

**Memorandum presented to Shri Narendra Modi,  
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India  
by Thiru Edappadi K Palaniswami,  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu  
on 8.10.2018**

**INDEX**

| Sl. No. | Subject   | Page No. |
|---------|---|----------|
| 1.      | <b>Conferment of "Bharat Ratna" on Thiru C.N. Annadurai, Late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu</b>  | 4        |
| 2.      | <b>Conferment of "Bharat Ratna" on Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu</b>  | 5        |
| 3.      | <b>Renaming the Chennai Central Railway Station as "Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.Ramachandran Central Railway Station"</b>  | 10       |
| 4       | <b>Local Body Grant</b><br>Release of second instalment of Basic and Performance Grant for the year 2017-18 and First instalment of Basic Grant for the year 2018-19 to Local Bodies. | 12       |
| 5.      | Setting up of <b>AIIMS</b> at Thoppur, Madurai District.  | 12       |
| 6.      | <b>Chennai Flood Mitigation</b><br>Permanent Flood Mitigation / Management measures for Chennai   | 13       |
| 7.      | <b>Integrated goods and services tax (IGST)</b><br>Request for IGST settlement due to Tamil Nadu for the financial year 2017-2018   | 14       |
| 8.      | <b>Cauvery - Mekedatu Project</b><br>Not to further process of the Feasibility Report of Mekedatu Project of Karnataka  | 15       |
| 9.      | <b>Cauvery Modernization</b><br>Improvements and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems in Cauvery Basin for Efficient Irrigation Management under AIBP                                 | 16       |

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Page No.</b> |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
| 10.            | <b>Post Matric Scholarship</b><br>Post Matric Scholarship to SC/ST students   | 18              |
| 11.            | <b>Permanent Cyclonic Mitigation Measures-<br/>Fishermen of Tamil Nadu.</b><br>i. Permanent Naval Station for carrying out<br>Operations by Indian Navy & Indian Coast<br>Guard<br>ii. Communication Equipment for Sea going<br>Fishermen   | 20              |
| 12.            | <b>Finance</b><br>Special assistance towards compensation for the<br>unfair treatment meted out by 14 <sup>th</sup> Finance<br>Commission to State of Tamil Nadu  | 23              |
| 13.            | <b>Green Climate Fund (GCF) and National<br/>Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC)</b><br>Early clearance of Climate Change Projects for<br>funding under Green Climate Fund (GCF) and<br>National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change<br>(NAFCC) by Ministry of Environment and Forest and<br>Climate Change | 24              |
| 14.            | <b>Pending Grants-in-aid</b><br>Pending Grants-in-aid from Government of India for<br>major schemes, as on 03-10-2018   | 26              |
| 15.            | <b>Establishment of Government Dental College<br/>at Virudhunagar</b>   | 32              |
| 16.            | <b>Establishment of Medical College at<br/>Ramanathapuram</b>   | 33              |
| 17.            | <b>Industries - Industrial Hub for Defence Products in<br/>Salem</b><br>Promotion of an industrial estate at the vacant lands<br>in Salem Steel Plant by setting up an industrial hub<br>for defence products   | 34              |
| 18.            | <b>Labour and Employment</b><br>Saving employment of 8 lakh people in Fireworks   | 35              |

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Page No.</b> |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
|                | Industry in Tamil Nadu  |                 |
| 19.            | <b>UDAN SCHEME</b><br>Request flight operations to Hosur, Neyveli & Ramanathapuram and evening flight service to Salem. | 36              |
| 20             | <b>Agriculture</b><br>Further increase in MSP for Copra.  | 37              |

## **1. CONFERMENT OF "BHARAT RATNA" ON THIRU C.N. ANNADURAI, LATE CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMIL NADU**

Thiru C.N. Annadurai was known as Perarignar Anna for his outstanding intellectual capacity. He was a great social reformer, writer, orator, litterateur and a tall Dravidian leader. His literary and political works, both in Tamil and English, bear the stamp of his genius and rank among the best in these genres.

He was the ideological fountainhead of major Dravidian parties. He stood for a politics that foregrounded social equality, self-respect and linguistic pride. He condemned the backwardness and superstitious practices of the society and advocated science and education for eradicating them. He was for preserving the identity and antiquity of Tamil language and its culture. He fought for the upliftment of downtrodden and women's rights. He was an orator par excellence in Tamil, no less in English as well. He mesmerised the masses through his oratorical skills. He created a knowledge revolution among the poor and simple, by his sparkling speech. "Kadamai, Kanniyam, Kattupadu" - (Duty, Decorum, Discipline) - the politico philosophical magical words coined by him.

Perarignar Annadurai had the distinction of converting the Dravidian ideology into a political formation and was instrumental in a regional party forming a Government for the first time in India. He served as the Chief Minister of Madras from 1967 till 1969. During his tenure as Chief Minister, "the State of Madras" was renamed as "Tamil Nadu".

He legalised self-respect marriages and introduced two language policy and "A rupee for a measure of rice scheme" in the Public Distribution System. He was the pioneer who championed the cause for State Autonomy.

Perarignar Annadurai was one of the Country's finest Parliamentarians and his speeches in the Parliament were well received and acclaimed by other Parliamentarians, cutting across party lines. Perarignar Annadurai is still remembered with fondness by a large number of people of Tamil Nadu, even now, 49 years after his demise. Several institutions and organisations in Tamil Nadu have been named after him.

Under his stewardship, people believed that the State was entering a new epoch. Abolition of levy on dry lands, assignment of wastelands to the landless poor, free education for students up to pre-university class, implementation of prohibition policy, development of Tamil were among some of the far reaching initiatives undertaken by him.

The advent of the political party headed by Perarignar Annadurai as a party in power in the State of Tamil Nadu marks a watershed. He was a titan among the politicians living in his era and was well respected even by his worst critics. He was mild mannered, accommodative, upright and fought tirelessly for improving the socio-economic conditions of the people.

In view of his contributions to Tamil Nadu, in particular and India as a whole, the Tamil Nadu Cabinet unanimously resolved on 9.9.2018 that this statesman needs to be honoured befittingly with the highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna and accordingly recommended to the Government of India to award "**Bharat Ratna**" to the Hon'ble Late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Perarignar Annadurai posthumously.

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly confer the "Bharat Ratna" on Hon'ble Late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru C.N. Annadurai, posthumously.**

## **2. CONFERMENT OF "BHARAT RATNA" ON SELVI J JAYALALITHAA, LATE CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMIL NADU**

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa is very fondly remembered by the people of Tamil Nadu as Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. The highest civilian honour – Bharat Ratna would be the most fitting way to recognize the extraordinary public service, phenomenal achievements and the remarkable life of one of the most influential political leaders of independent India. Our revered leader, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma overcame many obstacles in her life to reach the pinnacle of political achievement – of capturing the hearts, minds and imagination of the people of Tamil Nadu. She did so through formulating people-friendly and growth oriented policies founded on empathy and compassion, ensuring their effective implementation through administrative acumen and sound fiscal management and carrying out her political and administrative tasks by the dint of determination, dedication, perseverance and unstinted hard work. Vast sections of the Tamil population looked up to her as their leader, in whom they had implicit trust and in fact they deified her. Her initiatives won universal acclaim and were widely admired not only by other States in the country, but also by other countries.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, excelled in academics and extra-curricular activities from her early days as a student. Through her days as an accomplished and popular film actor, apart from being a consummate professional, she used every free moment of her time to read extensively and gain knowledge. In her early days in politics, she distinguished herself as an effective Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha, speaking on important issues including State Autonomy and Internal Security, which won acclaim from the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma overcame political vicissitudes and took over the mantle of the leadership of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. She led the AIADMK Party to a memorable electoral victory in 1991 and repeated the feat in 2001, 2011 and 2016, assuming office as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, a record six times for a total period of 15 years. In between, she also led her party to strong performances in the elections to the Lok Sabha, in 1998, 1999, 2009 and most memorably in 2014. What is particularly

remarkable is the manner in which in the last 3 elections – in 2011, 2014 (Lok Sabha) and 2016, she has strongly consolidated the popular mandate of the AIADMK party in the State. Today, the AIADMK has 50 Members of Parliament in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and is the third largest political formation in the country. This is entirely due to the massive public support built up by our revered leader, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, through sustained performance and political acumen. She was unarguably the most charismatic, dynamic and determined political leader that India has ever seen. She relentlessly challenged the male dominated politics of Tamil Nadu that worked to block her at every step of the way. She reached the top on her own, with no political background and became Chief Minister, not once, but six times.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was uncompromising in her insistence on the perfect maintenance of law and order in the State. The Police force has been adequately funded and provisioned and its morale maintained at a very high level as the Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, gave the Police Force a free hand to ensure that law and order is well maintained. Tamil Nadu has remained a haven of peace and tranquillity due to the efforts of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Firm action was taken against extremist elements and terrorists. The activities of the forest brigand Veerappan were curtailed and the threat was finally neutralized by the Tamil Nadu Police.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma pioneered All Women Police Stations and Women Commando Force in the State and ensured adequate recruitment of women in the State Police and thereby gave a very high sense of safety for women and the vulnerable. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma pioneered the path breaking Cradle Baby Scheme and the Girl Child Protection Scheme in the State which reversed the declining female sex ratio. The Cradle Baby Scheme was appreciated by Saint Mother Teresa as a great gift to children in Tamil Nadu and lauded the late Hon'ble Chief Minister's welfare projects for girls, destitute women and the aged. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's schemes to promote enhanced work participation by women included the distribution of essential equipment like mixies, grinders and fans which eased the domestic drudgery of women, the increase in the maternity leave eligibility for women to 9 months, the enhanced financial benefits under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme. Enhanced financial assistance under the Marriage Assistance Schemes and provision of 8 gram gold coin, incentivized female education by postponing the age of marriage. Empowerment of women through Self Help Groups and enhancement of livelihood through provision of economic assets to women including milch animals, sheep and goats was ensured. All these innovative measures remarkably enhanced the status of women in Tamil Nadu and proved to be model schemes for other States in the country.

Our revered leader, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma transcended caste, creed and religion in her concern to ensure social justice and to protect the interest of minorities, weaker sections and the vulnerable. Our revered leader the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was instrumental in securing the constitutional protection for Tamil Nadu's long standing policy of 69% reservation for Backward, Most Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes and Tribes. The interests of the minorities were consistently protected and the State was kept free of communal strife.

When she assumed office as Chief Minister in 1991, Tamil Nadu's per capita income was still below the national average. Today it is nearly 75 per cent above the national average. Tamil Nadu's economy under the leadership of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma registered the strongest consistent growth and Tamil Nadu has become the second largest State economy in India.

It is not only strong economic growth in Tamil Nadu that has been a significant achievement, but also under the leadership of the Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, Tamil Nadu is one State that has sustained its level of social sector expenditure. Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had in her first term in office itself formulated a "Social Safety Net" for which protected allocations were made in the Budget year after year in the areas of Health, Education, Nutrition, Welfare of Women and Children, Welfare of the Differently Abled, Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes and Social Security. The allocations have consistently grown through her successive tenures. The scheme to distribute free bicycles to all students in Government and Aided Higher Secondary Schools ensured greater mobility, while the scheme to distribute laptops bridged the digital divide and a new generation was prepared for the challenge of modern information technology. The Amma Unavagams (Canteens) which supply affordable and hygienic cooked food to the poor with dignity, is an initiative which has been internationally acclaimed and is now sought to be replicated elsewhere in the country. Such efforts have paid rich dividends in terms of human development achievements in the State.

Alongside the human development achievements recorded in the State, consistent investments in infrastructure were also championed by the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. This sustained performance has won appreciation from development economists across the world and is now an established model of development. The Tamil Nadu Vision 2023 reflected the far sighted perspective of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to set Tamil Nadu on a high growth path trajectory by ensuring sustained investments in the infrastructure, education, health and other related sectors. The Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's singular efforts ensured that the State which had a huge power deficit in 2011 when she assumed office, became a power surplus State by 2016. Major investments were also made in the Roads, Urban Development, Transport and related sectors.

Desalination, as a permanent solution for the perennial drinking water shortage in various parts of Tamil Nadu, was first initiated by the late Hon'ble Chief Minister. As early as 2001, Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made Rain Water Harvesting mandatory in all Government and residential buildings which became an example for many States to follow. The high quality of human resources and of infrastructure and the very well maintained law and order situation have made Tamil Nadu a very attractive investment destination. The State continues to maintain its position with the largest number of factories and factory employees in the country. Even the President of the World Bank expressed his appreciation to the later Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for the fact that usually Governments either follow a welfarist agenda or a business friendly agenda, but Tamil Nadu was a rare exception where the State continued to be business friendly even as it ensured that adequate attention and funding was provided for the welfare of the people. He had further stated that, "Tamil Nadu's record in implementing projects was really fantastic". The efforts of the later Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to encourage major automobile manufacturers like Ford and Hyundai to invest in Tamil Nadu was instrumental in the State becoming home to many large automobile manufacturers and Chennai has come to be known as the Detroit of India. In addition, investment was encouraged in a range of sectors and Tamil Nadu has one of the most diversified industrial bases in the country. When the Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma assumed office as Chief Minister in 2011, the State was crippled with severe power shortage. The Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma ensured that utmost priority was given to the power sector by enabling power projects and also by stepping up solar energy production which paved the path to make Tamil Nadu a power surplus State.

The Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma played a very big role in the development of the field of sports in the State over the last two and half decades. High cash incentives to the sportspersons and their coaches were instituted to encourage them. The later Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma also started reward schemes for promoting the not so popular disciplines like kabaddi, weightlifting, fencing, etc., which gave a boost for the sportsmen of Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi's foresight in implementing rain water harvesting to enrich the water table and to check global warming shows that she was a champion of environmental causes. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was a multifaceted leader who demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities.

Coupled with performance in all spheres of governance and administration, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made a strong and persuasive case for ensuring that the autonomy of States was respected and State Governments were given the necessary legislative, administrative and fiscal space to function effectively to fulfill the aspirations of the people of the State. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma steadfastly and through legal avenues ensured



that the rights of the State were protected – be it the Cauvery issue, Periyar issue or the rights of the Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu fishing in their traditional fishing waters of the Palk Bay.

The administrative responses to disasters that struck the State, in particular the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2005 received international acclaim. After the unprecedented floods in Chennai in December, 2015, Tamil Nadu disbursed flood relief to 14 lakh families by direct transfer to their bank accounts at one shot.

Above all, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma represented the hopes and aspirations of millions of people of Tamil Nadu and Tamil people wherever they resided across the globe. The Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was an inspirational figure. Her commanding leadership, brave decision making capacity, shrewd understanding of politics and determination to fight for regional rights will be remembered forever. She gave voice to the voiceless and power to the powerless. She was responsible for the remarkable socio-economic transformation of Tamil Nadu. She brought peace, tranquility, discipline in all spheres of society and administration, and enviable prosperity to Tamil Nadu. Her appeal extends beyond Tamil Nadu and won her admirers and followers across the country. Such an inspirational figure who touched the lives of millions and whose life story will inspire millions more to strive for the greater public good through social and public service, richly deserves the nation's highest civilian honour. It would be a fitting tribute to a great leader, an able administrator, an inspiring icon who overcame many obstacles and vicissitudes in public life to devote her life for the benefit of millions of people.

The Tamil Nadu Cabinet resolved on 9.9.2018 to reiterate to the Government of India, its original decision taken in the Cabinet meeting held on 10.12.2016 recommending the award of "Bharat Ratna" to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J. Jayalalithaa, posthumously.

The Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was astute, diplomatic and independent as a political leader. She had endeared herself to the people of Tamil Nadu by her words and deeds and her legacy lives on. People, particularly women adore her as their "AMMA". She was nationalistic in her outlook and progressive in her thinking. She tirelessly strove for the betterment of Tamil Nadu and Tamils. She rightly deserves the highest civilian award of our country, the "Bharat Ratna".

**I reiterate our request to confer the Bharat Ratna posthumously on Selvi J Jayalalithaa, Late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and request you to take immediate steps for the same.**

### **3. RENAMING THE CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION AS "PURATCHI THALAIVAR DR. M.G.RAMACHANDRAN CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION"**

The Tamil Nadu Cabinet has unanimously resolved and recommended to rename Chennai Central Railway Station after "**Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran**" in commemoration of his birth centenary. The Hon'ble former Chief Minister Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, who is affectionately known as "Puratchi Thalaivar" (Revolutionary Leader), was a self-taught genius, an iconic film personality, who became Tamil Nadu's most popular mass leader.

The birth centenary of Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, Hon'ble former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu which fell in 2017, is being celebrated by the Government of Tamil Nadu in a glorious and befitting manner.

Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran was one of the most illustrious, charismatic and popular Chief Minister of the State, who rode like a colossus during the turbulent transitional socio-political period of the State for more than three decades as an actor supreme and as a political leader invincible, till his death in 1987.

Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran is remembered nationally and internationally for having launched several innovative welfare programmes which have become model to be emulated throughout the country. He was socially conscious and politically committed and his yardstick for governance, was whether a welfare scheme would ultimately benefit the poor. "The Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. Nutritious Meal Programme" implemented in all the Schools in Tamil Nadu, is a manifestation of his commitment for the welfare of the weaker sections of the society. The scheme has been commended by the Hon'ble Supreme Court as worthy of being followed by other states, now religiously being adopted by the Government of India as a pan-Indian Programme.

As Chief Minister, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, placed great emphasis on socio-economic development of the masses, especially poor and downtrodden. He was instrumental in laying the foundation for the rapid socio-economic growth that the State of Tamil Nadu has witnessed in the last four decades. In order to encourage community participation and promote the goal of self-sufficiency at the village level, he introduced the popular "Self Sufficiency Scheme".

With an innate understanding that knowledge provides children the power to dream of a bright future and attain it, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran introduced a comprehensive package for school children, which included supply of free books, uniforms, footwear, free education upto higher secondary level and the popular Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme. This had far reaching results in terms of improving school attendance and reducing drop outs appreciably, especially in rural schools.

Dr. M.G. Ramachandran's love for Tamil language and his vision for the development of language manifested in establishing a exclusive Tamil University for Tamil language so as to provide higher research in the Language. As a champion of the cause of women, especially their

education, he established Mother Theresa Women's University at Kodaikanal.

To the people of Tamil Nadu and to Tamils across the world, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran continues to be an inspirational figure who is always remembered for his qualities of magnanimity, generosity, commanding leadership and determination to fight for the legitimate rights of the States.

As desired by him, his residence at Chennai has been converted into a school for the hearing and visually challenged children, after his demise. Dr. M.G. Ramachandran's life story continues to inspire millions to strive for greater public good through dedicated service.

To honour the memory of Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr M.G. Ramachandran, a great and an illustrious son of the nation, it is felt that it would be proper if, on the occasion of his birth centenary, the Central Railway Station at Chennai, one of the most prominent and iconic landmarks be named after him. In view of the above, the Tamil Nadu Cabinet unanimously resolved on 9.9.2018 to recommend to the Government of India to rename Chennai Central Railway Station after "Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran".

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly take steps to rename Chennai Central Railway Station as "Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central Railway Station" in commemoration of his birth centenary.**

#### **4. LOCAL BODY GRANT**

##### **Release of Performance Grant for the year 2017-18 and First instalment of Basic Grant for the year 2018-19 to Local Bodies.**

The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission had allocated an amount of Rs.365.37 crore and Rs.194.78 crore to the Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies respectively in Tamil Nadu, as the Performance Grant for the year 2017-18 and Rs.1462.18 crore and Rs.1753.87 crore to the Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies respectively in Tamil Nadu, as the Basic Grant for the year 2018-19.

The Ministry of Finance, Government of India have released a sum of Rs.631.98 Crore and Rs.758.06 Crore as the second instalment of Basic Grant for the Year 2017-18 under 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission to the Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies respectively on 17.09.2018 and the same has been released to the Local Bodies by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Utilization Certificate for the second instalment of Basic Grant for the year 2017-18 will be sent shortly.

Six months have already been completed in the financial year 2018-19. All Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies are in dire need of funds to carry out their day to day affairs to provide its citizen basic amenities. Non release of Performance Grant for the year 2017-18 and the first instalment of Basic Grant to the Local Bodies for the Financial Year 2018-19 as recommended by the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, is causing serious financial constraint on Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies.

**Hence I request Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India to release the Performance Grant of Rs.560.15 crore (Rs.365.37 crore to ULBs and Rs.194.78 crore to RLBs) for the year 2017-18 and the first instalment of Basic Grant of Rs.1608.03 crore (Rs.731.09 crore to ULBs and Rs.876.94 crore to RLBs) for the financial Year 2018-19 to Local Bodies in Tamil Nadu under 14<sup>th</sup> Central Finance Commission.**

#### **5. SETTING UP OF AIIMS AT THOPPUR, MADURAI DISTRICT.**

I would like to thank Government of India for approving the establishment of AIIMS at Thoppur in Madurai district. You may also recall that Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was very keen to ensure that the institution of the stature of AIIMS is established and made functional in Tamil Nadu, as it would substantially augment the facilities in the State for providing quality medical education and also ensure high-end tertiary level health care in the public sector to benefit the poor and middle classes. It is ascertained that a Detailed Project Report prepared by Government of India in the Ministry Of Health and Family Welfare at a tentative cost of Rs.1264 Crores for establishing AIIMS at Thoppur in

Madurai District, is awaiting the necessary financial approvals and sanctions of the Expenditure Finance Committee and the Union Cabinet.

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly expedite the necessary approvals so that the actual work can be started on ground, within this calendar year itself.**

## **6. CHENNAI FLOOD MITIGATION**

### **Permanent Flood Mitigation / Management measures for Chennai**

**During your visit to Tamil Nadu in November 2017, in response to our request, you had kindly agreed to provide Rs.1,500 crores as a Special allocation for flood prevention in Chennai.** The comprehensive measures needed for flood prevention have now been studied and costs have been more precisely estimated.

The Greater Chennai city and its urban neighbourhood spread over the river basins of Kosasthalaiyar, Cooum, Adyar and Kovalam are connected through the Buckingham Canal that is formed parallel to the coast in the tidal flats. This system also functions as an unique system for draining surface run-off from the isolated water sheds sandwiched in the above 4 basins through the river mouths viz., Ennore creek, Cooum river mouth, Adyar river mouth and Kovalam creek. In addition to this, many macro drains such as Madhavaram- Manali Lake Canal, Old Napalayam Canal (North Chennai), Secretariat Canal, Semmencheri Canal (South Chennai), various tanks surplus courses like Kadapakkam lake surplus present in Greater Chennai Corporation will be treated holistically to mitigate the risks.

Chennai city is facing the fury of floods, almost every year during North East Monsoon. The only way to mitigate this problem is to construct Integrated Storm Water Drain Network, which will drain out the surplus water caused by heavy rains effectively and prevent flooding in future.

The Greater Chennai and its Peri-Urban areas area spread over an almost flat terrain along the coastal plains having an average altitude of only 2.00m above Mean Sea Level. The entire surface runoff drains into the Bay of Bengal only through the outlets namely, Ennore creek on the North, Cooum and Adyar river mouths in the centre and Kovalam creek in the South. The drainage network behind the above outlets formed with natural flood bowls like Ennore backwaters, Pallikaranai marshland and Muttukadu backwaters spread over tidal flats and vast areas of flood plains along the natural rivers, are no longer able to render their functions due to the changes in the land use induced by rapid urbanization and industrial needs resulting in inundation in the upstream areas.

In order to have a comprehensive and Integrated Flood management system of Greater Chennai City, its Peri-Urban areas, and surrounding rural areas it is proposed to undertake permanent mitigation measures such as formation of missing links and storm water drains in

the river basin, adopting cut & cover systems, providing RCC lining and bed to macro canals, rehabilitating of water bodies etc., in the respective river basins.

The fund requirement for each of the major sub basin are detailed below : -

| Sl. No. | Subject  | (Rupees in crore) |
|---------|--|-------------------|
| I       | Integrated storm water drain in Adyar and Cooum Basin            | 440.00            |
| II      | Integrated storm water drain in Kosasthalaiyar Basin             | 2518.00           |
| III     | Integrated storm water drain in Kovalam Basin                    | 270.00            |
| IV      | Purchasing of machineries  | 100.00            |
| V       | Restoration of water bodies                                      | 200.00            |
| VI      | Balance fund to be provided for North East Monsoon 2015 and 2016 | 917.84            |
|         | <b>Total</b>   | <b>4445.84</b>    |

**Hence, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly instruct the concerned Ministries to allocate necessary funds for taking up the integrated storm water drain network in Kovalam and Kosasthalaiyar Basin as well as the restoration of water bodies and purchase of machineries as Government of India Share so that necessary infrastructure that is required to encounter any kind of flood mitigation work will be installed at the earliest.**

## **7. INTEGRATED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (IGST)**

### **Request for IGST settlement due to Tamil Nadu for the financial year 2017-2018**

GST operates on the destination principle. The Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) collected is meant for distribution between the Centre and the States. Approximately 50% of the IGST will accrue to the Centre and 50% to States. States would receive IGST in proportion to the consumption of goods and services on the destination principle.

However, a significant shortfall in the settlements of amounts due to Tamil Nadu was found and accordingly I had addressed the Union Finance Minister Shri. Piyush Goyal on 6.7.2018 for early settlement of the unsettled IGST to Tamil Nadu which was to the tune of Rs.5,600 crore approximately.

The actual accumulated amount of IGST is Rs.1,81,418 crore for the financial year **2017-2018** as on March 2018. The said amount has to be settled in the ratio of 50:50 between the Centre and the States. The amount apportioned to the States is Rs.90,709 crore. The share of Tamil Nadu roughly works out to Rs.6,730.60 crore of which Rs.1,304 crore has been settled and a balance of Rs.5,426.60 crore remains unsettled.

The accumulated amount of IGST for the financial year **2018-2019** is being settled by Government of India on adhoc basis. So far, a sum of Rs.62,000 crore has been settled between the Centre and the States. Tamil Nadu received a sum of Rs.2,310 crore. However, adhoc settlement of IGST is due for the month of September, 2018.

**Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly issue suitable instructions to the Ministry of Finance for early settlement of the unsettled IGST of Rs.5426.60 crore to Tamil Nadu for the financial year 2017-2018 and the adhoc settlement of IGST due for September, 2018.**

## **8. CAUVERY - MEKEDATU PROJECT**

### **Not to further process of the Feasibility Report of Mekedatu Project of Karnataka**

The Government of Karnataka in June, 2018 sent the Feasibility Report for construction of a reservoir with a capacity of 67.16 TMC ft. and for generation of hydro electric power of 400 MW. with a cost estimate of Rs.5912 crore, (June, 2018 price levels) at Mekedatu across the inter-State river Cauvery for clearance.

The proposal of Karnataka to build a reservoir at Mekedatu across the Cauvery river amounts to a clear violation of the Final Order of the Tribunal and the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. It will affect the natural flow of the river Cauvery and it will nullify the Final Order of the Tribunal and the Supreme Court. In a federal structure, no upper riparian State should unilaterally interfere with the natural flow of an inter-State river without the consent and concurrence of the lower riparian States. The unilateral action of Karnataka in having approached the Central Water Commission to construct a reservoir at Mekedatu and the action of the Central Water Commission, instead of advising Karnataka to get the concurrence of Tamil Nadu and other co-basin States, but having received the feasibility report, has caused great alarm and apprehension among the people of Tamil Nadu, as it would affect the livelihood of lakhs of farmers who depend on Cauvery water. Since, Cauvery river is a deficit basin, construction of Mekedatu Reservoir or any new project in Karnataka would drastically affect the lower riparian States in getting their due share of water in time.

**I request Hon'ble Prime Minister to advise the Government of India to instruct the Central Water Commission or any other Agency to stop forthwith further processing of the Feasibility**

**Report of Karnataka to construct a Balancing Reservoir at Mokedatu across the river Cauvery and not to give any consent to any projects in the river Cauvery Basin of Karnataka without obtaining the prior concurrence of Tamil Nadu and other co-basin States.**

## **9. CAUVERY MODERNIZATION**

### **Improvements and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems in Cauvery Basin for Efficient Irrigation Management under AIBP**

A Detailed Project Report for improvements and rehabilitation of irrigation systems in the Cauvery basin for efficient irrigation management excluding the components proposed for an ADB supported programme at an estimated cost of Rs. 17,600 crore has been prepared for submitting to Central Water Commission, Government of India, New Delhi.

A concept paper on the "Improvements and Rehabilitation of Irrigation system in the Cauvery delta for efficient Irrigation Management" at an estimated cost of Rs 11,420 crores (2012 – 13 price level), was deliberated in the screening Committee of the Central Water Commission and the "in-principle" consent of the Central Water Commission for the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) was accorded vide CWC, Project Appraisal(S), New Delhi Lr.no.7/157/2012 PA (S)/264-68 /dated:14.05.2013. Based on the concept paper, a single DPR has been prepared for the above said Nine Components for an amount of Rs.17,600/-crores at the price level of 2018-2019.

The improvements and rehabilitation are planned for the age old irrigation systems in the following sub basins of Cauvery:

|                                       | Rs.in crore       |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| I. Cauvery sub basin                  | - 5200.00         |
| II. Vennar sub basin                  | - 4965.32         |
| III. Grand Anicut Canal subbasin      | - 2158.68         |
| IV. Lower Coleroon sub basin          | - 1400.00         |
| V. Lower Bhavani project              | - 2850.00         |
| VI. Kattalai High Level Canal Project | - 350.00          |
| VII. Noyyal Sub basin                 | - 250.00          |
| VIII. Raja Voikkal Project            | - 200.00          |
| IX. Ground Water Recharge Schemes     | - 225.00          |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>- 17600.00</b> |

The main components included in the proposal are

- a. Lining and strengthening the banks of "A" class channels of the distribution net-work



- b. Repair and reconstruction of regulators, grade walls, head sluices, other cross masonry structures on the River systems and also on the main canals.
- c. Improvements to the Drainage system and strengthening of banks
- d. Rehabilitation of tanks
- e. Rehabilitation of the existing pumping schemes and extending the pumping network where possible

The total cost of the scheme works out to Rs. 17,600 crore. The total ayacut benefited is 16.06 lakh acres (6.50 lakh hectares). The Project Implementation has been planned for 3 years. The Project will provide the following tangible benefits:

1. There will be saving in total quantum of water utilizable on account of implementing the Extension, Renovation & Modernisation (ERM) works.
2. Unwarranted leakage in this system can be arrested.
3. The tail end farmers will get their due share of water for irrigation.
4. Water User Associations to be formed to help in proper maintenance of structures in the command area and better management of available water.
5. The existing canal network can be transformed into an all-weather canal system thereby increasing its life.
6. The present water use efficiency will be enhanced considerably.
7. Through the Water User Associations, farmers can be trained to adopt new scientific methods of cultivation thereby increasing yields and in turn income.
8. With significant savings in water, the existing gaps in the irrigation coverage will be reduced to a great extent.
9. Water supply for domestic and industrial needs could be provided.
10. Flood protection to irrigated areas can be provided, reducing crop losses.
11. Regular employment for Agricultural labourers in the region can be assured.

The DPR for one of the nine components, the Grand Anicut Canal sub basin has been approved by the CWC vide Lr.no:16 / 27 / 2016 - PA (N) / 3939-73 dated: 06.10.2016 and also placed in the in the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of investment clearance committee of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, New Delhi held on 05.05.2017. The investment clearance of the project was approved and communicated vide MoWRLr.No. P.20011/2/ 2016-SPR/1098-1114 dated: 07.06.2017.

The Tamil Nadu Government issued Administrative Sanction for Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) of Grand Anicut Canal System in Cauvery Basin for efficient management at an estimated cost of Rs.2158.68 crore under long term irrigation fund in NABARD under AIBP

included in PMKSY as per G.O.(Ms) No.122 Public Works (W1) Department dated.03.05.2018.

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister kindly give suitable instruction to concerned Ministry to approve the remaining components of the Project and also provide financing for the project under an appropriate program.**

## **10. POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP**

### **Post Matric Scholarship to SC/ST students**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has a strong belief that Social and economic upliftment of under privileged sections of the society would be possible and sustainable only by ensuring their educational progress especially in the field of higher education and hence Tamil Nadu Government has been implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes in its true letter and spirit.

The State of Tamil Nadu would like to draw attention to the recent revision of guidelines for the Scheduled Castes Post Matric Scholarship scheme, wherein it has been stated that the fees claimed against the Management quota/Spot admission seat in any institutions / Universities will not be reimbursed with effect from April, 2018. In Tamil Nadu, large number of Scheduled Castes students belonging to poor economic background who are not able to get admission under the government quota on merit, have been availing the benefit under the Post Matric Scholarship scheme under management quota seats in self financing colleges. As a result, the number of Scheduled Castes students joining the Higher and Technical Education Institutions in the State has increased tremendously. In fact, this scheme has largely benefitted the State to achieve a higher Gross Enrollment Ratio of more than 45%. Non-reimbursement of fees for management quota seats under the new guidelines, will create a huge set back in achieving the goal of social equity and social justice, as it will deny opportunities to the poor Scheduled Castes students in the fields of higher and technical education. This may cause serious resentment and unrest among the Scheduled Castes community. Further, extending the scheme to management quota is permissible under Para III (ii) (a) to (i) of the revised guidelines of the scheme. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India has already been addressed in this regard.

Another important issue is the sharing pattern between the Centre and State for funding the scheme. Presently the expenditure under the scheme at the end of the five year plan period is taken as the committed liability of the State for the next five years. While the committed liability of Tamil Nadu was Rs.353.55 crore in 2011-12, with effect from 2017-18, it has risen to Rs.1526.46 crores. This puts an unbearable burden on the State Government finances. It also results in a situation, where this Central sector scheme will be largely (if not fully) funded by the State

from its own resources. Therefore, it is requested that in line with other Central Schemes, the scheme may be funded with a sharing pattern of 60:40 between the Centre and the State. In this issue the Hon'ble Prime Minister has already been addressed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister vide Letter dated 30.5.2018 and 14.6.2018. Further the release of funds by the Government of India to the State Government under this scheme over the years has been both delayed and inadequate. Upto 2017-18, the State is yet to receive arrears of Rs.985.78 crores from the Government of India. It is requested that, the release of this arrear amount to the State of Tamil Nadu may be expedited, to release the strain on the State Government's finances.

The 2018-19 academic year has already started and the student admission in the educational institutions is nearing completion and an early favorable decisions on the issues highlighted above will be of immense help to the State of Tamil Nadu.

**I therefore request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to issue suitable directions to Ministry of Social Justice to reconstruct the above scheme with a sharing pattern of 60:40 basis between the Centre and the State and also direct the Ministry to release the arrears amounting to Rs.985.78 Crores upto 2017-18 at the earliest.**

## **11. PERMANENT CYCLONIC MITIGATION MEASURES – FISHERMEN OF TAMIL NADU.**

### **i. Permanent Naval Station for carrying out Operations by Indian Navy & Indian Coast Guard**

It is requested that a permanent station may be set up by Indian Coast Guard with appropriate infrastructure and a Control Room at Kanniyakumari or Kolachal. This permanent station should be designed in such a way that any Search and Rescue Operation can be carried out jointly by Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard and Indian Air Force when there is a cyclonic event or any other reason for rescue of distressed fishing vessel or they are required to be guided to safety. If such a permanent infrastructure is created, it will be possible to quickly mobilize Central Agencies for a Search and Rescue Operation in this cyclone prone area. This is extremely important as large number of fishermen are engaged in short duration as well as long duration deep sea fishing which makes them exposed to risks. The suggested facility is essential to reach out to the fishermen on high seas and rescue them, even if Transponders are given. Moreover a Naval Station in Kanniyakumari District could be of

strategic importance. The Ministry of Defence may be advised to expedite the decision in this regard.

**(ii) Communication Equipment for Sea going Fishermen:**

In Tamil Nadu, as on date, there are 31,757 motorised country crafts and 5913 Mechanised fishing boats registered under uniform online registration of fishing crafts. Among the mechanized fishing boats, 1500 mechanized fishing boats are deep sea, going on multiday fishing boats venturing beyond 150 nautical miles and they operate for a period of 15-30 days per voyage. These boats are mostly operated from the fishing bases at Chennai, Nagapattinam, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari districts.

Fishing being a high risk profession, thousands of fishermen engaged in fishing in Tamil Nadu do encounter some form of distress or other at sea, which has the potential to cause loss of life and/or damage to property. Most of the time, the loss of life is due to the absence of proper communication equipment, tracking devices and lifesaving appliances.

The following communication equipments would meet the requirements of all types of fishermen/ boats:

**a) Providing High Frequency (HF) communication system for Deep Sea venturing fishermen of Tamil Nadu.**

Use of High frequency (HF) provides a long range service in both the ship to shore and the shore to ship directions, especially for usage by the deep sea fishing marine fishermen mainly during distress situation.

High Frequencies designated for marine communications range between 4000 kHz to 27500 kHz and are called "U" band. In order to provide a proper and efficient communication system for the deep sea vessels of Chennai, Nagapattinam, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari districts of Tamil Nadu, it is proposed to provide 1500 HF communication equipment on 90% subsidy besides establishing HF control rooms in four locations in Tamil Nadu. Necessary marine frequency in the HF range would have to be obtained from Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing, Government of India. An amount of **Rs.109 crore** may be provided for procurement of High Frequency (HF) communication system for Deep Sea venturing fishermen, along with necessary allocation of frequency and provision to operate HF sets by the fishermen.

**b) Providing Satellite Phone, NAVTEX**

Satellite phones use Low Earth Orbiting (LEO)/(MEO) Medium Earth Orbiting / Geo stationary satellites. Hence providing Satellite phone and HF will give synergy in terms of communication coverage and cost. The Satellite Phones comes with relatively low Upfront cost, but higher operational cost and are easy to operate as an ordinary cell phone.

Navigational Telex (NAVTEX) is a vital element of the Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS), using the Feature of Radio telex or narrow band direct printing for the automatic broadcast of

information. It is used onboard vessels to provide short range maritime safety information automatically.

It is proposed to provide 1500 Satellite phones and 1500 NAVTEX equipment on 90% subsidy and a fixed operating cost for a period of one year, besides establishing required control rooms in four locations in Tamil Nadu. Early sanction of **Rs.50 crore** is requested for procurement of Satellite phones and NAVTEX for Deep Sea venturing fishermen.

**c) Providing NavIC for Deep Sea venturing fishermen of Tamil Nadu.**

NavIC is the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) developed and operated by ISRO which Provide Navigation signals in L and S bands. It provides two types of services – Standard Positioning Service (SPS) and Restricted Service (RS) with encryption. The Coverage over India and 1500 km around India with position accuracy better than 20m and time accuracy better than 50ns. This device can reach Alert messages on Cyclone, High Waves & Tsunami and warning message on approach of International boundaries as well as information on Potential Fishing Zones (PFZ) where the better yield of fish available to fishermen. An amount of **Rs.10 crore** may be provided for procurement of 10,000 Units of NavIC receiver for fishermen of Tamil Nadu.

**d) Supply of Distress Alert Transmitters to the Fishing Boats in Tamil Nadu**

The Distress Alert Transmitter is user friendly and seaworthy equipment which can easily be operated by any crew of the boat.

Government of India in their letter No.12014/1/2013-Fy (T-1), dated 29.07.2015 have issued administrative approval for the procurement and supply of 30,000 Distress Alert Transmitters (DATs) to the fishermen / fishing vessels of Tamil Nadu, at a total central financial liability of **Rs.36 crore**, limiting the central assistance to 75%. It is requested to release the amount early. So far, early 1600 Distress Alert Transponders have been supplied.

**e) Transponders**

Assistance may be extended for installing transponders, which are satellite based locational devices in the fishing vessels. These devices will be very useful to locate deep sea going vessels so that the alerts received from IMD and INCOIS can be analyzed and the deep sea fishing vessels which are at risk can be alerted about the threat and guided to safety, so as to prevent loss of lives. More than 3,000 fishing vessels which are involved in deep sea fishing have to be provided with transponders. Already Government of India has provided transponders in 300 boats. Another 2,700 transponders are additionally required to equip other multi day fishing boats.

**f) Providing Dedicated Marine information services in SW/MW Radio:**

A dedicated **Marine information services in** radio channels may be launched by INCOIS in coordination with IMD and AIR, which can issue bulletins in regional languages of the fishermen at a scheduled frequency throughout the year. This will go a long way in reducing the vulnerability of deep sea /multiday fisher men groups, since the fishermen can move to secure locations based on the weather bulletin. Moreover, this is a very cost effective technology.

### **Development of Integrated Fishing Infrastructure in Kanniyakumari District**

There are 4 fishing harbours developed in Kanniyakumari District namely Chinnamuttom, Muttom, Colachel and Thengapattinam. Out of the 4 fishing harbours, 3 have been completed and put to use. The Thengapattinam fishing harbor is yet to be completed. However, all these four fishing harbours do not have the capacity and facilities to accommodate the large fishing vessels owned by the fishermen of Kanniyakumari District. There is a need to develop one of these harbours into an integrated harbour with facilities for a) berthing large vessels b) Cold storage c) processing and packaging and d) Quality testing facilities to ascertain SPS compliance and facilitate exports. The **integrated harbour is vital during cyclonic storms/ depression for safe berthing of the large fishing vessels and to prevent** damage to property and loss of life during the berthing of the vessels at short notice. Augmentation of the capacity and facilities in the other harbours will also generate numerous jobs in allied fishing activity, in addition to generating foreign exchange through exports. In addition to the harbour facilities, there is a need for structural interventions such as groynes, break waters etc., to ensure shore protection and minimize the risks of loss of lives.

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly issue suitable instructions to Ministry concerned to allocate an amount of Rs.400 crores for establishing these structures, which may be considered on priority basis.**

### **12. FINANCE**

**Special assistance towards compensation for the unfair treatment meted out by 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission to State of Tamil Nadu**

The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has recommended an increase of 10% in vertical devolution from 32% to 42% to the States. Though the share in central taxes due to vertical devolution has been increased from 32% to 42%, in reality, the effect has been neutralised by reduction in the horizontal devolutionary share of central taxes to Tamil Nadu from 4.969% to 4.023%. This reduction in the inter-se share to Tamil Nadu is 19.04%, which is the highest erosion in share amongst all States. Thus, the combined effect on Tamil Nadu's overall share in Central taxes has increased from 1.59% to 1.69% only.

The average increase in share of central taxes during the year 2015-16 over 2014-15 is 46.06% among fifteen major States and 49.85% among all the States, whereas Tamil Nadu could get an increase of only 20.98%. This is the lowest amongst all the States. Further, Tamil Nadu is the only State to get an increase in share of central taxes lesser than 30%. By discounting the 18% growth rate in central tax collection, Tamil Nadu has benefitted only by 2.98% additionally over and above normal growth due to the increased share recommended by 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, while all other States benefitted by 31% on an average over and above the growth rate in central taxes. It is also pertinent to note that some of the States have been greatly benefitted by the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission award, registering very high growth rates ranging from 60% to 88% over 2014-15. From the above, it is clearly evident that the increased devolution in central taxes for Tamil Nadu is purely due to the normal growth in central tax revenue and not due to the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission's increase in devolution percentage. Ideally, this fact should have been addressed by 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission itself through special compensation grant to States who have been adversely affected while adopting the new allocation criteria formulated by the Commission. Unfortunately this was not done.

**Therefore, Tamil Nadu may be compensated with a special assistance of Rs.2000 crore for the unfair treatment that the State received under the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission.**

### **13. GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF) AND NATIONAL ADAPTATION FUND FOR CLIMATE CHANGE (NAFCC)**

**Early clearance of Climate Change Projects for funding under Green Climate Fund (GCF) and National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) by Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change**

Tamil Nadu is one among the States which is very vulnerable to Climate change. The State has 46% of rain fed cropped area and 95% of Surface water has already been utilised. In the wake of these issues, in order to mitigate the impact of climate change, 11 projects involving financial outlay of Rs. 4544.77 crores has been submitted by Government of Tamil Nadu to the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Climate Change for clearance by the National Steering Committee on Climate Change and forwarding for funding.

| <b>Pending status of GCF proposals of TN as on 3.10.2018</b>    |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Proposals approved by the State Level Steering Committee</b> |   |   |  |
| <b>S. No.</b>   | <b>Name of the project</b>  | <b>Total Financial Outlay (million USD)</b> | <b>Total Financial Outlay (Rs. in crore)</b> |
| 1   | Protection and Restoration of Appa and Koswari Islands of Gulf of Mannar, | 15.78                                       | 102.58                                       |

|   |   |               |                |
|---|---|---------------|----------------|
|   | TamilNadu   |               |                |
| 2 | Improved Resilience of Urban Ecosystems through targeted restoration of Wetlands  | 21.55         | 147.00         |
| 3 | Shoreline Management of Tamil Nadu Coast to address Sea Erosion caused by Climate Change  | 178.68        | 1220.00        |
| 4 | Augmentation of Groundwater for Climate Resilience of vulnerable communities  | 211.83        | 1445.00        |
| 5 | Climate Proofing of Rainfed Watersheds in Tamil Nadu  | 66.18         | 370.00         |
| 6 | Mitigating Enteric Methane Emission from Livestock in different farming systems of Tamil Nadu through farmer friendly feed technologies / feeding practices | 11.74         | 79.85          |
| 7 | Sustainable Water Security Mission (SuWaSEM) for Tamil Nadu   | 71.83         | 490.00         |
| 8 | Purchase of Smart Electric buses under Green Climate Fund submitted by Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) Limited                                     | 74.65         | 500.16         |
| 9 | Tamil Nadu Green Gramam - Sustainable Energy Village  | 21.99         | 150.06         |
|   | <b>Total</b>  | <b>674.23</b> | <b>4504.65</b> |

### Pending NAFCC Proposals

| <b>Status of NAFCC proposals</b> |   |   |  |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>S.No.</b>                     | <b>Name of the project</b>  | <b>Total Financial Outlay (million USD)</b> | <b>Total Financial Outlay (Rs. in crore)</b> |
| 1                                | Climate resilient fodder production through hydroponic mode to augment livestock productivity in Tamil Nadu, India. | 2.34  | 16.1015                                      |



|              |  |             |                |
|--------------|--|-------------|----------------|
| 2            | Modernization by using Micro Irrigation System with Automation in V.Velur distributary offtake at L.S.44/400 Km of Parambikulam Main Canal in Udumalpet Taluk of Tiruppur District, Tamil Nadu, India. | 3.49        | 24.02          |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |  | <b>5.83</b> | <b>40.1215</b> |

|                    |  |               |                  |
|--------------------|--|---------------|------------------|
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b> |  | <b>680.06</b> | <b>4544.7715</b> |
|--------------------|--|---------------|------------------|

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly instruct the Ministry concerned to fast tracked for funding under GCF / NAFCC Fund, for these projects.**

#### **14. PENDING GRANTS-IN-AID**

**Pending Grants-in-aid from Government of India for major schemes, as on 03-10-2018**

Grants-in-aid to the tune of Rs.8699 crore are yet to be released to Tamil Nadu by the Union Government. The major schemes have been listed below:

(Rs. in Crore)

| <b>S. No.</b> | <b>Scheme</b>  | <b>Details</b>   | <b>Amount</b> |
|---------------|--|--|---------------|
| 1.            | Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Caste students | The accumulated arrear of Central grant for this vital socio-educational scheme of scholarships to SC students is due for the years 2016-17 and 2017-18. The State Government had already incurred the expenditure and is awaiting the central assistance.   | 1,219.02      |
| 2.            | Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan                                | The Central grant towards this committed liability is due for 3 years since 2015-16. Major portion of the expenditure is recurring in nature by way of salaries to teachers which could not be postponed/stopped. Hence, the State Government had to incur the expenditure in anticipation of central grant. | 2,109.08      |

|    |  |   |          |
|----|--|---|----------|
| 3. | Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan  | The accumulated Central assistance is due for more than 4 years and the State Government had met this expenditure of recurring nature time and again in order to provide uninterrupted education.   | 1,092.22 |
| 4. | Reimbursement of Tuition Fees under Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 | For ably administering the scheme and ensuring adequate admissions for the wards of downtrodden people in accordance with the Act, the State Government had borne this expenditure on Tuition Fees. The arrear is due for 4 years from 2013-14 onwards.   | 210.36   |
| 5. | Material Component under MGNREGA   | Due to delay in receipt of central funds, the funds for material component was utilized for payment of wages and subsequently claimed from Government of India. However, due to change in payment pattern for wages, this amount still remains as arrear under the material component and Government of India have to release the grant for the works done. | 382.56   |
| 6. | Construction of Fishing Harbours   | Out of the total project cost of Rs.521 crore for construction of 5 Fishing Harbours sanctioned during 2008 to 2016, Government of India's committed share was Rs.298 crore. Though all the works are nearing completion, the balance Central share is still awaited.   | 47.53    |

|     |   |   |         |
|-----|---|---|---------|
| 7.  | Performance Grants for Rural & Urban Local Bodies for 2017-18 and first instalment of General Basic grants for 2018-19 recommended by 14 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission | These grants have apparently been withheld by Government of India for non-conduct of Local Bodies elections. The second instalment of the General Basic grants for 2017-18 has been released recently but the Performance grant for 2017-18 (560.15 crores) and first instalment of General Basic grants for 2018-19 (1608.02 crores) are still pending, depriving the local bodies of the crucial resources in augmenting the civic functions to the citizens. | 2168.17 |
| 8.  | Central Share of Contribution to State Disaster Response Fund   | 14 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission had recommended for 90:10 enhanced sharing pattern from the 75:25 ratio for contribution to SDRF. Government of India had indicated in their ATR that enhancement of 90% Central contribution would be implemented after introduction of GST. GST was implemented in July 2017. Still, the Centre has not raised its share. The balance grant is due for the year 2017-18.  | 84.15   |
| 9.  | Disaster Relief Assistance for 2015 Floods  | This grant portion sanctioned from NDRF for the 2015 floods had been withheld by Government of India, on the presumption of fund availability under SDRF. But actual fund available under SDRF was less to the extent of Rs.66.90 crore. Hence, the already sanctioned grant from NDRF may be released.   | 66.90   |
| 10. | Grants awarded by 13 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission   | 13 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission recommended grants linked to various schemes and performance incentives had not been received due to the Government of India's decision to stop providing funds for 13 <sup>th</sup> FC spill over items during the 14 <sup>th</sup> FC award period, from the  | 522.91  |

|     |  |  |        |
|-----|--|--|--------|
|     |  | Central Budget for 2015-2016.  |        |
| 11. | Family Welfare Programme   | Salary related expenditure on doctors and other employees engaged in running the Family Welfare Programme. The State had already paid for the committed liability and is awaiting the liquidation of reimbursement arrears.  | 40.76  |
| 12. | Flood Management Programme   | Government of India had sanctioned this scheme in the 11 <sup>th</sup> Plan and carried it over as a spill over work to the 12 <sup>th</sup> Plan. Though the works had been completed by 2012-13, the central grant is pending for more than 5 years.   | 392.94 |
| 13. | Command Area Development & Water Management Programme                    | This grant is meant for augmentation of water resources for the agricultural sector benefitting the farmers and is due for the period from 2006-07 to 2015-16  | 81.13  |
| 14. | National Savings cum Relief Scheme for Fishermen                         | This grant is utilized for the welfare of marine fishermen and the expenditure is shared on 50:50 basis by the Centre and State. Here again, the State has been continuously providing the assistance to the fishermen in anticipation of central grants. But the accumulated grant is due for 6 years since 2012-13 | 92.66  |
| 15. | Marketing Incentive component of National Handloom Development Programme | This grant is utilized for sanction of assistance to Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies as an incentive to sustain the handloom sector. The non-release of central assistance from 2015-16 greatly affects the handloom weavers and hence the  | 78.73  |

|  |  |  |                 |
|--|--|--|-----------------|
|  |  | release of central grant may be expedited. |                 |
|  |  | <b>Total</b>                               | <b>8,589.10</b> |

The detailed list of arrears of Grants-in-aid to be received from Union Government is furnished below.

| <b>ARREAR RECEIVABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA<br/>(as on 3rd October 2018)</b> |   |                                   |                                  |   |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>(Rs. in crores)</b>   |   |                                   |                                  |   |
| <b>Sl. No.</b>   | <b>SCHEME</b>   | <b>Arrear receivable from GoI</b> | <b>Administrative Department</b> | <b>Central Ministry</b>                                       |
| 1  | Post - Matric scholarship schemes for scheduled caste students                            | 1219.02                           | AD&TW                            | M/o Social Justice & Empower- ment                            |
| 2  | Sarva Shiksha Abiyan (SSA)  | 2109.08                           | Sch. Edn                         | M/o Human Resource Development                                |
| 3  | Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (including spill over approved for 2015-16 & 2016-17) | 1092.22                           | Sch. Edn                         | M/o Human Resource Development                                |
| 4  | Material Component under MGNREGS  | 382.56                            | RD&PR                            | M/o Rural Development   |
| 5  | Grants for Flood Management Programme   | 342.94                            | PW                               | M/o Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation |
| 6  | Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009                              | 210.36                            | Sch. Edn                         | M/o Human Resource Development                                |
| 7  | Family Welfare Programme (liquidation of arrears)   | 40.76                             | H&FW                             | M/o Health and Family Welfare                                 |
| 8  | Construction of Fishing Harbours  | 47.53                             | AHD&F                            | M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare                             |
| 9  | Marketing incentive component of National Handloom Development Programme                  | 78.73                             | HHT&K                            | M/o Textiles  |

|              |   |                |       |   |
|--------------|---|----------------|-------|---|
| 10           | Command Area Development & Water Management Programme (CAD&WMP) | 81.13          | Agri  | M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare                             |
| 11           | One time Additional Central Assistance for Annual Plan 2014-15  | 76.00          | PD&SI | M/o Finance   |
| 12           | Disaster Relief Assistance for flood in 2015                    | 66.90          | Rev   | M/o Finance   |
| 13           | National Savings-Cum-Relief Scheme For Fishermen                | 92.66          | AHD&F | M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare                             |
| 14           | Subsidy Assistance For Distress Alert Transmitters              | 34.00          | AHD&F | M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare                             |
| 15           | Repair Renovation And Restoration Of Water Bodies               | 29.39          | PW    | M/o Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation |
| 16           | Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Adolocent Girls-SABLA                   | 12.30          | SW    | M/o Women and Child Welfare                                   |
| 17           | Post Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribe Students             | 5.70           | AD&TW | M/o Tribal Affairs  |
| 18           | Pre Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribe Students              | 2.48           | AD&TW | M/o Tribal Affairs  |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |   | <b>5923.76</b> |       |   |

| <b>Finance Commission Grant</b> |  |                |         |             |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------|---------|-------------|
| 19                              | 13th Finance Commission grants pending     | 522.91         | Finance | M/o Finance |
| 20                              | Finance Commission Grants for Local Bodies | 2168.18        | RD&MAWS | M/o Finance |
| 21                              | SDRF                                       | 84.15          | Rev     | M/o Finance |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>              |  | <b>8699.00</b> |         |             |

**I therefore request the Honourable Prime Minister of India to instruct the concerned Ministries of Government of India to release the above funds at the earliest.**

#### **15. ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT DENTAL COLLEGE AT VIRUDHUNAGAR**

Considering the growing demand of the meritorious students of the State for professional dental courses and the welfare of the people of the Southern parts of Tamil Nadu, Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned a new Government Dental College at Virudhunagar. You are aware that the Government of India had, based on backwardness, identified Virudhunagar as one of the two backward districts with an aim to quickly and effectively developing and included it in the aspirational districts initiative. State Government have also issued Essentiality Certificate for establishment of a new Government Dental College at Virudhunagar from the year 2019-2020. The application, along with a copy of the Essentiality Certificate, Consent of affiliation of the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University and Undertaking of State Government to provide continuous allotment of adequate funds in the budget allocation have been sent to the Dental Council of India for conveying their permission for establishment of a new Government Dental College at Virudhunagar from the year 2019-2020, with an annual intake of 100 BDS seats. The required permission from the Dental Council of India is awaited.

**I request the Honourable Prime Minister of India to kindly intervene by instructing the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to facilitate obtaining permission of the Dental Council of India to start the said Government Dental College at Virudhunagar from the academic year 2019-2020.**



## **16. ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE AT RAMANATHAPURAM.**

Government of India has not given approval for the establishment of any Government Medical College in Tamil Nadu in the Phase-I and Phase-II under Centrally Sponsored Scheme on the ground that no block of three Parliamentary Constituencies is lacking availability of atleast one Government Medical College.

On this issue, I would like to state that Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in the implementation of various schemes in the Health and Medical Education, in addition to prioritising and investing enormous amounts of State funds to set up Medical Colleges on its own. In spite of this in Tamil Nadu, there are more than 13 districts, which have no Government Medical College, but have readily available land and district hospitals eligible for consideration under this Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The State also has the challenges of inter district disparities, despite our efforts and the implementation of schemes under the National Health Mission. The State is continuously taking all efforts to redress and provide access to 'State of Art' health facilities, including tertiary care to all, within the districts itself.

It is in this background that the need for establishing a Medical College at Ramanathapuram becomes very relevant. You are already aware that the Government of India itself based on backwardness, identified Ramanathapuram as one of the two backward districts, with an aim to quickly and effectively developing them and included them in the aspirational districts initiative. Ramanathapuram district has been historically backward and geographically remote, with a long coast line. Rameswaram temple, an internationally acclaimed tourist centre which attracts lakhs of pilgrims from all over India and across the world, is located in this district. At present, the district lacks a tertiary medical care facility in the form of a Government or Private Medical College, because of which people of the district have a travel all the way to Madurai, which is located at a distance of 110 kms, to avail tertiary care. Hence, there is an urgent need to establish the tertiary medical care facility in this district. Sanction of a new Government Medical College under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme would go a long way in addressing the need for establishing such a tertiary medical care institution for this aspirational district. I would like to also mention that Ramanathapuram already has a functional District Headquarters Hospital and adequate land, as per the requirements stipulated by the Medical Council of India (MCI).

Despite having a clear case for being considered for sanction of a new Government Medical College at Ramanathapuram, it is disappointing that both in the Phase-I, where 58 Government Medical Colleges were sanctioned and in Phase-II, where 24 Government Medical Colleges have been announced, Tamil Nadu has not been considered, inspite of land and a functional district/ referral hospital being readily available in the district.

Even though Government of India is taking a position that the present proposal for establishment of 24 Government Medical College was

based on a criteria to have atleast one Government Medical College for three Parliamentary Constituencies in India.

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India to relax the condition to facilitate sanction of a Government Medical College at Ramanathapuram District under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Establishment of New Medical Colleges attached with existing District / Referral Hospitals".**

## **17. INDUSTRIES – INDUSTRIAL HUB FOR DEFENCE PRODUCTS IN SALEM**

### **Promotion of an industrial estate at the vacant lands in Salem Steel Plant by setting up an industrial hub for defence products**

Hon'ble Union Minister for Finance had announced the formation of two Defence Industrial Production Corridors in the Union Budget 2018-19. Subsequently, the Hon'ble Union Minister for Defence Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman had announced that one of the two Defence Industrial Production Corridors would be located in Tamil Nadu. The establishment of this corridor will certainly take the State of Tamil Nadu to a new trajectory of growth and development, apart from bringing in high-technology production to the State, which has got the potential to rise up to the expectations of the requirements of the Defence.

Tamil Nadu has the best eco-system available for the formation of high technology Defence Clusters which require skilled man power, high quality infrastructure, un-interrupted power supply, peaceful labour relations, excellent law and order and enabling environment of Ease of Doing Business. The State Government would extend its full support for the formation of the Defence Cluster in the State and facilitate all the investments that will be attracted in the Cluster.

In this regard, the unutilized lands available to the tune of 1400 acres, with the Salem Steel Plant ever since its inception can be considered for the establishment of the Defence Industrial Cluster, since it is located on the proposed Chennai-Vellore-Salem-Hosur-Coimbatore-Trichy Corridor route and also has all the advantages that Tamil Nadu possess as mentioned above.

On 6.2.2018, the Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India has been addressed by the State Government to re-convey the lands not utilized by the Salem Steel Plant for the development of an Industrial Park. I request your kind intervention in the matter and arrange for re-conveyance of the unutilized lands in the premise of Salem Steel Plant to establish the Industrial Hub for Defence Products.

This area will be an ideal location for the formation of the proposed Defence Industrial Cluster and more importantly taking this unutilized land will mean that the proposed Defence Cluster can start without any delay due to fresh land acquisition and related issues.

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to instruct the Defence Ministry to implement this Project at the earliest.**

## **18. LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

### **Saving employment of 8 lakh people in Fireworks Industry in Tamil Nadu**

About 850 fireworks manufacturing units are functioning in Tamil Nadu. These units are mostly located in Virudhunagar District and contribute 90% of the fireworks produced in the country. They provide employment to more than 8 lakh people mostly women, directly or indirectly. All the manufacturers observe very high standards of safety and have evolved as a well regulated industry over a period of time.

In the recent past, the Industry is facing a major setback due to filing of Public Interest Litigations by a few NGOs and individuals before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to ban manufacture, sale and use of fireworks in any form. The manufacturers of fireworks have suffered very severe financial losses and there has also been loss of employment due to imposition of ban on sale of fireworks in National Capital Region during the 2017 Diwali season.

Even though the ban was subsequently lifted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, few more Public Interest Litigations have been filed before the Supreme Court of India and the same have been admitted. This has created fear and uncertainty in the minds of the firework manufacturers. 850 factories went on strike from 26.12.2017 to 19.01.2018 as they are unsure about the outcome of the pending Public Interest Litigation. During the main Pongal festival, all the above workers have lost their earnings.

As per the request of the Fireworks Manufacturers Association, an implead petition was filed by the Micro, Small and Medium Entrepreneurs Department on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government. The case was heard last on 28.08.2018 and is reserved for judgment. The issue has to be sorted out immediately; otherwise production of crackers and the livelihood of lakhs of workers for the next Diwali festival will be adversely affected.

Use of fireworks during Diwali and many other religious and cultural festivals is deeply rooted in our tradition. Even in the developed countries like U.S.A., Singapore, Japan, Australia and the EU nations allow massive display of fireworks during celebration of religious, cultural and National events such as Christmas, New year, Independence day, etc. The state government will facilitate improvement in chemical technology, better quality fireworks which leads to lesser pollution.

As per rule 3(b) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, only when the level of any of the pollutants mentioned in the table in Schedule VII goes beyond the prescribed limit in the said table for two consecutive days shall the alarm bells ring and continuous monitoring and further investigation instituted. In the case of fireworks, almost all reported scientific data has revealed reversing of the level of pollution to the level prior to the use of fireworks, within 24 hours.

It is learnt that the manufacturers of fireworks in Tamil Nadu use nitrate salts for its production, which is much less polluting than chloride salts, which are used extensively in fireworks manufactured in other parts the world. Further, none of the firework manufacturers in Tamil Nadu are using the chemicals prohibited under various Pollution Control Rules or by the Supreme Court of India.

The manufacturers of fireworks in Tamil Nadu are using safe and environment friendly chemicals which are compatible to the health of the works as well as to the environment and are producing fancy crackers. Hence, there are no recorded long term effect on the environment. Since the use of fireworks is attached to our socio cultural traditions, any ban on production, sale and use of the same will adversely affect the sentiments of the people of India. It will also affect the livelihood of 8 lakh people and push them into poverty.

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to carry out necessary amendment to Rule 3(b) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and exempt the fireworks manufacturing industry from various provisions of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, thereby saving the livelihood of 8 lakh families dependent on fireworks industry.**

## **19. UDAN SCHEME**

**Request flight operations to Hosur, Neyveli & Ramanathapuram and evening flight service to Salem.**

I would like to thank you for the efforts taken by Ministry to promote Air connectivity between Regions under the UDAN scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu. People in and around Salem District have welcomed the scheme and are benefitted by the flight services to Salem Airport.

Similarly, Hosur is an important industrial hub in Krishnagiri District, which was selected under the UDAN Scheme in the first phase and flight operations are yet to start for want of "No Objection Certificate" from Bangalore International Airport. The Hosur Airport, will be an engine of growth to the industrial hub of Krishnagiri and neighbouring Districts and also will develop the Chennai – Bangalore Industrial Corridor.

Neyveli has also been selected in the Phase-I of UDAN Scheme and bidding process with airline operators has been completed.

I would also like to point out that Ramanathapuram has been included in the Phase-II of the UDAN Scheme. Rameswaram is an important Pilgrimage and Tourism centre, attracting tourists from all over India.

**Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister may kindly instruct, Ministry of Civil Aviation to start Air operations to Hosur, Neyveli and Ramanathapuram as expeditiously as possible. I also request that an evening flight service between Salem and Chennai may be introduced under the UDAN Scheme.**

## **20. AGRICULTURE**

### **Further increase in MSP for Copra.**

Tamil Nadu is one of the major Coconut growing States in the Country with an area of around 4.35 lakh hectares. Every year, the Government of India, based on the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), is declaring Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various agricultural crops which also include Copra. For 2018 Copra season, **Government of India has declared Rs.75.11 per Kg as MSP for Milling Copra. But, in major Copra markets of Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Karnataka, the present market price is ranging between Rs.90/- to Rs.110/- per Kg and the same trend is expected to continue till the end of the season.**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has suggested Rs.90/- per kg for Milling Copra for 2018 Copra Season, taking various factors into consideration like area, production, pest & disease infestation, cost of cultivation, demand & supply, etc., As suggested by the Government of Tamil Nadu, the present market rate prevails between Rs.90/- to Rs.110/- per Kg in leading copra markets in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka. The *agmarknet.gov.in* portal presents that the market price in neighbouring States also ranges above Rs.100/- per kg and is even as high as Rs.160/- per kg in some markets like Tumkur in Karnataka.

The Government of India, for crops like Paddy, Ragi and Pulses, has fixed the MSP at 150% of the cost of cultivation.

**I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to declare Minimum Support Price(MSP) for Milling Copra at Rs.105/- per kg for the current 2018 Copra season, for safeguarding the interest of Coconut growers of not only Tamil Nadu but also other States. This request would be in tune with your vision of doubling farmers' income.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Issued By :- DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai - 9.**