

Press Release

**Hon'ble Health and Family Welfare Minister
Thiru.Ma.Subramanian Presenting on the efficient Health
Systems and achievements of Government of Tamil Nadu at the
prestigious Harvard University, United States of America.**

Details are as follows;

I bring with me warm and affectionate greetings to this august gathering from the people of Tamil Nadu the Southernmost State of India. It is indeed a matter of great honour and delight to represent our 72.1 million population on this auspicious occasion. Tamil Nadu with its diverse culture and architecture is home to a number of ancient relics, historic buildings, religious sites, beautiful beaches, forests, mountains, hills and valleys. As the Minister for Department of Health and Family Welfare, it is indeed a great privilege for me to address this esteemed audience on my own behalf and on behalf of our Honourable Chief Minister, Government of Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu is known for its remarkable track record of excelling in healthcare delivery through its impressive achievements in the health sector. The State carries a rich history of pioneering Public Health initiatives through its dynamic Public health system started way back in 1923.

The State's emphasis on the Primary Health Care and Promotive Health, well-trained and skilled human resources with a transparent medical services recruitment system, model drug procurement and distribution system, State-of-the-art Secondary and Tertiary care, unique, pioneering innovative and flagship schemes are some of the several reasons for the State's success in health care. The Government initiated Chief Minister's **Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS)** for the poor and marginalised under a robust Public Private Partnership was launched on 23rd July 2009 by Muthamizh Arignar **Dr.Kalaingar Karunanidhi**, the five-time former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, whose tall leadership and legacy has left behind many foot prints. The all time successful CMCHIS has reached out to 14 million beneficiaries between July 2009 and June 2024 with claims approved for ₹136.25 billion. Out of the total beneficiaries, 4.32 million received care at Government hospitals with claims amounting to ₹49.45 billion. To name a few other populist and wonderful schemes spearheaded by Muthamizh Arignar **Dr.Kalaingar Karunanidhi**, In alignment with the Government's vision –

“Prevention is Better than Cure,” the flagship scheme **Varumun Kappom Thittam** was originally launched in 1999 as a preventive health initiative to provide comprehensive health check-up, treatment and health education to the rural and urban people.

108 Emergency Care Services with a fleet of **1,353 Ambulances** launched on **15.09.2008**, has significantly reduced response times in both rural and urban areas. The average response time for Road Traffic Emergencies across the State is **11 minutes and 23 seconds**. **Kannoli Kappom Thittam** was launched in **2009** to screen for refractive errors for all the students studying in 6th to 12th Standards in Government & Government-aided schools. To date, a total of 4.25 million children have been screened and spectacles provided for 270 thousand students confirmed with refractive errors. Son of the former Chief Minister, Thiru.M.Karunanidhi and the present Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Mr.Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin** is a towering figure who through sheer hard work and dedication has carried forward the successful legacy to greater heights through innovative schemes such as: **Innuyir Kappom Nammai Kakkum-48** scheme which provides cashless and free emergency Medical treatment for all Road Traffic Accidents irrespective of Nationality. Under the scheme during 18.12.2023 to 31.05.2024, 2,52,981 patients have availed cashless treatment on an assurance mode for an amount of Rupees 2.21 billion. It is remarkable that 2,33,039 patients out of the total beneficiaries availed treatment in Government Hospitals.

Kalaignarin Varumun Kappom scheme was re-launched at Vazhapadi, Salem on September 29th, 2021, offering preventive health check-ups in camp mode. The scheme includes 25 screening tests focusing on common Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases, facilitated by 17 specialists, benefiting a total of 36,69,326 people up to 2023-24. The **Hub and Spoke model** for transporting lab samples was launched on February 5th, 2024 covering 755 Hubs and 2,427 Spokes. The scheme links Primary to Secondary to Tertiary health care facilities seamlessly. A total of 216 different tests are carried out under the scheme through 1,976 transporters identified within the Government health cadre. From the launch of the scheme until June 2024, 227 thousand samples have been effectively transported.

Idhayam Kappom scheme was launched on 27.06.2023 for providing Emergency loading Cardiac doses orally at the Health Sub-centres to prevent deaths due to heart attack. Between June 2023 and June 2024, a total of 8,500 patients with suspected cardiac symptoms were administered Emergency Cardiac Loading dose and promptly referred to the nearest Hub hospital within the Golden Hour thereby saving their lives. **'Siruneeragam**

Kakkum Seermigu Maruthuva scheme' was launched on 10.07.2023 for early detection of Chronic Kidney Diseases at Health Sub-centres and Primary Health Centres. A total of 460 thousand patients were screened, out of whom 3,361 patients were suspected for Chronic Kidney Diseases and referred to higher centres for further evaluation and management. **Workplace-based Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) intervention program** to screen workers including migrant labourers for NCDs in factories, industries and unorganized sectors was launched on 09.01.2024. As of June 2024, 2,96,652 industrial workers from 486 industries have been screened for NCDs out of whom, 26,471 workers have been identified with NCDs.

Tamil Nadu is the first State in India to implement a State-wide, multisectoral Rabies control initiative. Anti-Rabies Vaccine (ARV) and Anti-Snake Venom (ASV) are made available in all Government health facilities across Tamil Nadu, including 2,286 Primary Health Centres. The availability of ARV and ASV are systematically monitored and managed via an online portal, ensuring real-time tracking and efficient distribution across healthcare facilities. Since the inception of the Deceased Donor Organ Transplantation Program in Tamil Nadu in 2008, a total of 7,783 organs have been transplanted, including hearts, lungs, livers, kidneys, pancreases, small bowels, stomachs, and hands. Additionally, 3,950 minor organs and tissues have been transplanted. These numbers highlight the impact of Tamil Nadu's organ donation program in saving lives. Out of the 36 States in India, Tamil Nadu has consistently held the 1st position at the national level for achieving the highest number of organ transplantations.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has also announced State Honors for Organ Donors. Since September 2023, more than 200 funerals of organ donors have been held with State Honors in Tamil Nadu. Though the present Government, when it took over, had to grapple with the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it was very efficiently handled to rise up to the occasion and promptly put systems into place. The COVID-19 pandemic brought great adverse effects in the area of NCDs since home-bound NCD Patients could not continue their daily treatment resulting in **poor NCD control** and **increased number of deaths among NCD patients** with comorbidities like Hypertension, Diabetes, etc. To address this crucial challenge, the flagship scheme of the Government, the **Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam** Scheme was launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on **05.08.2021 starting with the delivery of drugs at Home to the first beneficiary Mrs.Sarojammal at Samanapalli in Krishnagiri district.**

Under MTM, we provide home-based specific services:

Home - based screening services by Woman Health Volunteers (WHVs) from Self-Help Group selected through Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women – the best model of engaging another sector with Department of Health & Family Welfare. One WHV is assigned for each Health Sub-centre area with 10,969 WHVs in the State – 8,713 in the Rural areas and 2,256 in Urban areas, **Home - based drug delivery** by WHVs for Hypertension and Diabetes patients breaking barriers to access besides screening the eligible in the families for Hypertension & Diabetes using handy electronic BP apparatus and Glucometer, **Home – based Physiotherapy and Palliative Care services** by a team of Physiotherapist and Palliative Care Nurse who are placed @ one team per block covering all 463 blocks in the State in a branded MTM vehicle, **Home – based provision of CAPD bags** – this is one of the rarest achievement by any government across the globe where the Palliative Care Nurse also delivers the CAPD – Peritoneal Dialysis bags at homes of Chronic Kidney Diseases patients. The patients can do self-dialysis at home avoiding and reducing the need for Haemodialysis cutting down on their out-of-pocket expenditures.

The State has operationalized institution-based NCD services at all PHCs, Government Hospitals and Medical college hospitals by placing one NCD / MTM Staff Nurse @ one per PHC, one per GH and one per Medical college hospital. The home-based services are linked with the PHCs and GH through strong referral system with both forward and backward linkages. The commitment and unwavering support of the Government is evidenced in reaching, 5 millionth Beneficiary Mrs.Panchalai at Sithalapakkam in Chengalpet District on 23.02.2022, 6 millionth Beneficiary Mr.Periyasamy at Mayittampatti in Madurai District on 10.04.2022, 7.5 millionth Beneficiary Mrs.Nallammal at Gedamalai in Namakkal District on 21.06.2022, 8 millionth Beneficiary Mrs.Shanthi at Godamedu in Chennai District on 06.08.2022, 9 millionth Beneficiary Mrs.Jarina Begum in Chennai District on 25.09.2022, 10 millionth and one Beneficiary Mrs.Meenakshi at Sannasipatty in Trichy District on 29.12.2022

It is matter of pride for me to highlight here that at the time of launch of MTM, our Honourable Chief Minister expressed the vision, dedication and commitment to reach 10 million beneficiaries. The Honourable Chief Minister did grace the occasion of honouring not only the 5 millionth beneficiary but also 10 millionth and one beneficiary. Key benefits of this innovative Health scheme which has drawn the attention at National and International level showcases the following advantages; Creation of a Care of Health Volunteers from the community from another Government department. Skilled health workers to deliver quality and people-centred care. Women Empowerment by

involving Women Health Volunteers from Self Help Group (SHGs), This model has shown way for potential replicability as it is adopted by other States, Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam (MTM) has shown concrete ways to establish in the community continuum of care, timely referral and also to achieve disease control for Hypertension and Diabetes, The **'Idayam Kappom'** Scheme provides Emergency Cardiac drugs to those with symptoms of heart attack thereby preventing their premature deaths. Currently, over 18 million are first time beneficiaries who without the MTM scheme would have gone undetected and probably suffered due to non-treatment / complications.Reduction in Out-Of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) for the common man.

Improved health services coverage and health outcomes through making services available, accessible and affordable. Strengthens greater equity, social inclusion and community participation and social accountability of the Department of Health & Family Welfare. A one-minute video featuring testimonials from MTM beneficiaries capturing the positive impact of the scheme on their lives. I express my sincere gratitude and joy for this great opportunity to share the achievements of the Government of Tamil Nadu which strives to serve it's people in the most comprehensive and integrated manner.

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