN) mothers**

<b>SI.No</b>	<b>Ingredients</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1.	Roasted Wheat flour	45.50
2.	Roasted Bengal Gram flour	10.00
3.	Roasted urad dal	5.00
4.	Roasted peanut flour	4.00
5.	Fortified Refined Vegetable oil	5.00
6.	Malted Ragi flour	5.00
7.	Full fat soya bean flour	10.00
8.	Jaggery	14.00
9.	Vitamins and Minerals premix	1.50
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>

**100 Grams of ICDS Food Supplement (SathuMavu) for Adolescent Girls, AN/PN mothers contains a minimum of 400 Kcal of Energy and 14 grams of Protein.**

To meet the additional nutritional requirement of Severely Malnourished Children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, in addition to Sathu Mavu, Fortified Biscuits are provided as Take Home Ration (THR) from June 2023 onwards.

**Composition of Fortified Biscuit for Severely malnourished children**

<b>SI.No</b>	<b>Ingredients</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1.	Wheat flour	30.00
2.	Maida	10.00
3.	Peanut Grit	4.00
4.	Ragi flour	7.00
5.	Refined Vegetable Oil	24.74
6	Sugar	23.00
7	Vitamins and Minerals	1.00
8	Baking Powder	0.26
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>



**100 Grams of Fortified Biscuits contain a minimum of 500 Kcal of Energy and 6 grams of Protein.**

#### **4.7.2 Procurement of Sathu Mavu**

Children in the age group of 6 months to 2 years are provided ICDS Food supplement (Sathu Mavu) which is procured by Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act 1998 & Rules, 2000 by floating open tender. Further, 65% of ICDS Food Supplement (Sathu Mavu) is provided to children in the age group of 2 to 6 years, and Antenatal/Postnatal mothers are procured from 25 Women Co-operative Societies functioning under the Department of ICDS and the balance 35% is procured by floating open tender.

#### **4.7.3 Quality Testing**

A two-tier quality check is being carried out to ensure the quality of Sathu Mavu being provided to ICDS beneficiaries. It is sent for testing to Government, government-recognized labs by the

manufacturers themselves before being supplied to Anganwadi Centres. Furthermore, random samples are collected from Anganwadi Centres by the District Project Officers, ICDS and sent for quality checking to the State Food Analysis Laboratory.

**Per day ration of Supplementary Nutrition to ICDS beneficiaries**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Food provided</b>
6 months - 1-year children	125 gms/day of Sathu Mavu are provided to all Children enrolled with Anganwadi centres. In addition to Sathu Mavu, 60 grams of fortified biscuits per day is provided to Severely Malnourished children.
1-2 years children	125 gms/day of Sathu Mavu and three eggs per week are provided to all Children enrolled with Anganwadi centres. In addition to Sathu Mavu and eggs, 60 grams of fortified biscuits per day is provided to Severely Malnourished Children.
2- 6 years children	50 gms/day of Sathu Mavu, a Hot Cooked Nutritious Variety meal for 6 days a week along with eggs for 3 days a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday),

	<p>Black Bengal gram /Green gram on Tuesday and Boiled Potato on Friday are being provided to children attending preschool in Anganwadi centres.</p> <p>Further, Rice and Dhal are given as a dry Ration on Sunday. In addition to the above, 30 grams of fortified biscuits per day is provided to Severely Malnourished children.</p>
<p>AN/PN mothers and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 14 – 18 years in two aspirational districts</p>	<p>150 gms /day of Sathu Mavu are provided to beneficiaries</p>

#### **4.7.4 Hot Cooked Meal**

Well-nourished and healthy children would make a stronger India. As per the National Food Security Act 2013, children in the age group of 3-6 years should be provided with 500 Kcal of energy and 12 -15 grams of protein every day. Since a child in this age group is not capable of consuming a meal of 500 calories in one sitting, the Act prescribed the provision of morning, and evening snacks and a Hot Cooked Meal.

In Tamil Nadu, children in the age group of 2 to 6 years enrolled for preschool education in Anganwadi centres are provided with the following:

- I. 25 grams of Sathu Mavu (Kozhukattai), as morning and evening snacks.
- II. Considering the digestive capacity of these young children, a special variety of meals has been designed to offer 80 grams of rice per child per day in the form of hot-cooked meals.

- III. To increase the protein content of children, the provision of eggs was introduced in 1989. Children in the age group of 1 – 6 years are provided with 3 eggs per week.
- IV. On all Tuesdays, 20 grams of boiled Black Bengal gram/Green gram are provided. Similarly, on all Fridays to supplement carbohydrates, 20 grams of boiled potatoes are provided along with Hot Cooked Meals.
- V. For non-egg-eating beneficiaries, banana is provided as an alternative.

**Day wise menu is as follows**

<b>Days</b>	<b>Menu</b>
Monday	Tomato Rice + Boiled Egg
Tuesday	Mixed Rice + Boiled Black Bengal gram / 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 (Rice and Dhal)

The feeding cost towards cost of vegetables, condiments, salt and fuel has been enhanced from an average amount of Rs.1.24 per day per beneficiary to Rs.2.39 per day per beneficiary from 23.01.2024.

## Details about the average quantum of nutrition per day being provided to beneficiaries

Category	Nutrition details in SathuMavu			Nutrition details in Hot cooked meal*		Nutrition details in Biscuits	Total Nutrition		
	Quantum of sathumavu (gms)	Protein	Energy (Kcal)	Average Protein (gms)	Average Energy (Kcal)	Average Protein (gms)	Average Energy (Kcal)	Protein (gms)	Energy (Kcal)
Children 6 months -1 year	125	18.75	500	-	-	-	-	18.75 (GOI -12-15)	500 (GOI -500)
Children 6 months -1 year (severely malnourished)	125	18.75	500	-	-	3.60 (in 60gms)	300 (in 60gms)	22.35 (GOI -20-25)	800 (GOI -800)
Children 1-2 years	125	18.75	500	3.00 (3 egg per	36 (3 egg per	-	-	21.75 (GOI -12-15)	536 (GOI -500)



				week)	week)				
Children 1-2 years (severely malnourished)	125	18.75	500	3.00 (3 egg per week)	36 (3 egg per week)	3.60 (in 60 gms)	300 (in 60 gms)	25.35 (GOI -20-25)	836 (GOI -800)
Children 2-3 years	50	7.50	200	13.27	468.79	-	-	20.77 (GOI -12-15)	668.79 (GOI -500)
Children 2-3 years (severely malnourished)	50	7.50	200	13.27	468.79	1.80 (in 30 gms)	150 (in 30 gms)	22.57 (GOI -20-25)	818.79 (GOI -800)
Children 3-6 years	50	7.50	200	13.27	468.79	-	-	20.77 (GOI -12-15)	668.79 (GOI -500)
Children 3-6 years (severely malnourished)	50	7.50	200	13.27	468.79	1.80 (in 30 gms)	150 (in 30 gms)	22.57 (GOI -20-25)	818.79 (GOI -800)

Pregnant Women, Nursing Mothers and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 14 – 18 years	150	21.00	600	-	-	-	-	21.00 (GOI -18-20)	600 (GOI -600)
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**\*Hot cooked Variety Meal, 3 Eggs per week, Black Bengal gram / Green gram on Tuesday and Potato on Friday.**

**Per day average cost for providing Supplementary Nutrition (Sathu Mavu + Fortified Biscuits+ Hot cooked Meal + Egg)**

**(in Rs.)**

Sl. No	Category	GOI Financial Norms per day per beneficiary	cost per day on supplementary nutrition	Central Share	State Share	Additional cost to State Govt

1	6 months to 1 years children	8.00	8.67	4.00	4.00	0.67
2	Severely malnourished 6 months to 1 years children	12.00	15.87	6.00	6.00	3.87
3	1 year to 2 years children	8.00	11.58	4.00	4.00	3.58
4	Severely malnourished 1 year to 2 years children	12.00	18.77	6.00	6.00	6.77
5	2 years to 6 years children	8.00	10.39	4.00	4.00	2.39
6	Severely malnourished 2 years to 6 years children	12.00	13.98	6.00	6.00	1.98
7	AN/PN mothers	9.50	10.47	4.75	4.75	0.97
8	Adolescent Girls in the age group of 14 – 18 years	9.50	10.47	4.75	4.75	0.97

#### **4.7.5 Usage of Fortified Food Ingredients**

The deficiency of micronutrient among the Children, Antenatal women, Lactating mothers and Adolescent girls is combated by providing following fortified food through Integrated Child Development Services: -

1. Salt is double fortified with Iron and Iodine which is used in the preparation of hot cooked meal.
2. Palmolein oil used in the preparation of Hot Cooked Meal is fortified with Vitamin A and Vitamin D
3. ICDS Food Supplement (Sathu Mavu) and fortified biscuits provided to beneficiaries are fortified with Vitamins and Minerals.
4. Rice used in preparation of Hot Cooked Meal is fortified with Iron, Folic acid, and Vitamin-B12.

#### **4.8 Supply of Medicine Kit and Hygiene Kit**

To address minor ailments like fever, diarrhoea, dressing of wounds, skin infections, etc, Anganwadi Centres are provided with Medicine Kits. Hygiene Kits are also being provided to promote hygienic practices among children and to keep them clean and tidy at the Anganwadi centres. The Medicine Kit consists of Paracetamol syrup, Paracetamol Tablets, ORS Powder, Povidone Iodine Ointment, Iron and Folic Acid Syrup, and Multivitamin Drops. Hygiene Kit consists of Floor cleaner, Toilet soap, and Antiseptic Liquid.

**A sum of Rs.8.17 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **4.9 Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG)**

Under Poshan 2.0, the guidelines for the Scheme for Adolescent Girls have been revised for

2024-2025. The revamped scheme aims at providing nutritional support to adolescent girls in the age group of 14 – 18 years in the identified areas of the State to improve their health and nutritional status under the nutrition component and providing them with IFA supplementation, Health Check-ups, Referral Services, Nutrition & Health Education Life Skills, etc. under the non-nutrition component of the scheme. All beneficiaries shall require an Aadhaar number to avail benefits under the scheme. In Tamil Nadu, the Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) is implemented in two aspirational districts of Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar.

**A sum of Rs.8.35 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024 – 2025.**

#### **4.9.1 Nutrition Component:**

Under nutrition components, supplementary nutrition containing 600 Kilocalories, 18-20 grams of protein, and micronutrients is being provided to adolescent girls in the age group of 14 – 18 years in the form of Take-Home Ration (THR). In Tamil Nadu, 150 grams of Sathu Mavu which contains 21 grams of proteins and 600 kilo calories per day is provided to the beneficiaries under Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG).

#### **4.9.2 Non–Nutrition Component:**

Under Non-nutrition component, the Health and Family Welfare, Education, Youth Welfare and Sports Development Departments and Skill Development Corporation are involved in giving life skill education to adolescent girls.

#### **4.10 Supply of two sets of uniforms to Pre-School Children:**

To encourage parents in the community to send their children to Anganwadi centres and to increase enrolment of children in Anganwadi centres, every year two sets of ready-made uniforms @ Rs.300/- per beneficiary are given to the children attending pre-school education in Anganwadi centres. The uniforms help to prepare children for future schooling, as they become accustomed to dressing in the uniform. The programme is being implemented exclusively from State funds.

**A sum of Rs.31.80 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**



## **4.11 Infrastructure Development at Anganwadi Centres**

### **a) Construction of Anganwadi Centres**

The construction of Anganwadi centres is being carried out in convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) Scheme under Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and ICDS from the year 2016 onwards. The construction of new building for 7,696 Anganwadi centres has been taken from the year 2016.

### **b) Upgrading Anganwadi Centres**

Anganwadi centres are being strengthened, upgraded and rejuvenated as Saksham Anganwadis in a phased manner, for improving nutrition delivery including Poshan Vatikas for stimulating the creative, social, emotional, cognitive and intellectual development of children under 6 years of age, in convergence with education development programmes,

providing/adding more services with better infrastructure including internet / Wi-Fi connectivity, LED screens, water purifier/installation of RO machine and Early Childhood Care and Education with smart learning aids, audio-visual aids, child-friendly learning equipment and art work (educational painting, practices board for children, information board), etc.

**A sum of Rs.79.76 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025 for construction of Anganwadi buildings and upgradation of Anganwadi centres into Saksham Anganwadi.**

**c) Annual Maintenance Grant to Anganwadi centre buildings**

An amount of Rs.3000/- is provided annually to each Anganwadi centres functioning in Government owned buildings to carry out minor

repair works which are in dire need of repair and maintenance.

**A sum of Rs.6.24 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **4.12 National Creche Scheme (PALNA)**

Under Mission Shakthi guidelines, creches component (PALNA) envisaged to address the urgent need for quality creche care facilities. It will provide a safe and secure environment for Nutritional, Health and Cognitive development of the children of working women and encourage women to pursue their employment opportunities.

The creches run by Non-Governmental Organisations were provided financial assistance with fund Sharing pattern of 60:30:10 (Central: State: NGO) under the National Creche Scheme.

As per Mission Poshan 2.0, Anganwadi cum creches under PALNA have been introduced by the

Government of India. Anganwadi cum creches aim to increase women's workforce participation in the economy. Accordingly, 100 Anganwadi centres will be upgraded as Anganwadi cum creches with sufficient budgetary provision for the holistic development of the child.

#### **4.13 PM-JANMAN**

Aimed at uplifting **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**, to address their unique challenges by providing the essential infrastructure for a brighter future and to enhance their socio-economic conditions, the Government of India introduced the scheme named "**PM-JANMAN**". The objective is to provide essential amenities such as secure housing, clean drinking water, sanitation, improved accessible education, health, nutrition, etc., to PVTG households and habitats.

Under this scheme, 10 New Anganawadi Centres have been opened in Chengalpet (1 centre), Dharmapuri (3 centres), Kallakurichi (2 centres), Salem (1centre), Thiruvallur (2 centres) and Thiruppathur (1 centre) Districts. All these Anganwadi centres have started functioning from 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 onwards.

#### **4.14 POSHAN ABHIYAAN (Poshan2.0 and Saksham Anganwadi)**

To address various gaps and deficiencies in the ongoing nutrition program and to enhance implementation, while accelerating improvements in nutrition and child development outcomes, the existing scheme components have been reorganized under Poshan 2.0 as follows:

- The Supplementary Nutrition Programme now covers children aged 6 months to 6 years, pregnant and lactating mothers, and

adolescent girls aged 14-18 years in aspirational districts.

- Early stimulation programs are tailored for children aged 0-3 years, while early childhood care and education initiatives are targeted at children aged 3-6 years.
- Enhancements of Anganwadi infrastructure include the introduction of modernized and upgraded Saksham Anganwadi centres, along with the implementation of the Poshan Abhiyaan.

#### **4.14.1 POSHAN Tracker**

In 2021, the Poshan Tracker Mobile Phone Application was launched to offer a comprehensive overview of service delivery at Anganwadi centres. It enables data entry and real-time monitoring of providing supplementary nutrition to beneficiaries, growth monitoring of children, and other essential aspects. All 54,449 Anganwadi centres are registered in this mobile phone application, ensuring thorough coverage and tracking.

Indicator	NFHS -4		NFHS-5 (2019-21)		POSHAN Tracker (Feb 2024)	Progress
	All India	State	All India	State	State	
Stunting (%)	38.4	27.1	35.5	25	15.8	Improved
Wasting (%)	21	19.7	19.3	14.6	3.98	Improved
Underweight (%)	35.8	23.8	32.1	22	7.06	Improved

Additionally, State-specific components of the scheme are captured through another mobile application called TN-ICDS. This application focuses on specific elements related to the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) in Tamil Nadu, providing tailored support and monitoring capabilities within the broader POSHAN Abhiyaan .lication has enabled digital data transformation between line departments like Education Department, Health Department, etc through integration of data from EMIS portal, PICME and TN-ICDS.

After TNICDS, the PICME child beneficiaries are passed on to the Education Department and preschool completed children with updated data. Through this integration process, the Departments can access these portals and obtain the necessary data.



#### **4.14.2 Jan Andolan (People's Mass Movement)**

The Jan Andolan initiative aims to foster a people's movement for promoting Social and behavioral change towards adopting good nutritional practices. It involves various strategies implemented in collaboration with both the government and private sectors.

Jan Andolan activities encompass a range of initiatives, including Samudhaya Valaigappu (community baby shower), Breastfeeding awareness campaigns, Traditional Food Festivals, Exhibitions, Adolescent Girls programs, distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials such as posters and pamphlets, as well as Community-Based Events (CBE).

Furthermore, National Nutrition Month is celebrated annually in September, serving as a

dedicated period to highlight and promote nutritional awareness and health practices.

Nutritional Month (Poshan Maah) 2024 was celebrated throughout the State by conducting 5,91,59,310 activities, and Nutritional Week (Poshan Pakhwada (Fortnight Nutrition Celebration)) for March 2024, was celebrated across Tamil Nadu with total activities of 1,52,63,918 as part of the Jan Andolan activity. These activities were aimed at disseminating nutrition and health messages, showcasing a concentrated effort to reach out to a substantial portion of the population. This demonstrates a strong commitment to promote awareness and encouraging positive health practices among the people of Tamil Nadu.

### **4.14.3 Supply of Growth Monitoring Devices & Smartphones:**

Growth monitoring is an integral part of ICDS services. The weight and height of all beneficiaries, i.e., pregnant women, lactating mothers, newborn babies, and children up to 6 years are recorded regularly using the growth monitoring devices and smartphones provided to all Anganwadi centres.

A total of 18,573 AWCs have been replaced with four types of growth monitoring devices such as digital weighing scales, stadiometers, infantometers and infant weighing scales have been replaced for Rs. 13.37 crore. Further, 18,573 smartphones would be replaced, as per the replacement policy.

These efforts are essential for accurate and reliable monitoring of growth and health of beneficiaries, ensuring that they receive necessary

care and interventions based on precise measurement and data.

#### **4.14.4 “Uttachathai Uruthi Sei” (Ensure Nutrition)**

To reduce malnutrition among children, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu made an announcement on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 07.05.2022 that, “medical assistance will be provided to children less than 6 years of age in need of medical attention and a special nutrition program will be provided for children in need of nutrition”.

The scheme aims to reduce malnutrition by giving nutritional intervention to

- Mothers of 0-6 Month malnourished children
- Severely malnourished Children between 6 months to 6 years.

**“Ensuring Nutrition to children (Uttachathai Uruthi Sei)”** scheme is being implemented in three phases:

**Phase I** : Initial screening to identify malnourished children by Anganwadi workers (AWWs).

**Phase II** : The screening of identified malnourished children by National Child Health Care Program (Rashtriya Bal Swasthiya Karyakram (RBSK)) Doctor’s team to assess severity and determine interventions.

**Phase III** : Detailed medical evaluations of referred children at District Early Intervention Centres (DEIC) or Special Newborn Care Units (SNCU) and treatment. Nutritional intervention advised for malnourished children.

For children requiring only nutritional interventions, 92,015 severely malnourished

children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years were administered 'Ready to use Therapeutic Food' (RUTF) at a cost of Rs. 18.68 crores and Nutri-kits were provided for mothers of 14,901 malnourished children below 6 months of age at a cost of Rs. 8.68 crores. Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) is a UNICEF recommended nutritional supplement for children with Severe Acute Malnutrition. It is a smooth, homogeneous, thick paste containing ground peanuts, sugar, oil, milk powder and vitamin and mineral premix. RUTF sachets were provided daily for 8 weeks to children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years.

The Nutri Kit is provided to mothers of malnourished children in the age group of 0-6 months which contains Mother's Health mix powder, Iron and folic acid syrup, Ghee, Seedless dates and Albendazole tablets for deworming.

Out of severely malnourished children in the age group of 0 to 6 months whose mothers were given nutri-kits, 71% of children have improved to normal. The scheme showed a positive response and there was a drastic improvement in the nutrition status of children up to 0-6 months.

The impact of the scheme was evaluated by Madras Medical College (MMC). The study indicated that there was a significant increase in both height and weight of children who consumed RUTF. About 74% of severely malnourished children have shown improvement in their nutritional status and have progressed to normal levels.

Good Nutrition begins before birth. A mother's diet and her nutrient stores are the only sources of nutrition for a baby. The first 1000 days, from conception to the age of two years, are the most crucial for the development of a baby's body, brain, metabolism, and immune system. Through

community-based activities, awareness about Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices (IYCF) is being conducted. This helps in saving the lives of the most vulnerable young children and plays a key role in preventing malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies.

Overall exercise sheds light on the importance of the first 1000 days of a child's growth- GOLDEN 1000 DAYS, the period when the brain, body and immune system of the child grows significantly, offering a crucial window of opportunity to create brighter, healthier futures. Therefore, the scheme has been extended for the years 2024-2025 by providing Nutri kits to the mothers of severely and moderately malnourished children.



#### **4.15 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)**

Adequate healthcare, nutrition, security, safety, responsive care giving and opportunities for early child learning are essential for children to achieve their full human potential. Therefore, among the services of ICDS, Non-Formal Pre-School Education of children is an integral component. To enforce this, Early Child Care and Education (ECCE) is being conducted in all Anganwadi centres for four hours on all working days.

- The State is implementing a special curriculum named "**Aadi Paadi Vilaiyadu Pappa**" (APVP) based on the National Early Childhood Care and Education Policy, 2013. Under this developmental age-appropriate annual Contextualized curriculum, preschool activities are conducted in all the Anganwadi centres with 11 child-friendly, theme-based activities for 11 months with an emphasis on

the holistic development of the children and the 12<sup>th</sup> month being reserved for revision of the syllabus.

- ECCE curriculum books for Anganwadi workers, assessment cards and activity books for 2-3, 3-4 & 4-5 years, Pre-school completion certificates and Pre-school kits are supplied to all the Anganwadi centres.
- Training of Trainers (ToT) to District Level Master Trainers (DLMTs) is being conducted at State and District Level. During the training, "Do-It-Yourself" kit sessions are handled to teach the trainees to make non-toxic Indigenous Toys by themselves and to create an eco friendly atmosphere.
- The Master Trainers will be training the Anganwadi Workers on ECCE at Sector Level in three stages in a cascade manner for the effective rollout of ECCE. The training includes sessions on Do-It-Yourself for kits also.
- Under Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi, training for State Level Master Trainers, is being given by National Institute of Public Cooperation and

Child Development (NIPCCD), Bangalore. The State Level Trainers in turn are involved in training the Anganwadi workers with the support of NIPCCD.

**A sum of Rs.289.00 lakhs has been allocated for training to Anganwadi workers for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **4.15.1 Pre School Assessment module**

To assess the development of the child in various domains such as Physical development, Cognitive development, Language development, Social and Emotional development, Creativity, assessment cards are provided to each centre for the children in the age group of 2-5 years and distributed to the workers.

The assessment is being carried out quarterly to find out if the child is able to

perform the tasks on his own, or if the child requires support.

Based on the assessment, parents also being informed on the performance of the child and the Anganwadi worker also takes care of the child to bring further improvement in the performance of the child.

Pre-school assessment is being made online from 2024-2025. An online module in TNICDS application has been developed with the domains of development for the children in the age group of 2-3 years, 3-4 years, and 3-5 years. The assessment of the children will be on quarterly basis. Based on the assessment, further interventions will be done in coordination with the line departments. Monitoring will be done at the District and the State level. Key Performance Indicators have been developed for the

ranking the centres based on the assessment of the children. This process will help in identifying the children with developmental delays and address their needs in an effective manner.

#### **4.16 Training**

- Tamil Nadu ICDS has the unique feature of having a State Training Institute (STI) exclusively for ICDS, which imparts training to Block Level and District Level Officers of ICDS and line departments. From 2003 onwards, Government of India has authorized the State Training Institute to conduct Job Training Course (JTC) to Child Development Project Officers (CDPO) and Instructors of Anganwadi Worker Training Centres (Supervisors Grade-I) of the State.
- Tamil Nadu follows a decentralised pattern of training. In Tamil Nadu residential training programmes are conducted in respect of Job training for Child Development Project Officers and Supervisors at State Training

Institute, Taramani which is attached hostel facilities.

- Smart Class Rooms are available within the campus for effective training.
- The Block Training Team comprising of Child Development Project Officers, Supervisors Grade-I and representatives from Health and Family Welfare as well as School Education Departments are involved in conducting job training for the Anganwadi workers and orientation training to Anganwadi helpers in the sector level.
- Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices and first golden 1000 days are included as the most crucial components in the training programme of field functionaries to equip their knowledge on importance of nutrition and health from the day of conception to two years of a child and on feeding practices for children.
- In coordination with UNICEF, training on Social Behaviour and Communication Change has been given to officials at district and block level to identify Master level trainers.

- The Master level trainers are involved in the training of field functionaries to enable them to bring about desired results through Social Behaviour and Communication Change among the targeted beneficiaries.
- Orientation training is conducted at regular intervals for workers, supervisors and officials which helps them to update their knowledge as per the current requirements.
- Training to field functionaries on growth monitoring and to sort out technical issues is also being carried out on a routine basis.

#### **4.17 Aadhaar Enrolment in ICDS**

As per the Government of India guidelines, the Government have notified the Director cum Mission Director, Integrated Child Development Services as Registrar under Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) for Aadhaar enrolment towards enrolment of adhaar for the children in the age group of 0-5+ years and 434 Child Development Project

Offices in Tamil Nadu are notified as Aadhaar enrolment agencies for the enrolment of Aadhaar for the children in the age group of 0-5+ years in the line with the norms of Information Technology Department. Aadhaar enrolment kits (child & Adult kits) have been distributed to all the 434 Child Development Project Offices to enable the enrolment activities of children and mother beneficiaries. 98.08% of child beneficiaries in Poshan Tracker have been enrolled with Aadhaar numbers. 4,32,791 Child beneficiaries have been enrolled during the year 2023 - 2024.

## **4.18 Welfare of Anganwadi Employees**

### **4.18.1 Salary Details**

The Anganwadi employees working in 54,449 Anganwadi centres are provided with special time scale of pay as detailed below as per 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission recommendations:-



S. NO	Designation	Scale of Pay	Total Salary	GoI Share	State Share	Additional State Share	Total State Share
1	Anganwadi Worker	Rs.7,700-24,200	13,510	2,700	1,800	9,010	10,810
2	Mini Anganwadi Worker	Rs.5,700-18,000	10,510	2,100	1,400	7,010	8,410
3	Anganwadi Helper	Rs.4,100-12,500	8,110	1,350	900	5,860	6,760

#### **4.18.2 Other Allowances details with salary**

Allowances like Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance, Medical Allowance, Hill Allowance and Winter Allowance are provided to Anganwadi employees along with annual increment.

#### **4.18.3 Summer holidays for Anganwadi Employees**

Summer holidays are being granted to Anganwadi centres from 2023.

#### **4.18.4 Retirement Benefits for Anganwadi Employees**

- Anganwadi helper retirement age has been increased from 58 to 60 years.
- The Anganwadi worker and Anganwadi helper are eligible for lump sum grant at the time of retirement, Rs.1,00,000/- is being paid to Anganwadi worker and Rs.50,000/- is being paid to Anganwadi helper with effect from 01.10.2017, Anganwadi employee are paid monthly special pension Rs.2,000/- with effect from 01.10.2017
- Family Benefit Fund of Rs.5.00 lakhs is being given to the family of deceased Anganwadi employees.
- Special General Provident Fund Scheme is being implemented for Anganwadi employee since 2015.
- On medical grounds, the Anganwadi employees are permitted to go on Voluntary Retirement with all retirement benefits.

#### **4.18.5 Appointment on Compassionate grounds**

Women legal heir of Anganwadi employees who died while in service are appointed in

Anganwadi centres on compassionate grounds based on their eligibility.

#### **4.18.6 Promotion**

- Mini Anganwadi workers who have completed 5 years of service are promoted as Main Anganwadi worker
- Anganwadi helpers who have completed 10 years of service are promoted as Main Anganwadi worker.
- Main Anganwadi Worker is further promoted based on their seniority to Supervisor Grade II / Women Welfare Officer (W).

#### **4.18.7 Other Benefits for Anganwadi Employees**

- Anganwadi Employees are granted 180 days of maternity leave for up to two live births.
- Monthly conveyance allowance of Rs.2000/- or Rs. 2500/- is being granted to the Differently abled Anganwadi Employees.
- Every year, all Anganwadi Employees are provided with two sets of uniform sarees along with waist coat.
- Anganwadi Employees are enrolled in Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana insurance schemes to assist their families in

case of unexpected accidents or loss of life due to accidents. The annual premium amount is transferred to their salary accounts.

## **Conclusion**

Integrated Child Development Services Programme is one of the most ambitious and comprehensive child development schemes for enhancing health, nutrition and learning opportunities for children under 6 years and their mothers, by simultaneously providing all the requisite services at the village level.

The Integrated Child Development Services Programme has shown tremendous impact in not only providing nutrition for children, and promoting preschool non-formal education but also breaking the vicious cycle of malnutrition, morbidity, reduced learning capacity, and mortality. The department is working to achieve the Government of Tamil Nadu's aspiration to make

Anganwadis the best platform for the promotion of healthy nutrition practices and preschool education to achieve a **“Malnutrition-free Tamil Nadu”**.

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## **CHAPTER – 5**

### **CHILDREN WELFARE AND SPECIAL SERVICES**

The Department of Children Welfare and Special Services has taken proactive initiatives towards the care, protection and rehabilitation of children. The State has constructed a framework that requires implementation and monitoring mechanisms to adhere to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. Though the Institutions have child friendly environment within child care institutions to facilitate the holistic growth and development of every child, the major objective is to ensure that children remain with the family or family based alternative care. The institutionalization of children is deemed as the last resort. Various action plans have been developed and implemented to address child related issues.

With the establishment of reformatory school as early as 1887, the state is a pioneer in activities for the protection and development of children. The Madras Children Act was enacted in 1920. The Department was separated from the Prison Department in 1947 and renamed as Department of Approved Schools and Vigilance Service.

The nomenclature of the Department has changed over the years as:

1958	Department of Approved Schools and Vigilance Service
1975	Department of Correctional Administration
1981	Department of Approved Schools and Vigilance Service
1990	Department of Social Defence
2024	Department of Children Welfare and Special Services

The Department has developed and implemented follow up programs and after care services for facilitating self-sustainability for children leaving Institutional Care.

The Department of Children Welfare and Special Services implements the following laws and programs to fulfill the statutory obligations of children and women for their overall growth and development.

**Legislations:-**

- i. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
- ii. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
- iii. The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005
- iv. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956



### **Schemes/Programmes: -**

- i. Mission Vatsalya Scheme (Child Protection Services Scheme)
- ii. Ujjawala Scheme
- iii. Child Helpline Services (1098)
- iv. Financial Assistance through Juvenile Justice Fund
- v. Formal and Non-formal education
- vi. Vocational Training and Skill-development Programmes
- vii. Children Educational Tour Scheme
- viii. Psycho-Social support for children
- ix. De-Addiction Programme

### **5.1 The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015**

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 aims at providing 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 a legal framework to deal with children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. The Government of Tamil Nadu has framed the Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017 under the above Act and lastly amended in 2024.

### **5.1.1 Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP)**

Children in need of care and protection generally means children without any home or settled place of abode or mentally ill or physically challenged or children having no one to look after, children whose parents are unfit /incapacitated abandoned, missing, runaway, street children, working children, abused or children who are vulnerable for drug addiction or sexual abuse or victims of natural calamities and as mentioned in

section 2 (14) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

#### **5.1.1.1 Child Welfare Committees**

Child Welfare Committees are constituted under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 to take cognizance of matters relating to the care, protection, treatment and development of children in need of care and protection. The Child Welfare Committee consists of a chairperson and four other members (of whom atleast one shall be a woman). The Child Welfare Committee adopts a child-friendly procedure and ensure the best interest of children in all its proceedings. The Committee functions as a Bench with the powers conferred on a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the First Class as per the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.

The Government has constituted 36 Child Welfare Committees. The District Collector addresses all grievances of the Child Welfare Committee. 22,751 cases have been handled by these Committees during the year 2023-2024.

**A sum of Rs.8.37 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **5.1.1.2 Children Homes**

Children homes have been established in the State and registered as per the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. Children who enter the Juvenile Justice System, as children in need of care and protection by the Child Welfare Committees and found after due enquiry to require institutional care and protection, are placed in Children homes for short term as well as long term care, treatment,

education, training, development and rehabilitation.

As on 31.03.2024, there are 817 Children homes functioning in the State and monitored by the Children Welfare and Special Services Department. 36 Children homes are directly run by the Government, 143 Children homes are functioning under Non-Governmental Organizations with financial assistance from Government including 6 homes for differently abled children. A maintenance grant of Rs.3,000/- per child per month is provided to the above grant receiving 143 Non-Governmental Organizations, besides expenses towards rent, water, electricity, transportation and contingencies under Mission Vatsalya Scheme. The children in the Child Care Institutions are provided with food, cloth, shelter, counselling, medical assistance, education,

vocational training, etc., for their overall development.

S. No.	Government Run Children Homes	HR & CE Run Children Homes	Grants receiving Children Homes run by NGO	Self-financing NGO run Children Homes
1	36	10	167	594

**A sum of Rs.87.17 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **5.1.1.3 Open Shelters for children in need of care and protection in urban and semi urban areas**

Open Shelters are established in urban and semi-urban areas to temporarily accommodate children in need of care and protection especially begging children, street children, rag pickers, small vendors, street performers, orphaned, deserted, trafficked and run-away children, children of

migrant population and any other vulnerable group of children. The scheme essentially targets the homeless and street children and ensures safety and protection. At present, 13 open shelters are functioning in the State, of which 11 are receiving grants from the Government. The maintenance grant of Rs.2,500/- per child per month is provided to the Non-Governmental Organizations, besides expenses towards rent, water, electricity, transportation and contingencies under Mission Vatsalya Scheme. The sanctioned strength of these homes is 348.

**A sum of Rs.1.26 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **5.1.1.4 Child Adoption**

“Adoption” is an opportunity for orphan, abandoned and surrendered children to find a family based care and to grow in the warmth of

parents. "Adoption" is a 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.

A child is to be placed in institutional care as a step of last resort, only when could not be placed in family care. The ultimate aim of adoption is to find suitable families for children and not children for families.

The Adoption of Children is governed by Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. The procedures of adoption are made online and it is uniform throughout the country.



The State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) is facilitating adoption by serving as a bridge between the Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs), Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAA) and Central Adoption Resource Authority. 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, Civil Society Groups and Public Places to create greater awareness and dissemination of information among public. Awareness programmes are being conducted among various stakeholders including health professionals to prevent illegal adoption. Periodical monitoring of Specialized Adoption Agencies and Grievance Redressal of Prospective Adoptive Parents by liaising with CARA are the important initiatives of SARA.

### **5.1.1.5 Specialized Adoption Agency (SAA)**

In Tamil Nadu, there are 26 Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) functioning to promote in-country and inter-country adoption. At present, 21 SAAs are receiving grants from the Government. These SAAs are situated in Chennai-4, Madurai-2, Salem-2 and one each in the districts of Ariyalur, Chengalpattu, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Kanyakumari, Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Thoothukudi, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Tirupathur, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore, Sivagangai and Perambalur.

The children placed in “adoption” from 1993 to March 2024 are given below: -

Sl. No	Nature of Adoption	No. of Children Placed in Adoption		Total
		Male	Female	
1	In-Country	1,987	4,824	6,811
2	Inter-Country	155	445	600
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,142</b>	<b>5,269</b>	<b>7,411</b>

The children placed in “adoption” during the year 2023-2024 (April 2023 to March 2024) are as follows: -

Sl. No.	Nature of Adoption	No. of Children in Adoption		Total
		Male	Female	
1	In-Country	162	187	349
2	Inter-Country	16	18	34
<b>Total</b>		<b>178</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>383</b>

In 1992, the Government of Tamil Nadu has implemented “Cradle baby scheme”. From 1992 till March 2024, a total of 6083 children have been provided care and support.

### **5.1.1.6 Financial Assistance through Juvenile Justice Fund**

The Government have created “The Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice Fund” with a corpus of Rs.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 any regular Government schemes. The funds have been applied to facilitate education, health, training, sports, raw material or capital requirement for income generating activities.

### **5.1.1.7 Assistance to the children of incarcerated parents**

The Government provides care and protection to the children of incarcerated parents also. The children of this category receive

assistance such as sponsorship, education, foster care. In some cases, they are being provided with accommodation in the Child Care Institutions run by Government. A total number of 20 children have received sponsorship in the year 2022–2023 and 41 children in the year 2023-2024. 3 children have been benefitted under foster care. 23 children are accommodated in various child care institutions across the State.

#### **5.1.1.8 Sponsorship**

To enable a child to remain in the family and continue his/her education by enjoying the love and affection of parents, financial assistance of Rs.4,000/- per month is provided under the sponsorship assistance programme. Every child selected for assistance under this programme is eligible to avail the benefit upto 18 years of age. 4,849 children in the State are currently benefitting

under Centre-State sponsorship programme for the year 2023-2024.

**A sum of Rs.12.98 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025**

### **5.1.2 Children in Conflict with Law**

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, is classified as a child in conflict with law.

#### **5.1.2.1 Juvenile Justice Boards**

The Juvenile Justice Boards are statutory bodies constituted under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, for exercising the powers and to discharge their duties conferred on them in relation

to children in conflict with law. The Juvenile Justice Board consists of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the First Class with two Social Worker Members (of whom at least one shall be a woman). All proceedings of the Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) are conducted in a child friendly manner to ensure best interest of the children. The Government has constituted 33 Juvenile Justice Boards covering 38 Districts. 4,470 cases have been handled during the year 2023-2024.

**A sum of Rs.5.58 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **5.1.2.2 Observation Homes**

The Juvenile Justice System postulates establishment of Observation Homes which provides temporary reception of children in conflict with law, while their cases are pending before the

Juvenile Justice Board. In TamilNadu, there are 8 Observation Homes run by the Government. The children residing in the Observation Homes are provided with basic amenities like shelter, food, clothing, bedding and also other services like non-formal education, vocational training, medical facility and counselling as a part of their short-term rehabilitation. Surveillance and security cameras have been installed in all the Observation Homes for the enhanced safety of children. Children admitted in the Observation Homes are monitored by the Probation Officers after they are discharged from Homes. As on 31.03.2024, a total of 140 children have been placed in 8 Observation Home.

**A sum of Rs.7.95 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**



### **5.1.2.3 Special Homes**

Special Homes provide long term rehabilitation for children who are committed to such homes by the Juvenile Justice Board, after due process of law. These children are accommodated in these homes for not more than 3 years and long-term rehabilitation programs are provided. Special Homes provide services like education, vocational training, counselling and facilities for co-curricular activities. There are two Government Special Homes, one at Chennai for girls and the other at Chengalpattu for boys. Children having potential skills and interested in self-employment are assisted with financial support under the Juvenile Justice Fund for procuring tools and equipment for establishing self-employment and to attain self-sustainability. As on 31.03.2024, a total of 24 children have been placed in Special Homes.

**A sum of Rs.3.19 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **5.1.2.4 Place of Safety**

Place of Safety is meant for children in conflict with law between the age of 16 and 18 years and are accused of or convicted for committing a heinous offence. A person above the age of 18 years but had committed an offence before attaining the age of 18 years is also admitted in these homes. These children / persons are placed in "Place of Safety" by the Juvenile Justice Board or the Children's Court upto the maximum age of 21 years. In Tamil Nadu, Place of safety is established at Vellore and Chengalpattu for boys. These children / persons are provided with reformatory services including education, counselling, behaviour modification etc., during their stay in the Place of Safety. The Government

have also issued orders recognizing a portion of Government Observation Home for Boys and Girls at Madurai as a Place of Safety exclusively for girls. As on 31.03.2024, a total of 35 children have been placed in Place of Safety.

**A sum of Rs.74.32 Lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **5.1.3 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 mandates the registration of all Child Care Institutions under the Act. The Child Care Institutions functioning without registration are liable for legal punishment. The registration to Child Care Institutions is accorded based on the minimum standards prescribed under the Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice Rules, 2017, such as space

for dormitory, building stability, building license, fire safety, sanitation etc. As on 31.03.2024, 859 Child Care Institutions have been registered, [Homes for Children in Need of Care and Protection-846 (Children Homes-807, Open Shelters-13 & Specialized Adoption Agencies-26) and Homes for Children in Conflict with Law-13 (Observation Homes-8, Special Homes-2, Places of Safety-3)] and around 27,007 children are accommodated in these registered Child Care Institutions. All registration process is completely online and is being done through CPIMMS Portal of the Department.

#### **5.1.4 Inspection and Monitoring of Child Care Institution**

The Government have constituted State Level Inspection Committee (SLIC) and District Level Inspection Committees (DLICs) to effectively monitor the functioning of all Child Care

Institutions and to ensure prescribed standards of care and protection, in addition to the already existing inspection bodies such as Juvenile Justice Boards, Child Welfare Committees and District Child Protection Units. The **State Level Inspection Committee** has been constituted under the chairpersonship of the Director of Children Welfare and Special Services / Secretary, State Child Protection Society. The District Level Inspection Committees have been constituted under the chairpersonship of District Collectors with District Child Protection Officer as Member Secretary and four members from among Child Welfare Committee / Juvenile Justice Board, Medical Officer, Psychologist and a representative of Non-Governmental Organization.

### **5.1.5 After Care Organizations**

After Care services are provided to children having no family or any other care taker while

leaving institutional care on attaining 18 years of age, so as to sustain themselves during the transition from institutional care to independent life. The Government is running After Care Institution for Boys at Athur (Chengalpattu) and Madurai and for Girls at Vellore with total of 9 beneficiaries. The Government provides Rs. 4,000/- per month per child to the NGO's who are providing after care services. A Non-Governmental Organization in Mayiladuthurai District is supported under Mission Vatsalya Scheme for maintaining differently abled young adults and 40 beneficiaries are housed here.

**A sum of Rs.2.18 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **5.1.6 Mission Vatsalya Scheme (Child Protection Services Scheme)**

The “Mission Vatsalya” scheme provides a framework to fulfill the mandates stipulated under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. Programmes for addressing the needs of every child have been drawn keeping in view the individual care plan of children. Monitoring and Evaluation at regular intervals is also ensured. The Department of Children Welfare and Special Services has also developed performance and management indicators to monitor the implementation of Child Protection Services at district level.

The Government have established adequate State and District level structures required under the ‘Child Protection Services’ – “Mission Vatsalya” a Centre-State shared programme. The scheme envisages care, protection, development and

rehabilitation of children by providing best possible opportunities in a comfortable environment. The effective implementation of the programme is achieved through Government, Non-Governmental and community participation by maintaining openness and transparency. Quality service delivery for children in institutions, intervention programmes for children in difficult circumstances, enhancing the safety and security of children, family-based care as an alternative to institutionalization, finding families for children, website for Child Information System and tracing out the missing children are the major components of the scheme.

#### **5.1.6.1 Service Delivery Structures under Mission Vatsalya Scheme**

The Government have established the following structures for effective implementation of Mission Vatsalya Scheme: -



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

Training of stakeholders at various levels, integrated services by liaising with various sectors including health, education, judiciary, police and labour and skill development have been done to cater to the multiple needs of children.

**A sum of Rs.30.80 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **5.1.6.2 Monitoring of Child Protection Services**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has formed new Child Protection Committees in rural as well as in urban areas to prevent incidents of Child rights violation and ensure Child Protection.

#### **A. Child Protection Committees in rural areas**

1. Village Level Child Protection Committee
2. Block Level Child Protection Committee

3. District Level Child Protection Committee

**B. Child Protection Committees in urban areas**

1. Child Protection Committee at Town Panchayat Level

2. Child Protection Committee at Municipality Level

3. Child Protection Committee at Zonal Level in Municipal Corporation

These committees render child protection services by creating awareness on child marriage, child labour, migration of children for child labour, exploitation, illegal child adoption, child protection and prevent children from sexual offences, increase of child sex ratio by reducing female foeticide and infanticide etc.

To reduce and combat the incidences of child rights violation and to professionally conduct the meetings at village level, the State Child Protection Society in collaboration with UNICEF has brought out a hand book setting out the guiding principles

to be adhered and devised a format for documenting the discussions and decisions taken during the meeting. Capacity building programmes had been organized for the Child Protection Committees (CPCs) to handle child protection issues at rural and urban areas.

At present CPCs have been constituted and 13,518 meetings have been conducted. During this year,

- District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) have intervened 9,777 child related cases.
- 10 trainings conducted at the State level in which 718 stakeholders have been trained.
- 105 trainings conducted at the District level for 10,330 child protection functionaries and stakeholders.
- Thousands of awareness programmes were conducted to reach children.

## **5.2 The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act,2012**

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO Act, 2012) was formulated in order to effectively address sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and safeguarding interest and wellbeing of the child at every stage. It provides for protection of children from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography. It also provides for stringent punishment which is inflicted as per the gravity of offences. The punishment ranges from simple to rigorous imprisonment of varying period. There is also provision for fine, which is decided by the court.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 envisages compensation to victims of sexual offences as a measure of addressing their rehabilitation needs.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has created the **“Tamil Nadu Child Victim Compensation Fund”** under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 in order to provide financial assistance as a compensation for the rehabilitation of child victims of sexual offences. So far, 2,445 Children have been benefitted under this scheme at a cost of Rs.44.99 crore.

**A sum of Rs.25.00 Crore has been allotted in Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **5.3 The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005**

The Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights has been constituted as per the section 17 (1) of Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 for monitoring the effective

implementation of Child Welfare related Acts in force. The Commission has been functioning with a Chairperson and six Members with effect from 18.01.2013.

The Main objective of this Commission is monitoring the implementation of child related legislations that are in force in order to ensure the protection and welfare of the children at the optimum level and to give suggestions to the Government.

Activities of the Commission are

- To monitor / supervise the active implementation of Child related legislations.
- To get relevant documents relating to the violation of child rights issues from police and other Departments.
- To recommend to the competent authority to take necessary and immediate remedial steps towards violation of child rights after making necessary enquiries.

- To create awareness to the General Public about child rights.
- To take necessary action against child rights violations based on complaints received from general public, media, NGO and suo-motu cognizance of the cases.
- To conduct Training / Convening programme to Government / Non-Governmental bodies with respect to child rights.

This Commission has dealt 4,865 cases under the following child rights related acts from 18.01.2013 to 31.03.2024.

1	The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015	1786
2	The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006	458
3	The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009	928
4	The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012	1513
5	The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986	180

**A sum of Rs. 87.80 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **5.4 The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956**

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 had been enacted to combat trafficking and sexual exploitation of women for commercial sexual purposes. The Act provides for institutional care facilities for short- and long-term rehabilitation of victims by providing education, training and skill development.

##### **5.4.1 Vigilance/Protective Homes**

Vigilance / Protective homes provide residential care facilities for women in moral danger. Women victims are being admitted in these homes as per the orders issued by the courts under the provisions of Immoral Traffic



(Prevention) Act, 1956. In these homes, services like residential care, medical treatment, counselling and vocational training are provided to inmates as part of their rehabilitation. A financial assistance of Rs.10,000/- is provided to the victims under "Victim Relief Fund".

The State Government is maintaining five Government Vigilance / Protective Homes each in Chennai, Madurai, Salem, Coimbatore and Trichy for the rehabilitation of women victims of trafficking under Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. Free legal assistance has been extended to women victims admitted in these institutions.

**A sum of Rs. 5.26 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **5.4.2 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. It is a comprehensive scheme for Prevention of Trafficking, Rescue, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. There are 3 Non-Governmental Organizations implementing this scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu.

**A sum of Rs.1.14 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025**

## **5.5 Financial assistance under Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund (CMPRF) and various welfare measures for Children who had lost their parents due to COVID-19.**

- i. The Government of Tamil Nadu firmly believes that the growth of a country depends on the development and welfare of its children. In extra-ordinary circumstances and times of natural calamities and pandemic, it always evolves a system of hand holding to keep them safe. As such, 382 children who had lost both their parents due to COVID-19 have been provided with a sum of Rs.5.00 lakh per child and the same has been deposited in the name of child at a total expenditure of Rs.19.10 crore. A maintenance grant of Rs.3,000/- per month for these children at a total cost of Rs.234.87 lakh has been provided to grow in family circumstances until attain the 18 years of age. Further, as immediate relief a sum of Rs.3 lakh per child has been given to the 13,682 children who had lost one of their parent due to COVID-19 at a total cost of Rs.410.46 crore from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund. Action has

been taken to give priority for these children in all Government welfare schemes and to bear the cost of their education so as to ensure their continued education.

- ii. Preference shall be given for admission in Government / Government aided Homes and Hostels for children who had lost both the parents.
- iii. All the expenditure including educational fees and hostel fees shall be borne by the Government up to their graduation for children who had lost both the parents.
- iv. Priority shall be given in all the Government schemes, to all these children as well as to the husband or wife who had lost their spouse due to COVID-19 and living with their children.

District Level Committees have been constituted to monitor the financial assistance provided to each child, their progress in education, care, protection and development.

The Government have also extended these benefits to the Srilankan refugees.

## **5.6 Special Initiatives taken by the Government for Children and Women**

### **(a) Tamil Nadu State Policy for Children**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has brought out "**Tamil Nadu State Policy for Children - 2021**" for ensuring care, protection, growth and development of children in an enjoyable environment. Key indicators had been developed in consultation with the line departments for each parameter.

### **(b) Rehabilitation Policy for children in street situations**

The Government have formulated "Rehabilitation Policy for Children in Street Situations, 2022". The main objective of the policy is to take steps for identification and rescue of children in street situations and to recommend suitable measures for effective rehabilitation in accordance to their prevailing situation. It also

provides a plan for reporting and monitoring of children in street situations and to establish an effective coordination of stakeholders in other States for further follow-up.

**(c) Integrated Training Centre for Social Empowerment (ITCSE)**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has established a training centre to serve as a model to advance equity and inclusivity by creating women and child protection system through workforce development, evidence-based research, enhance multi sectoral convergence and establish partnerships with public and private sectors. In addition, the services are extended to other Directorates under the Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment in the areas of Child and Women welfare, protection, rights and development. An Integrated Training Centre for

Social Empowerment building is being established at a cost of Rs.27.00 crore in Chengalpattu District.

A total of 1,128 stakeholders working in the area of Child Protection in the State of Tamil Nadu have been trained through ITCSE in 2023- 2024.

#### **(d) Career Guidance Centre**

Children admitted in Child Care Institutions usually hail from socially and economically disadvantaged back ground. The poor educational background of parents, unhealthy living conditions and poverty does not enable children to get a helping hand from the family at times of distress. Hence for providing necessary assistance for their employment and economic development, "**Career Guidance Centre**" is functioning in six districts of the state.

**A sum of Rs.45.00 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

**(e) Conducting a State Level Annual Sports and Cultural Meet**

To identify the potentials of children and encourage children to have skills and talent, the Government is conducting a State Level Annual Sports and Cultural Meet at a cost of Rs.25.00 lakh for the children in 36 Government Children Homes as well as Children Homes receiving financial assistance from Government under the Department of Children Welfare and Special Services every year since 2017.

**A sum of Rs.25.00 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

A sum of Rs.2.75 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025 to procure



sports materials for children in the child care institutions to have regular sports activities.

## **5.7 Other Schemes**

### **5.7.1 Formal and Non-Formal Education**

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

An Aptitude based need and career assessment for children from 33 Government run Child care institutions for Children in need of care and protection was done, where 642 children were assessed based on their aptitude, career aspiration and mental wellbeing. Individual career

profiles were generated for these children which included likely career options based on the assessment.

### **5.7.2 Vocational Training and Skill Development Programmes**

In order to improve the skills of children, modernized vocational trainings are imparted in tailoring, dress making, AC mechanic, fast food preparation, plumbing, water purifier servicing, basic computer application, bakery etc., as short term courses. 45 ex-inmates of Government Children Home are admitted in Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife (ANM) Training Conducted by Public Health and Preventive Medicine Department.

The Department of Children Welfare and Special Services has developed a **Basic Training Module** for positively engaging children and improving their potentials while they are in the Institutions. This training module which consists of

sessions on health and hygiene, life skills, sex education, awareness on ill effects of addiction, social values and conflict resolution, communication skills, basic computer skills, theatre, music, singing, dancing, photography, apart from sports activities has been introduced in Government Observation Homes, Special Homes and Place of Safety. Volunteer organizations and individuals having experience in working with children are identified as resource person for implementation of Basic Training Module.

**A sum of Rs.37.64 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **5.7.3 Children Educational Tour Scheme**

The Government of Tamil Nadu implemented the Educational Tour Scheme to

provide opportunities to gain educational knowledge from outside of institutions to the Children of 36 Government Child Care Institutions of the Department of Children Welfare and Special Services every year.

**A sum of Rs.10.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

#### **5.7.4 Psycho-Social support for Children**

The causative factors for children committing crimes are complex. The childhood psychological traumas, peer influence, hatred towards community are some of the mentionable factors. On the other hand, children admitted into children homes often suffer from lack of parental care and helplessness. These factors subject them to emotional and psychological problems. In order to overcome the psychological issues and to have a

positive approach, the Government has provided counseling services to both children in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection in Government Child Care Institutions through professional counselors. 3,781 children have benefitted under this programme during the year 2023-2024.

**A sum of Rs.64.78 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **5.8 Child Help Line (CHL) Services (1098)**

**CHILD HELP LINE (1098)** is a 24x7 toll free emergency number for children who need care and protection. Any person who comes across the children in crisis and need immediate help or children themselves can call 1098 for immediate rescue or guidance. The CHILD HELP LINE services have been functioning since 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 under Tamil Nadu Government. Currently, Child Help

Line services are functional across the State in all the 38 Districts and in addition, Child Help Desk (CHD) is functional at 14 major railway stations and 1 bus station to rescue children who come in contact with railways and bus station in Tamil Nadu. 21,354 interventional telephone calls were assisted under the service from 01.08.2023 to 31.03.2024.

**A sum of Rs. 5.51 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025**

## **5.9 Child Protection Information**

### **Management and Monitoring System (CPIMMS)**

Government have issued orders for the development of new portal namely "Child Protection Information Management and Monitoring System" at a cost of Rs.65.00 lakh to

have a reliable data on the protection and development of children, sharing of information among various service providers, strengthen and monitor child care services and understand the real time implementation of programmes under the Juvenile Justice System. The website for Child Protection Information Management and Monitoring System is functioning with effect from 10.09.2022 (<https://dsdcpimms.tn.gov.in>). The online system is user friendly and helps to monitor the progress of children at every stage. The data is being maintained electronically for easy access and management.

### **5.10 Individual Care Plan**

The Individual Care plan is developed for all the children who are staying in Child Care Institutions, in order to assess the progress, design intervention strategies in institutions and to plan effectively for the rehabilitation, restoration with

family and reintegration of children into society. Periodical training has been given to the staff of Child Care Institutions functioning in the State for preparing quality Individual Care Plan. The department in collaboration with UNICEF has brought out an animation video and a booklet to train the functionaries to professionally draw an Individual Care Plan, so as to effectively utilize the available resources.

### **5.11 De-addiction Centre for children**

De-addiction Centre for children addresses the problem of addiction to drugs and substances among children especially those in conflict with law. The Government of Tamil Nadu had established de-addiction centres exclusively for children and implemented through Non-Governmental Organizations in Chengalpattu, Madurai, Namakkal, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirapalli and 2 in Chennai. In these centers, steps are taken to



rehabilitate the children who are addicted to various drugs by providing free treatment and counseling. 427 children had benefitted under this programme during the year 2023-2024. Five more centres have been sanctioned at Coimbatore, Tanjore, Vellore, Salem and Cuddalore districts.

**A sum of Rs. 1.46 Crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025.**

### **5.12 Deaddiction centres**

There are 24 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres (IRCAS) functioning in the State to provide in patient and out patient treatment to addicts of alcohol and substances. These centres spread over in 21 district and run by NGOs with financial assistance from Government of India. 19 centres have 15 bedded facility and the rest 2 centres are equipped with 30 beds.

### **5.12.1 Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan**

Awareness programmes on ill effects of alcohol and substances have been organized especially among school/college students, Lorry /Truck drivers, Construction labourers, self help groups etc., 20 Non Governmental Organisations have been identified to take up the programme in 20 districts at a cost of Rs.10.00 lakh per districts under Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan Programme of the Government of India.

### **5.12.2 Training of Teachers on Drug Abuse Prevention**

Preventive Education Awareness Generation in on ill effects of alcohol and drugs among children in Government run Child Care Institutions, and capacity building of teaching staff in early identification of children addicted to alcohol and substances is being taken up at a cost of Rs.61.15 lakh under National Action Plan on Drug Demand Reduction Programme of the Government of India.

### **5.13 Probation System**

Probation is an effective tool under the Juvenile Justice System for early rehabilitation and restoration with the participation of children at every stage. The Probation Officers are assigned with preparation of Social Investigation Reports to assist the Child Welfare Committees as well as Juvenile Justice Boards.

The reports throw light on the personal and family history of children and help the Child Welfare Committee and Juvenile Justice Board 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. The Department of Children Welfare and Special Services has one Probation Officer each in 32 Districts. In Chennai, 3 Probation Officers are additionally appointed

due to high volume of cases. Periodic review meetings are held by the Department of Children Welfare and Special Services to ensure that proper rehabilitation measures are provided to the children at the earliest.

### **5.14 Convergence with other Departments for Child Protection**

Child protection is the task that requires coordination between various departments. The Department of Children Welfare and Special Services coordinates the implementation of multidisciplinary services for children in various sectors. It ensures the care and protection of all the children with the effective co-ordination with line Departments such as Social Welfare, Education Department, Labour Welfare, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, National Child Labour Project, Railway Police, Revenue Department, Integrated Child Development Services, Rural Development, Municipal Administration, Medical and Health,

Police, Judiciary, Department for the Welfare of Differently Abled, Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation etc.,

At District Level, District Child Protection Committee meetings are conducted periodically under the Chairmanship of District Collector to plan and address the issues related to child protection.

Appropriate actions are taken for the rescue and rehabilitation in cases of sexual abuse, child marriage, child trafficking, child begging, physical and mental abuses and child labour. Awareness campaigns are conducted on regular basis at District Level.

## **CHAPTER -6**

### **6.1 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to achieve sustainable development across economic, social, and environmental dimensions in a balanced and integrated manner. To monitor progress towards these goals, 17 aspirational goals with 169 targets have been established.

NITI Aayog has been tasked with coordinating with states for SDG localization, including developing indicator frameworks at the state, district, and panchayat levels, as well as implementing review mechanisms and capacity-building initiatives.

An attached office of NITI Aayog has been mandated to actively monitor and evaluate scheme implementation through an Output Outcome

Monitoring Framework to enhance effectiveness and ensure proper outreach.

Eight thematic working groups have been established to review and monitor progress towards the set targets. These groups regularly convene meetings with relevant stakeholders to brainstorm and implement suitable measures for achieving targets at the panchayat, district, and state levels.

Oversight of SDG implementation in Tamil Nadu is entrusted to a High-Power Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary to the Government.

## **Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**

### **Targets for Goal 5**

#### **5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.**

- 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.**
- 5.3: Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.**
- 5.4: Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.**
- 5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.**



**5.6: Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conference.**

Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls should commence from birth and continue throughout their entire life cycle. Societies must strive to guarantee their survival, protection, and empowerment. Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aims to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls and ensure their equal access to health and education, equal opportunities for

employment, and equal rights to economic resources.

In Tamil Nadu, the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department serves as the Nodal Department for Goal 5 on Gender Equality. The state government implements various schemes to achieve this goal, focusing on ensuring the rights and well-being of women and girls. The following schemes are designed to address the nine targets and fourteen indicators outlined under Goal 5 of the SDGs.

**Children Welfare Schemes:**

- I. Cradle Baby Scheme
- II. The Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme
- III. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme
- IV. Child Help Line (1098).
- V. Juvenile Justice Act, 2015
- VI. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006

- VII. Prevention of Children from Sexual Offence Act, 2013
- VIII. State level awards for best services towards Children
- IX. Regular and periodical Health checkups for children and Adolescents
- X. Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme
- XI. Nutritious Meal Programme
- XII. Integrated Child Development Schemes Services

**Women Welfare Schemes:**

- I. All Women Police Stations (AWPS)
- II. Women Help Line (181), Cyber Crime Help Line (1930)
- III. Mobile Applications Such as Kavalan App, Kaval Udhavi App by Police Department
- IV. 48 One Stop Centers
- V. Seven Service Homes
- VI. 33 SwadharGreh

- VII. Free travel facilities
- VIII. The Working Women Hostels
- IX. Women Tailoring Industrial Cooperative Societies
- X. The State has reserved 50% seats for women in local bodies and 33% reservation for women in employment.
- XI. State level awards for best services towards Women
- XII. Nutritious Health kit, continuous health checkups during pregnancy, Maternity Benefit scheme to pregnant women
- XIII. Equal rights to daughters on parental properties
- XIV. To facilitate higher education among girl children who studied in Government/Government aided Tamil medium School, Rs.1000 per month is provided through Pudumai Penn Scheme

- XV. Effective implementation of Social Legislations
  - 1. Dowry Prohibition Act 1961
  - 2. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005
  - 3. Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children Act 2014
  - 4. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013
- XVI. Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women
- XVII. Widow and Destitute Women Welfare Board
- XVIII. State Policy for Women
- XIX. Social Security Pension Schemes
- XX. Gender Budget Cells

**Senior Citizen Welfare Schemes and Policies:**

- I. Old age Pension
- II. Old age homes / Integrated Complexes

- III. Old Age Policy
- IV. Mobile Medicare units
- V. Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizen Act, 2007
- VI. State Policy for Senior Citizens
- VII. Social Security Pension Schemes

Transgender Welfare Activities:

- I. Transgender Pension Rs.1500/- (*per month*)
- II. Free travel facility
- III. Rs.50,000/- as grant for economic activities
- IV. Mobile App for registration
- V. Identity card, Health card, Ration card
- VI. House site patta
- VII. Transgender Tailoring Society
- VIII. Transgender (Right / Protection) Act, 2019
- IX. Transgender Education Dream Project
- X. Best Transgender Award

The department's welfare programs are dedicated to advancing Goal 5 of the Sustainable

Development Goals, with a particular focus on promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls. In formulating future schemes, paramount importance will be placed on aligning with Goal 5 targets, thereby contributing significantly to the realization of a more equitable and inclusive society.

## **Sustainable Development Goals- ICDS**

The Department of Integrated Child Development Services is one of the departments that address Goals 2 and 4. ICDS runs AWCs to fulfil the nutritional needs of children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years Pregnant and Lactating mothers adolescent girls in the age group of 14 – 18 in two aspirational districts. ICDS has taken several efforts through policy implementation & schematic interventions to achieve SDG targets by 2030.

Goal No.2 aims to end hunger, achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable growth. The Department strives to tackle all forms of malnutrition and its effects such as stunting and wasting 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 14 – 49 years.

- Around 28.52 lakhs beneficiaries are covered under Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP). Roughly about 1000 crores expenditure is incurred every year.



- Around 42,000 adolescent girls in the age group of 14- 18 years in two aspirational districts namely Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar are covered under Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) by which they are provided with supplementary nutrition.
- Introduction of Fortified foods, BIS standard Sathu Mavu, Fortified Biscuit to Severely Malnourished children, Hot Cooked Meal along with Eggs etc, have brought down the prevalence of under nutrition and micronutrient deficiency in children and women and is lower than the national average.

National Family Health Survey				
Indicator	NFHS-4 (2016)		NFHS-5 (2019-21)	
	All India	Tamil Nadu	All India	Tamil Nadu
Stunting (%)	38.4	27.1	35.5	25
Wasting (%)	21	19.7	19.3	14.6
Underweight (%)	35.7	23.8	32.1	22
Children age 6-59 months who are Anaemic (%)	58.6	50.7	67.1	57.4

- Under the introduction of “Uttasatthai uruthi sei” programme, RUTF and Nutri kits were provided to severely malnourished children and to their mothers as a special Nutrition Intervention Programme. Due to this initiative around 74% of the children have been brought out of malnutrition status.
- Tracking of Low Birth Weight Children from PICME application, monitoring the growth of children and entering the data in Poshan Tracker application for real time monitoring have improved the nutritional status of the children on the whole.

Goal No.4 aims to provide quality education to children. Department aims to provide early childhood care and education for the physical, language, cognitive and socio-emotional development of the children attending Anganwadi Centres. This helps in preparing the children for school readiness. Tamil Nadu has invested a lot in improving the quality of children’s early

educational, so that high quality preschool learning makes a child school ready, with greater chances of academic success, faster adjustment to school and reduced behavioural problems.

- Around 12 lakh children in the age group of 2 to 6 years are enrolled in anganwadi centres for preschool education.
- Aadi Paadi Vilaiyadu Pappa (APVP), a age appropriate curriculum developed by the State Government is being conducted in all anganwadi centres daily for 4 hours.
- Age wise activity books, preschool kit materials, uniform to children, assessment card, School Leaving Certificate are some of the special initiatives.
- Anganwadi Workers have been trained on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

The Department focuses on formulation and implementation of welfare schemes towards achieving holistic development and upliftment of women and achieving SDG Targets and Indicators.

## **CHAPTER-7**

### **Social Security Pension Schemes**

#### **7.1. Social Security Schemes:**

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing Social Security Pension Schemes to protect the vulnerable sections of the society. i.e., old aged persons, differently abled persons, widows, agricultural labourers, farmers, destitute / deserted wives and unmarried, poor, incapacitated women of age of 50 years and above, who are destitute and poor. From 01.01.2023, an amount of Rs.1,500/- is being paid to all the eligible differently abled beneficiaries.

The monthly pension for the beneficiaries under other pension schemes (excluding disability pension schemes) has been increased to Rs.1,200/- from August-2023. The allocation has been increased substantially up to Rs.5337.18 crore in

2023-24. As on 31.03.2024, 34,90,969 beneficiaries were included under various schemes as detailed below:-

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Schemes</b>	<b>No. of beneficiaries as on 31.03.2024</b>
<b>1</b>	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme	14,18,073
<b>2</b>	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme	62,109
<b>3</b>	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme	5,08,042
<b>4</b>	Differently Abled Pension Scheme	4,39,178
<b>5</b>	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme	6,67,036
<b>6</b>	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Patukappu Thittam	2,48,262
<b>7</b>	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme	1,18,407

<b>8</b>	Un-married Women Pension Scheme	25,542
<b>9</b>	Srilankan Pension Schemes	4,320
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34,90,969</b>

**Table-7.12**  
**Funding Pattern–Union and State share**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Name of the Scheme</b>	<b>Union Government Contribution</b>	<b>State Government Contribution</b>
1.	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	Rs.200/-	Rs.1000/-
		Rs.500/-	Rs.700/-
2.	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)	Rs.300/-	Rs.1200/-
3.	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	Rs.300/-	Rs.900/-

4.	Differently Abled Pension Scheme (DAPS)	-	Rs.1500/-
5.	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme (DWPS)	-	Rs.1200/-
6.	Chief Minister's UzhavarPadhukappu Thittam (CMUPT)	-	Rs.1200/-
7	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWPS)	-	Rs.1200/-
8	Pension to Poor Unmarried Women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	-	Rs.1200/
9	Pension to Srilankan Refugees (OAP, DWP, DDWP)	-	Rs.1200/
10	Pension to Srilankan Refugees (DAPS)	-	Rs.1500/-

## **7.2 Online web application for applying for Social Security Pensions Scheme :**

Revenue Department has implemented a simple one - page format that can be submitted online by those who seek pension under any Social security scheme. The applications are forwarded to



the concerned revenue authorities by the system for verification. After verification, the eligible cases are forwarded to the Tahsildar (SSS), for scrutiny and sanction of pension. Pension is sanctioned by Tahsildar (SSS) for the eligible petitioner.

**Other benefits to the Pensioners:**

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

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

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

Further, 5 Kgs of rice are distributed to the

beneficiaries under Social Security Schemes as per  
Food Security Act, 2013.

## **Chapter -8**

### **Social Reforms Department**

#### **Creation of Department - An Introduction**

For improving Communal harmony and enhance Social amity, Social Reforms Department was created in 1999 based on the decision taken in the meeting of all party leaders convened under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Muthamizh Arignar Dr. Kalaignar on October 1998. This department was merged with Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department in the year 2002, and as per the announcement of the then Hon'ble Chief Minister Muthamizh Arignar Dr. Kalaignar, this department was being revived and functioning since 2006.

#### **Constitution of Social Justice Monitoring Committee**

The Hon'ble Chief Minister had announced during the occasion of the centenary day of the

Social Justice that "**Social Justice Monitoring Committee**" will be constituted. For implementing the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, "**Social Justice Monitoring Committee**" was constituted in the year 2021 comprising of Chairman and seven members.

### **Extension of tenure of the Committee**

Considering the performance of the Social Justice Monitoring Committee for the past two years and in order to achieve the objectives of the Committee, the term of office comprising of present Chairman and members has been extended for further period of 2 years as per G.O.(Ms) No. 07, Social Reforms Department, dated 27.11.2023.

### **Objectives of Social Justice Monitoring Committee**

The Social Justice Monitoring Committee will monitor as to whether the yardsticks of social justice have been fully followed in Education, Employment, Posts, Promotions and Appointments. The Committee will also recommend the Government for taking appropriate action if these are not implemented properly.

### **Creation of Posts**

In order to fulfil the objectives of the Social Justice Monitoring Committee, 9 posts were created to carry out the works of the Committee and fund sanction was made for recurring and non-recurring expenditure.

The office of the Committee is functioning in 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Devaneyya Pavanar Library Building, Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002.

## **Meetings of the Committee**

So far, 11 Meetings have been conducted by the Social Justice Monitoring Committee.

## **Activities performed by the Committee for the past two years**

### **1. Inspections**

#### **(a) Visit to Universities**

The Social Justice Monitoring Committee conducted inspections in Periyar University, Bharathiyar University, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Dr. MGR Medical University during the year 2022 and University of Madras, Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University, Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Anna University and Tamil Nadu Veterinary Science University during the year 2023 and submitted its reports and recommendations to Government.

Further, the Social Justice Monitoring Committee conducted inspections in Bharathidasan University and Tamil University, Thanjavur in the current year.

### **(b) Visit to Public Sector Undertakings**

As per the resolution passed in the meeting of Social Justice Monitoring Committee regarding conducting inspections in Public Sector Undertakings, the Committee has conducted the inspection in Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board.

### **Spot Inspection on the incident of Iraiyr Venkaivayal Village**

Regarding the incident of unidentified miscreants mixed faeces into the overhead tank situated in Adi Dravidar habitation at Iraiyr Vengaivayal village, Kulathur Taluk in Pudukkottai District, the Social Justice Monitoring Committee has conducted spot inspection on 13.01.2023 and

submitted its report and recommendations to the Government on 20.01.2023.

### **3. Spot Inspection on the incident of Chennimalai, Erode District**

In Chennimalai area at Erode district, at a pastor named John Peter and his family were attacked by the 30 people during the prayer on 17.09.2023. On receiving the message regarding this incident, the Chairman of the Social Justice Monitoring Committee visited on 25.09.2023 and met the victims personally. Cases have been filed by the Police department in connection with the above incident and necessary follow up action is being taken.

### **Centenary Celebration of Kalaingar**

As per the resolution passed in the Social Justice Monitoring Committee meeting, it was decided to conduct **Centenary celebration of Kalaingar** joined with Local library authority,



Chennai. A sum of Rs.3.00 Lakh has been sanctioned for conducting the programme of centenary celebration of Kalaignar upto June 2024. Accordingly, inaugural function of centenary celebration of Kalaignar was held in Devaneya Pavanar Meeting Hall at Anna Salai, Chennai-2 on 02.09.2023.

Based on that, Centenary celebration of Kalaignar was conducted at Anna Centenary Library, Kotturpuram, Presidency College, Chennai on 27.11.2023 and 09.01.2024 respectively and also in Tamil University, Thanjavur, Bharathi Women's College on 27.02.2024 and 09.03.2024 respectively.

**ANNEXURE -I**  
**IMPORTANT DAYS**

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>Day</b>		<b>Date</b>
1.	National Girl Child Day	-	January 24 <sup>th</sup>
2.	State Girl Child Protection Day	-	February 24 <sup>th</sup>
3.	International Women's Day	-	March 8 <sup>th</sup>
4.	Thirunangaiyar Day	-	April 15 <sup>th</sup>
5.	Mother's Day	-	May Second Sunday
6.	Anti Child Labour Day	-	June 12 <sup>th</sup>
7.	Elders Abuse Awareness Day	-	June 15 <sup>th</sup>
8.	International Day of Older Persons	-	October 1 <sup>st</sup>
9.	International Girl Child Day	-	October 11 <sup>th</sup>
10.	Children's Day	-	November 14 <sup>th</sup>
11.	International day for Elimination of Violence against women	-	November 25 <sup>th</sup>
12.	Dowry Prohibition Day	-	November 26
13.	Human Rights Day	-	December 10 <sup>th</sup>

**ANNEXURE – II**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATE – 2024-2025**  
**DEMAND No.45**  
**SOCIAL WELFARE AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT**

<b>TOTAL BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 2024-2025</b>		
<b>Rs. 7,829.93 crore</b>		
<b>BUDET ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR</b>		
<b>2024-2025</b>		
<b>HEAD OF ACCOUNT</b>		<b>(Rs. in lakh)</b>
<b>REVENUE SECTION</b>		<b>Allocation</b>
2059	Public Works	280.38
2225	Directorate of Social Welfare	0.42
2235	Directorate of Social Defence	25,872.56
2235	Directorate of Social Welfare	90,283.48
2235	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	15,130.65
2236	Secretariat	38.68
2236	Directorate of Social Welfare	3,36,952.39
2236	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	3,06,679.52
2251	Secretariat	1,007.14
2551	Directorate of Social Welfare	----
<b>REVENUE SECTION TOTAL</b>		<b>7,76,245.22</b>
<b>CAPITAL SECTION</b>		

4235	Directorate of Social Welfare	360.02
4235	Directorate of Social Defence	1,137.32
4236	Directorate of Social Welfare	0.02
4236	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	5,160.00
<b>CAPITAL SECTION TOTAL</b>		<b>6,657.36</b>
<b>LOAN SECTION</b>		
7610	Loans to Government Servants etc.,	90.00
<b>LOAN SECTION TOTAL</b>		<b>90.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>7,82,992.58</b>

### **GROSS TOTAL**

	<b>(Rs in Lakh)</b>
<b>Revenue Section :</b>	<b>7,76,245.22</b>
<b>Capital Section :</b>	<b>6,657.36</b>
<b>Loan Section :</b>	<b>90.00</b>
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>7,82,992.58</b>
	<b>(or)</b>
	<b>Rs. 7,829.93 Crore</b>

A sum of Rs.5337.18 Crore has also been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2024-2025 under the Demand No.41 Revenue Department for the implementation of Social Pension Schemes.

## **SERVICES**

### **Women Helpline**

**181**

**(Website:<https://tn181whl.org/>)**

**(<https://www.facebook.com/181Tamilnadu/>)**

**(<https://twitter.com/whl181>)**

**(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/>)**

**(UCQ7\_mJrhmhZNa4YfDXRrYfQ)**

**([www.instagram.com/whl181tn/](http://www.instagram.com/whl181tn/))**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Child Helpline**

**1098**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Student and Exam Helpline**

**14417**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Senior Citizen Helpline**

**14567**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Cyber Crime Helpline**

**1930**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Kavalan Udhavi App**

**(For Children, Women and Senior Citizens**

**Emergency)**

**\*\*\*\*\***

