

PRESS RELEASE

**Text of 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 15.6.2019**

1. GODAVARI – CAUVERY LINKAGE

Request to expedite linking of Peninsular Rivers

Tamil Nadu is a water deficit State. The annual per capita availability of water in the State is 860 cubic meters only, as against the national average of 1869 cubic meters. Tamil Nadu has tapped almost all of its surface water resources and has to look for sources beyond its frontiers to meet the needs of its growing population. The ground water resources are also fast depleting and in some areas the ground water is not available even at 1000 feet.

The only major river system in Tamil Nadu is the Cauvery system and it is also a deficit system. Therefore, there is an urgent need to find alternate sources to meet the water needs of Tamil Nadu.

The Revised National Water Policy emphasizes the need for inter-basin transfer of waters for meeting basic human need and achieving equity and social justice.

The only solution to provide water to Water starved Tamil Nadu is to transfer Water from Godavari which is a surplus basin to Cauvery. It is estimated that above 300 TMC ft. of water can be

diverted from Godavari River to other Peninsular Rivers and at least 200 TMC ft. to Cauvery and onwards to Vaigai and Gundar rivers. I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister that utmost priority be kindly given to Godavari – Cauvery link. So that the water needs of Tamil Nadu are fulfilled.

2. REJUVENATION OF CAUVERY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES ON THE LINES OF GANGA RESTORATION AND REJUVENATION

Request to Restore the Cauvery and its main tributaries on the lines of Ganga Restoration and Rejuvenation.

River Cauvery is the life line of Tamil Nadu and considered as one of the "Sacred River of South India". It is also known as "**Ganges of south**". While the State Government has taken various steps to stop the pollution of the river on priority basis there is a need to have an integrated, centrally funded multi sectoral, multi departmental approach for Bio-diversity Conservation, Afforestation, River Surface Cleaning, creation of Sewerage Treatment Plants and River Front Development areas for the conservation and rejuvenation of river Cauvery and its main tributaries like Bhavani, Amaravathi and Noyyal.

Therefore, on the lines of the successful and much acclaimed "**Namami Ganga**" Programme, taken up under your leadership, a comprehensive restoration and rejuvenation programme of the river Cauvery is contemplated by Government of Tamil Nadu.

This scheme of "Nadanthaai Vaazhi Cauvery" requires support from Central Government and multi lateral funding agencies.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to instruct the Ministry of Water resources to support this scheme of rejuvenation of the Cauvery river which will cost approximately about Rs.7000 to Rs.10,000 Crore.

3. IMPROVEMENT OF CAUVERY IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Improvements and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems in Cauvery Basin for Efficient Irrigation Management.

A Detailed Project Report for improvements and rehabilitation of irrigation systems in the Cauvery basin for efficient irrigation management at an estimated cost of Rs.17,600 crore has been prepared by Tamil Nadu after obtaining an in principal approval by the Central Water Commission.

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 sub basin	- 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
Total	- 17600.00

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 net work wherever possible

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly instruct the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation to approve the other components of the Project and to provide funding for the project under an appropriate programme. The CWC has already approved an in principle clearance for one of the nine components namely the Grand Anicut canal sub basin in 2017.

4. REJUVENATION OF WATER BODIES IN TAMIL NADU

Request to sanction necessary financial assistance for the proposed rejuvenation of water bodies schemes.

The Government of Tamil Nadu in order to rejuvenate the water bodies like lakes, tanks and other water supply reservoirs has prepared master plan for the following schemes which need financial support from the Government of India. The schemes are:

I. Formation of a Reservoir to augment water supply to Chennai city at a cost of Rs.65 Cr.

Formation of a Reservoir by upgrading the capacity of Twin tanks Kattur and Thattamanji in Minjur Block of Ponneri Taluk of Tiruvallur District and Sea Water Intrusion Control Measures by upgrading the capacity of the twin tanks to 0.70 TMCft (2 fillings) with Construction of a Sub-surface Dyke cum storage structure to abate sea water intrusion and Construction of Artificial Recharge Shaft - 15 Nos to recharge the aquifers.

II. Reclaiming of Water Bodies – Kazhuveli and Kolavoy tanks

a) Reclaiming Kazhuveli Tank In Marakanam Block of Villupram District to store Fresh Water And Sea Water Control Measures & Recharge Shaft Well / Shafts at a cost of Rs.161 Cr.

Construction of check dam @ Kazhuveli to impound 1.49 TMCft and prevent tidal water entry in to the Lake with Construction of

Artificial Recharge well -
2 Nos. Construction of Artificial Recharge Shaft-6 Nos.

b) Reclamation & Eco Restoration Of Kolavoy Tank For Sustaining Water Supply Augmentation Of Chennai City And Peri –Urban Area In Kancheepuram District Rs.90 Cr.

III. Artificial recharge structures in rivers and tanks for ground water resources development at a cost of Rs.461 Crores.

a) Artificial recharge schemes in Thanjavur District where 25 Firkas out of 50 Firkas fall under Over Exploited Category (in 2013) but depend on Ground Water resources for more than 50% of the Irrigation needs to be taken up at a cost of Rs.49 Cr.

b) Artificial recharge schemes in Thiruvarur District where 9 Firkas out of 27 Firkas fall under Over Exploited Category (in 2013) but depend on Ground Water resources for more than 50% of the Irrigation needs to be taken up at a cost of Rs.12 Cr.

c) Artificial recharge structures in rivers and tanks for ground water resources development in districts where more than 50% of agriculture depend on Ground Water Development Resources in other Districts to be taken up at a cost of Rs.400 Cr.

IV. Pumping Scheme with Solar Energy: Rs. 32.50 Cr.

Pumping Scheme in Maharajasamudram River to feed Grand Anicut canal to meet the irrigation demand and drinking water augmentation in

Pattukottai Taluk in Thanjavur District with installation and utilisation of Solar Energy to be taken up at a cost of Rs.32.50 Crore.

V. Dyke across Vellar at a cost of Rs.250 cr.

In spite of the fact that there is a Surplus flow of 3.071 TMC @ 75% dependability to the sea, 32 Firkas out of 82 Firkas in Vellar basin fall under Ground Water Over exploited category. There is necessity to improve Ground Water potential to cope with the water demand as well for creating storage structure and Tail end dyke cum Barrage in Vellar basin.

VI. Rejuvenation of water bodies along the coastal belt to be taken up at a cost of Rs.450 Cr.

Schemes to improve Ground Water Potential and arresting sea water intrusion along the coastal areas by restoring capacity of water bodies by providing dykes is proposed for funding assistance under Repair Renovation and Rehabilitation (RRR) component of PMKSY.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the authorities to sanction necessary financial assistance for the proposed rejuvenation of water bodies schemes.

5. MULLAI PERIYAR DAM

Restoration of Water Level to FRL of 152 ft. in the Mullai Periyar Dam.

The Supreme Court in its Order dated 27.2.2006, while permitting the Government of Tamil Nadu to raise the water level initially to 142 ft. has also permitted Tamil Nadu to carry out the remaining strengthening works like, strengthening the Baby Dam and Earth Dam, raising the upstream parapet wall of the Main Dam by 2 ft. etc. After completion of the remaining strengthening works to the satisfaction of the Central Water Commission, independent experts are to examine the safety angle before the water level is permitted to be raised to the FRL of 152 feet. This has been affirmed in the Judgment and Decree of the Supreme Court dt 7.5.2014.

Following these orders, the Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned a sum of Rs.7.85 crore for strengthening the Baby Dam and other related works so that water level can be restored to the FRL of 152 ft. The Government of Tamil Nadu has applied to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for clearance to cut 23 trees downstream of the Baby Dam, and requested Wild Life, Environment and Forest clearances for carrying out the works.

The Nodal Officer of the Forest Department, Government of Kerala, after a gap of 18 months, in November 2016 on the advice of the Government of Kerala has negated the proposal. This rejection by the Government of Kerala is against the decree of the Supreme Court dated 7.5.2014.

The Supreme Court in the judgments dated 27.2.2006 and 7.5.2014 had categorically held that Tamil Nadu could carry out the remaining strengthening works to restore the water level in the Dam to FRL 152 ft., subject to the stipulations made therein. The suggestion of the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to approach the Inter-State Council for this miniscule matter is against the judgments of the Supreme Court. The Government of Kerala and the Government of India are duty bound to accord the requisite clearances when the project proponent approaches them for implementing the judgments in letter and spirit.

I request you to instruct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to advise Kerala not to deny the required clearances to enable the Government of India, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to accord the clearances for the Government of Tamil Nadu to carry out the remaining works as per the judgements of the Supreme Court and to restore the water level in the Dam to FRL of 152 ft.

6. MEKEDATU PROJECT

Request to withdraw the permission given by CWC to the Government of Karnataka for preparation of Detail Project Report for Mekedatu Project

Due to the untiring efforts of our Revered Leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma and due to the intervention of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Final

Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal dated 5.2.2007 was published in the Gazette of India on 19.2.2013. The Hon'ble Supreme Court on 16.2.2018 delivered the judgment on the Civil Appeals filed by the Party States upholding the decisions of the Tribunal with slight modifications.

As per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 18.5.2018, the Government of India notified the Cauvery Management Scheme, 2018 in the Gazette of India on 1.6.2018 to give effect to the decision of the Tribunal as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment has affirmed that the "upper riparian State shall not take any action so as to affect the scheduled deliveries of water to the lower riparian States."

However, the Government of Karnataka much to the consternation of the people of Tamil Nadu has planned to construct a reservoir, with a capacity of 67.16 TMC ft. at Mekedatu across Cauvery River and approached the Central Water Commission for preparation of a Detailed Project Report for the Mekedatu project. I am constrained to point out that the Central Water Commission has given permission to the Government of Karnataka to go ahead with the preparation of a Detailed Project Report in blatant violation of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

I have already detailed these facts in my letter dated 27.11.2018 to you and requested you to instruct the Central Water Commission to forthwith withdraw the permission given by it to Karnataka.

The action of Karnataka in proposing a reservoir and that of Central Water Commission in giving permission for preparation of a Detailed Project Report have caused deep anguish and apprehension in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu will be denied its due share of water, which has been given to us by the Supreme Court after a protracted legal battle.

Therefore, the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly resolved on 6.12.2018 condemning and opposing the action of the Government of Karnataka, and the Central Water Commission for having given permission to Karnataka on 22.11.2018 to prepare a Detailed Project Report for construction of a reservoir at Mekedatu. Further, the Legislative Assembly urged that the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India should immediately order the Central Water Commission to withdraw the permission given to Karnataka for preparing the Detailed Project Report. In addition, the Legislative Assembly requested the Government of India to direct the Government of Karnataka or its Agencies not to take up any construction work at Mekedatu or at any other place in the Cauvery basin of Karnataka State, without the consent of the State of Tamil Nadu, in violation of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the judgment of the

Hon'ble Supreme Court. The resolution of the Legislative Assembly was sent to you by me on 6.12.2018 for immediate action.

The Government of Karnataka on 21.1.2019 has informed the Hon'ble Supreme Court that it has sent the Detailed Project Report for the Mekedatu Project to the Central Water Commission for according further clearances. This unilateral action of Karnataka is highly objectionable and is a gross violation of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the judgement of the Supreme Court.

I have written to you on 25.1.2019 requesting to reject and return the Detailed Project Report of Karnataka for the Mekedatu Project.

I request you to immediately direct the Ministry of Water Resources to instruct the Central Water Commission to withdraw the permission given to the Government of Karnataka for preparation of the Detailed Project Report for Mekedatu project and also reject and return the DPR for this project I further request you to direct the Government of Karnataka not to take up any construction activities in the Cauvery basin of Karnataka without the prior consent of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

7. DAM SAFETY BILL

Request to withhold the process of Legislation on Dam Safety

I had written to you in June 2018, urging the Government of India not to legislate an Act on Dam Safety till such time all the States are consulted and consensus is evolved. The Resolution passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 26.6.2018, expressing the concerns of the people of Tamil Nadu, on the proposed Dam Safety Bill was also sent to Government of India for immediate action.

However, the serious concerns of Tamil Nadu have not been addressed at all by the Government of India and a Bill was introduced in the last (Sixteenth) Lok Sabha without obtaining the views/comments of the State Governments.

In my letter to you dated: 14.12.2018, I had detailed the main concerns of Tamil Nadu and urged you to withdraw the Bill which was introduced in the last Lok Sabha. The main concerns of Tamil Nadu are:-

- a) The 1st proviso under Section 23(1) of the Dam Safety Bill, 2018 specifies that where the specified Dam in one State is owned by another State, then the National Dam Safety Authority would act as the State Dam Safety Organization for that particular dam. This implies that the dam owning State would have no rights over the safety and maintenance of the dam located in another State. Mullai

Periyar, Parambikulam, Thunakkadavu and Peruvuripallam Dams are owned, operated and maintained by the Government of Tamil Nadu by virtue of Inter-State Agreements, but are located in a neighbouring State. Further, the Constitution Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India upheld the rights of Tamil Nadu on Mullai Periyar Dam in the judgment and decree dated 7.5.2014.

Therefore, to deny Tamil Nadu the right to be the Dam Safety Authority with regard to these four dams and vesting the powers to the National Dam Safety Authority would tantamount to encroaching on the rights of Tamil Nadu. It is also a violation of the federal principles enshrined in our Constitution. Therefore, I request, that the clause should be suitably amended to ensure that the Dam Safety Organisation of a State should have jurisdiction over the dams owned, controlled, operated and maintained by it even though they are located in another State.

- b) Tamil Nadu had suggested to include a new sub clause to enter upon Forest and Wild Life Sanctuary areas for ensuring proper maintenance of the dams by the dam owning States as detailed below :-

“Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law, the Dam maintenance officials / personnel shall have the right to enter into the Forests and Wild Life

Sanctuary area to carry out dam safety, maintenance and rehabilitation measures”.

This clause should be included in the Bill to ensure access to the dams by technical personnel for those dams which are located in forest areas and wild life sanctuaries. However, this suggestion was also not incorporated in the Bill introduced in the last Lok Sabha on 12.12.2018.

In these circumstances, I request you to kindly instruct the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation not to proceed further with the process of legislation on Dam safety till such time Tamil Nadu’s genuine concerns are addressed and a consensus evolved among all the States.

8. ELECTRICITY ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL 2014

Request to drop proposed amendment in Electricity Amendment Bill in respect of Carriage & Content Concept.

The amendment proposed in Electricity Amendment Bill 2014 in respect of Carriage & Content Concept have to be dropped in total due to the following reasons.

By separating carriage and content in the distribution sector, this bill, in one stroke, will make all power utilities in the public sector totally unviable.

This Bill seeks to give unbridled access to private players to supply power to consumers and enable them to use the already laid out distribution network of the public sector power companies.

Without any investment in the distribution network or any responsibility to maintain the network, the proposed supply licensees would be able to access all the high value customers in commercially viable areas amounting to cherry picking without any social obligations, while the State public sector power utilities would only be left with the obligation of power supply to subsidized categories of consumers.

This will make the State public sector Power distribution companies further financially sick.

The public sector utilities are already facing financial crisis and the situation will only worsen. Hence, the proposed concept of separation of carriage & content is not financially viable.

Further, there will be a forced retrenchment of staff in the existing distribution companies leading to public unrest and law and order problems.

Hence, I request that the amendment proposed in Electricity Amendment Bill, 2014 in respect of Carriage & Content Concept have to be dropped.

9. MOTOR VEHICLES (AMENDMENT), BILL 2017

Request to consider the important objections of the Government of Tamil Nadu to the proposed Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Government Of India, has introduced certain amendments in the existing Motor Vehicle Act 1988. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2017 has been passed in the Lok Sabha without consideration of the valid objections submitted by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Select Committee on the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2017 has also visited Chennai on 12.10.2017 to discuss the above bill with the Government of Tamil Nadu. During the discussion the objections on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu on the above bill has been placed before the Select Committee. The Rajya Sabha Committee has adopted the report without any amendment.

The following modifications in five clauses are required to be made in the proposed Motor Vehicles Act bill.

1. Proposed of New Section 211A (Clause 89) to be deleted.

The proposed section 211-A is intended to empower the Central Government to levy and collect fees and taxes through any office, authority, body or agency owned or controlled by the Central Government in a particular manner. That will be not only be an encroaching operation on the exclusive power of State Government but also affecting the State Revenue. The reason for entrusting the work of collecting fees and tax to a body is not explained.

The State accepts the electronic application development and have already implemented computerization of all transactions of the Transport Department by the soft-ware developed by NIC. The object of the proposed amendment i.e. "for facilitating the public" could be effectively carried out by the officers of Motor Vehicle Department in accordance with the provisions of Principal Act itself. Hence the insertion of new Section 211A has to be deleted and the present Section 211 may be suitably amended to accept the electronic application forms.

2. Proposed New Sections 215A, B& C (Clause 91) to be deleted

This proposed amendment Clause 91 encroaches on the rights of State Government to regulate the transport operations in the State. Under these new Sections the Central Government shall have the power to delegate any power or functions that have been conferred upon it by the Act to any public

servant or public authority and authorize such public servant or public authority to discharge any of its powers, functions and duties under this Act.

Such excess delegation of powers to private persons or a group of persons in the name of any public servant or public authority is not only against the Constitution but it provides a gateway for private bodies in operation of public services which is against the policy of State Government.

Hence to save the rights and Policy of State and to avoid the entry of private bodies in the name of public servant or public authority in operation of the transport sector, the above Sections 215A, B and C should be deleted.

3. Proposed New Section 66A&88A (Clause 29& 33) to be deleted.

Clause no 29 introduces a new provision of Sec 66A enabling the Central Government to develop a comprehensive national transportation policy for facilitating barrier free movement of freight across States liberalizing public transport including city taxi permit systems and also another new provisions of Sec 88A is sought to be introduced by the clause 33 of the bill empowering the Central Government to make schemes for Inter State transportation of goods and passengers and also liberalizing the prevailing permit system in respect of interstate transportation of goods and passengers.

This proposed amendment Clause 33 and 29 implies that the powers under these sections can be exercised by the Central Government not just in

the context of Inter-State transportation, but also in the context of transportation within a State.

The existing powers of the State Governments to enter into Inter-State Agreements with the neighbouring states to control and regulate the operation of other state stage carriages and as well as goods carriage would be taken away by virtue of these provisions of new Sec 66A and 88A.

This will affect the interest of the State Transport Undertakings of the State, particularly the policy of the present Bill in regard to the Inter – State Agreements between the States would be a derogatory provision to Sec.20 of the Road transport Corporation Act, 1950.

The proposed amendment Clause 33 of the Bill eliminates the monopoly of the States to carry on transport business as conferred under Article 298 read with Article 19(1) (g) (6) (ii) of the Constitution resulting the powers of States to control and regulate the movement of public service vehicles by grant of permit and levy of taxes and fees will be taken away by the Central Government. Serving the major sector of the population of Tamilnadu from the rural to urban areas including remote villages & Ghat areas by Government owned Transport Undertakings would be weakened or even terminated. The Nationalisation policy of the State would be overrun by the proposed Clause.

Hence it is requested that the amendments of new insertions of section 66A and 88A may be deleted.

4. Withdraw the Amendment Section 44 (Clause 18)

Though it was stated that there is no revenue loss to the States by this proposed Clause 18, the revenue of registration related fezes would be taken away by the dealers who are going to register the vehicles without any physical inspection and thus loss of revenue to States could not be avoided. The defective vehicles could not be identified if registering the vehicles is done without physical inspection based on the Type Approval Certificates. This will have serious impact on road safety. By virtue of the relationship between manufacturers and dealers they would always make all attempts to promote their business activities and improve their production, sales and service. Such business motivated dealers could not become "authorities" under Art.12 of Constitution. The present competent authorities would be reduced to the level of ministerial cadre by making them to assign registration numbers and sign the registration certificate automatically based on the particulars furnished by the dealers in the applications prepared by them.

Hence the proposed amendment to substitute existing section 44 of the Act by the new section 44 with an object to remove the requirement of the production of a motor vehicle before the registering authority at the time of registration should be withdrawn and the present section 44 shall be allowed to continue on the part of road safety vision.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to consider among others the above important objections of the Government of Tamil Nadu to the proposed Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

10. CHENNAI GREEN FIELD AIRPORT

Request to provide necessary support to implement the proposed Chennai Green Field Airport.

Tamil Nadu boasts of four international airports - Chennai, Coimbatore, Trichy and Madurai, and two domestic airports in Salem and Thoothukudi. Chennai has a broad industrial base in the automobile, computer, technology, hardware manufacturing and healthcare sectors.

Chennai is the fourth busiest airport in the country, making a strong business case for establishment of a large green field airport on the lines of Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and Hyderabad Airports. The existing Chennai International Airport is unable to meet the projected requirement of passengers / Cargo traffic and hence the need for a Green field Airport.

My Government has already announced the construction of a Green Field Airport in Chennai of international standards and **I request the Government of India to extend its support and consider the proposal positively and sanction the new Green Field Airport with equity participation by Government of India / Government of Tamil Nadu / Airport Authority of India.**

11. CHENNAI METRO RAIL PHASE-II

Request to sanction Phase-II of Chennai Metro Rail Project under 50:50 joint venture partnership basis

The phase-I of Chennai Metro Rail Project under 50:50 joint venture partnership basis between Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu has been completed and passenger services are running since 2015 and the last underground section of 10 km will be opened to passenger service shortly.

Phase-II of Chennai Metro Rail Project was initially approved by the Government of Tamil Nadu and recommended to Government of India for approval in April, 2017. Due to the introduction of New Metro Rail Policy by Government of India and updating the Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) and Alternative analysis for mode of transport, final DPR for the length of 118.9 km with the total cost of Rs.69,180 crore (including escalation, land and taxes) has been approved by Government of Tamil Nadu and sent to the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India for their approval under 50:50 joint venture partnership basis on January 11, 2019.

For Phase-II, Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) has already approved a loan of Rs.20,196 crore and agreement for first tranche of loan has also been signed. Rs.10,351 crore has been approved in principle for the loan assistance from ADB, AIIB, NDB and World Bank.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to positively consider the sanctioning of Phase-II of Chennai Metro Rail Project under 50:50 joint venture partnership basis between Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu, as was done for Phase-I.

12. INDUSTRIAL HUB FOR DEFENCE PRODUCTS IN SALEM

Request to Promote an industrial estate on the vacant lands of 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 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 on 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 including 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, an extent of 1400 acres, of unutilised land in the possession of 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.

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 Industrial Hub for Defence Production.

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.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to instruct Ministry of Steel to re-convey the unutilized land and the Defence Ministry to implement the Defence Industrial Corridor Project at the earliest.

13. 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 however yet to start. The State Government has also given its commitment to develop the existing facilities at Hosur at our own cost.

A No objection Certificate from Bangalore Airport is also required for stating the flight operations which is yet to come. 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. However, the operations have not yet started.

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, can be included in the Phase-I itself and flight operation can start immediately.

Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to instruct the 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.

14. TRANSFER OF DEFENCE LANDS

Transfer of Defence Lands for various State Government projects either on exchange basis on payment or on payment of cash.

Three land related clearances for infrastructure projects of Tamil Nadu are pending with the Ministry of Defence. The pendency of clearances have resulted in holding up three major Highways Projects (linear projects) in Tamil Nadu for a period spanning over six to eleven years. This has led to huge cost overruns as well as hardship to the public.

I. Anakaputhur – Tharapakkam Bridge across Adyar River

The bridge across Adyar connecting Tharapakkam and Anakaputhur villages in Kanchipuram District is awaiting clearance over a linear stretch of 0.24 acre of land owned by Indian Air Force, Tambaram. This long bridge consists of 11 deck slabs of which 9 deck slabs have been completed way back in 2011.

While laying the last two deck slabs, the work was stopped by IAF, Tambaram on 18.05.2011. The last 2 deck slabs are yet to be laid for want of this small piece of land from Indian Air Force. State Government has also offered to pay equal value land or cash in lieu of transfer of above land, in case the land offered by the State Government is not acceptable.

II. Grade Separator at Tambaram in Grand Southern Trunk Road

Construction of Grade Separator in Grand Southern Trunk Road at Pallavaram in Kanchipuram district commenced in 2012. The formation of main carriageway in left hand side of the Grade Separator needs widening of the existing road which necessitates a linear stretch of 0.24 acre (1007 Sq.mts.) of land from the Cantonment Board, Pallavaram. The proposed land is a strip of linear vacant land abutting the existing road separated by a compound wall. The State Government had offered payment towards the cost of demolition and reconstruction of the compound wall with equal value land or cash in lieu of the transfer of the above land, in case the land offered by the State Government is not acceptable.

III. Road Over Bridge in Tiruchirapalli

Road Over Bridge near Tiruchirapalli Railway Junction is a Rs.74 crore project commenced in 2011. The Road Over Bridge is a rotary structure with 6 arms viz., Chennai Arm, Dindigul Arm, Madurai Arm, Aristo Arm, Railway Station Arm and Bus Stand Arm. Out of the above six arms, five

arms including rotary structure have been completed except the Chennai Arm, which requires transfer of 0.66 acres (2685 Sq.mts.) of defence land belonging to Cantonment Board, Tiruchirapalli. The Road Over Bridge can be completed and commissioned only after the defence land is made available. State Government had offered equal value land or cash in lieu of the transfer of the above land, if the land offered by the State Government is not acceptable.

All the three proposals have been recommended and forwarded by the Defence Estate Officer, Madras Circle to Ministry of Defence through the Director General of Defence Estates duly indicating the appropriate land value in consultation with STR as per guidelines of Ministry of Defence.

At this juncture, I would like to point out that in Ministry of Defence Letter No.11015/2/2012/D(Lands) dated 2nd February, 2016, it is clearly mentioned vide para 5(a) that for linear projects like Highways, Metro Rail, etc., land can be given on exchange of equal value land or cash. Considering the small extent of land involved in the above three projects, State Government may be permitted to remit cash in lieu of defence land as per the above circular, so that the projects would be able to be completed.

Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister,

a) to instruct the Ministry of Defence to provide necessary permission for granting NOC to enter upon the property so that the projects can be completed early.

b) Subject to the issue of enter upon permission as indicated above, the Ministry may be asked to either accept the land already offered by the State Government or cash in lieu of the transfer of land.

Annexure
Defence Land Transfers recommended by
Director General, Defence Estate

Sl. No.	Details of the land	Name of the Land Owner	Extent	Land value fixed and recommended by DGDE
I	Construction of a bridge across Adyar River connecting Thoraipakkam and Ankaputhur commenced in 2011	Indian Air Force, Tambaram	0.242 acre	Ref.735/390/L/DE/SC/2015 Land value Rs.2,04,01,429/-.
II	Grade Separator at Pallavaram in Kancheepuram District sanctioned by Government of Tamil Nadu on 29.06.2012	Defence Estate Officer, Chennai, Ministry of Defence.	0.2488 acre	Ref,.735/437/L/DE/S C/2015 of DGDE Land value Rs.5,77,66,285/-
III	Reconstruction of Road over Bridge near Tiruchirappalli Railway Junction sanctioned in 2011 for Rs. 74 crore.	Tiruchirappalli Cantonment	0.663 acre	DEO, Madras circle Letter No. N/783/O/MC dated 31.05.2018 Rs,4,52,26,429/-
		TOTAL	1.1538 acres	Rs.12,33,94,143/-

15. BHARATNET PHASE-II

Request to approve the revised DPR and convey the same to the State so as to release the RFP for implementation of BharatNet Phase-II in Tamil Nadu under the State Led Model.

The BharatNet project was proposed by Government of India to deliver high-speed Internet connectivity across 2.5 lakh Village Panchayats in the Country. The State Government proposed to implement the project by connecting 12,524 Village Panchayats in the State through a State Led Model through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation (TANFINET). Until formation of the SPV, Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation (TACTV) was entrusted with the task of preparing the DPR for the project. Accordingly, TACTV prepared a DPR for Rs.1773.90 Crore using Gigabit Passive Optical Networks (GPON) Technology under Linear Architecture (LA) for implementation of the project and forwarded the same to the Government of India.

Subsequently, on 25.09.2017, the Department of Telecommunications had approved the DPR at a cost of **Rs.1230.90 Crores**. A Quadripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 26.12.2017.

Meanwhile, the Special Purpose Vehicle viz. Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation (TANFINET) was incorporated on 8.6.2018. Considering the essentiality for the network stability and sustainability, TANFINET Corporation Ltd sent a revised DPR under Revised Linear Architecture (RLA)

(predominantly Aerial & UG Block Connectivity), at a cost of Rs.2411.52 Cr to DoT on 6.12.2018. The approval of DoT is awaited. The Request for Proposal (RFP) has been prepared by TANFINET and is pending notification for want of approval of the Revised DPR at the revised cost from DoT.

The Revised Detailed Project Report was taken up for discussion by the Project Appraisal Committee meeting under the Chairmanship of the Administrator, USOF on 23.5.2019 at New Delhi, wherein the Government of Tamil Nadu reiterated that the scheme be implemented under the State Led Model.

As mentioned already, Tamil Nadu has earlier submitted proposal in the GPON-Linear architecture which is the architecture suggested by BBNL. However, considering the requirements of the State and also for better utilization of the network, the State has proposed a Revised Linear Architecture (RLA) incorporating all the requirements mandated by DoT for the network, at a cost of Rs.2,411.52 Crores and a revised DPR has been submitted to DoT on 06.12.2018.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Ministry concerned, to approve the revised DPR and convey the same to the State so as to release the RFP for implementation of BharatNet Phase-II in Tamil Nadu under the State Led Model.

16. 14TH FINANCE COMMISSION COMPENSATION

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

The 14th 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 14th 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 14th 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 14th Finance Commission's increase in devolution percentage. Ideally, this fact should have been addressed by 14th 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 sanctioned with a special assistance of Rs.2000 crore for the special projects to compensate the reduced devolution that the State received under the 14th Finance Commission.

17. RELEASE OF PENDING GRANTS-IN-AID

Pending Grants-in-aid from Government of India for major schemes as on 28.5.2019

Grants-in-aid to the tune of Rs.9148.14 crore are yet to be released to Tamil Nadu by the Union Government. The major schemes have been listed below:-

Annexure				
ARREAR RECEIVABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (as on 28th May 2019)				
(Rs. in crores)				
Sl. No.	SCHEME	Arrear receivable from GoI	Administrative Dept.	Central Ministry
1	GST Compensation 2017-18 - 386.00 2018-19 - 553.01 (till Mar.2019)	939.01	CT &R	M/o Finance
2	Post - Matric scholarship schemes for scheduled caste students (Anticipated in 2018-19)	383.74	AD&TW	M/o Social Justice & Empowerment
3	Sarva Shiksha Abiyan (SSA)	2109.08	Sch. Edn	M/o Human Resource Development
4	Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (including spill over approved for 2015-16 & 2016-17)	1092.22	Sch. Edn	M/o Human Resource 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)	35.24	H&FW	M/o Health and Family Welfare
8	Construction of Fishing Harbours	37.86	AHD&F	M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
9	Relief and Rehabilitation of repatriates and refugees from Sri Lankan	67.49	Public	M/o Home Affairs
10	Increase of MBBS seats of existing State Government Medical Colleges	60.84	H&FW	M/o Health and Family Welfare
11	Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)	35.01	SW&NMP	M/o Women and Child Development
12	Marketing incentive component of National Handloom Development Programme	75.79	HHT&K	M/o Textiles
13	Command Area Development & Water Management Programme (CAD&WMP)	81.13	Agri	M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
14	One time Additional Central Assistance for Annual Plan 2014-15	76.00	PD&SI	M/o Finance
15	Disaster Relief Assistance for flood in 2015	66.90	Rev	M/o Finance
16	National Savings-Cum-Relief Scheme For Fishermen	93.03	AHD&F	M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
17	Repair Renovation And Restoration Of Water Bodies	25.50	PW	M/o Water Resources, River Development

				and Ganga Rejuvenation
18	Post Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribe Students	2.65	AD&TW	M/o Tribal Affairs
19	Pre Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribe Students	1.99	AD&TW	M/o Tribal Affairs
TOTAL		5736.78		

Finance Commission Grant				
20	13th Finance Commission grants pending	522.91	Finance	M/o Finance
21	Finance Commission Grants for Local Bodies	2804.30	RD&MAWS	M/o Finance
22	SDRF	84.15	Rev	M/o Finance
GRAND TOTAL		9148.14		

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to instruct the concerned Ministries of Government of India to release the above funds at the earliest.

18. RELEASE OF LOCAL BODY GRANT

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

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 14th Finance Commission to the Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies respectively on 17.9.2018 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 has been furnished to Government of India on 1.11.2018. Based on the above, the Government of India, has released the first instalment of general basic grant of Rs.876.94 Crore and Rs.731.09 Crore for the 2018-19 financial year to the Rural Local Bodies and Urban Local Bodies respectively on 18.2.2019. The Utilisation Certificate towards the first instalment of basic grant for the year 2018-19 has been sent and the second instalment of basic grant for the year is yet to be released.

The 14th Finance Commission had allocated an amount of Rs.365.37 crore and Rs.414.92 Crore to the Urban Local Bodies Rs.194.78 crore and Rs.221.20 Crore to the Rural Local Bodies in Tamil Nadu, as the Performance Grant for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19.

The financial year 2018-19 has already ended. All Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies are in dire need of funds to carry out their day to day

affairs to provide basic amenities to citizens. The severe cyclonic storm Gaja has caused severe damages in nearly 13 districts of the State of Tamil Nadu. At present, due to absence of rainfall there is hydrological drought in many parts of State. Non release of Performance Grant for the years 2017-18 and 2018-19 and the second instalment of Basic Grant to the Local Bodies for the Financial Year 2018-19 as recommended by the 14th Finance Commission, is causing serious financial constraint on Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies in addressing the severe drought prevailing in the State. If the fund is released immediately, it would help the severe drought affected areas.

Hence I request the 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 and Rs.636.12 Crore (Rs.780.29 Crore to ULBs and Rs.415.98 crore to RLBs) for the years 2017-18 and 2018-19 and the second 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 14th Central Finance Commission.

19. Request for IGST settlement due to Tamil Nadu for the financial year 2017-2018 and 2018-19.

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. The actual accumulated amount of IGST is Rs.1,76,688.44 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.88,344.22 crore. If the accumulated IGST for 2017-18 had been devolved correctly, Government of Tamil Nadu would have received Rs.6,582 Crore as SGST and Rs.1492 Crore as devolved CGST. After adjusting for GST compensation of Rs.632 Crore already released and estimated amount of incorrectly devolved IGST amounting to Rs.2983 Crore, net IGST to be devolved to Tamil Nadu amounts to Rs.4,459 Crore.

I had already addressed you, sir, on 13.2.2019 regarding the issues related to the unsettled IGST to Tamil Nadu. This amount may be settled at the earliest.

The accumulated amount of IGST for the financial year 2018-2019 is being settled by Government of India on adhoc basis. Tamil Nadu received a sum of Rs.4,097.50 crore. Settlement of the balance amount may kindly be expedited.

20. Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation

Following the implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) from July 2017, the States have been assured a growth of 14% in GST and any shortfall, the same will be met using GST compensation by the Central Government. Based on that, Tamil Nadu is yet to receive Rs.386 crore for the period from July 2017 to March 2018 and Rs.554.02 crore from April 2018 to March 2019. Therefore, a total of Rs.940.02 crore is pending in the form of GST Compensation arrears to Tamil Nadu. This amount may be released to the State at the earliest as per the commitment under the GST Act.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the concerned Ministries to release the pending funds to Tamil Nadu at the earliest.

21. GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE AT RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT.

Request to Establish New Medical College at Ramanathapuram District under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes

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 at least 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 lakh 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 to 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,

in spite 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 at least 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".

22. CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECTS

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 crore 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.

Pending status of GCF proposals of TN as on 3.10.2019			
Proposals approved by the State Level Steering Committee			
S. No.	Name of the project	Total Financial Outlay (million USD)	Total Financial Outlay (Rs. in crore)
1	Protection and Restoration of Appa and Koswari Islands of Gulf of Mannar, TamilNadu	15.78	102.58
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
	Total	674.23	4504.65

Pending NAFCC Proposals

Status of NAFCC proposals			
S. No.	Name of the project	Total Financial Outlay (million USD)	Total Financial Outlay (Rs. in crore)
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
	TOTAL	5.83	40.1215
	GRAND TOTAL	680.06	4544.7715

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

23. COASTAL CITIES – CYCLONE PROOFING OF POWER INFRASTRUCTURE

Request to sanction Rs.7,000 Crore to support for conversion of Overhead power lines to under ground lines.

Several districts plunging into darkness during the disasters caused by cyclones is a recurring feature in Tamil Nadu. This is due to the crippling of the power infrastructure especially the transmission lines, high tension and

low tension poles, transformers and damages to substations caused by the high speed winds gusting from 100 km to 160 km per hour.

Year after year during North East Monsoon the power sector comes under tremendous stress due to the cyclones which are common during this period. The TANGEDCO is forced to spend thousands of crores on a regular basis. In order to overcome the recurring damages to the power sector it is imperative to convert High Tension and Low Tension overhead lines into underground cables at least in the town areas of the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu, which will approximately cost Rs.7077 crore (Rupees 3710 crore for conversion of High Tension overhead lines and Rs.3367 crore for conversion of Low Tension overhead lines into underground cable lines).

Therefore, it is requested that a special package of Rs.7077 crore may be sanctioned by Government of India for conversion of High Tension and Low Tension overhead lines into underground cables in the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu.

24. PMAY (G) Scheme

Request to approve the 8 Lakh left out eligible beneficiaries uploaded in "Awaasplus".

Tamil Nadu is always in the forefront in the execution of Rural Development schemes, with many initiatives and innovations and it is also known for complying with the directives of the Ministry of Rural Development.

I would like to point out that the coastal area districts like Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Cuddalore, Villupuram are still having large number of huts which are frequently affected by natural calamities.

As per PMAY (G) guidelines para No.11.1, the States may submit the proposals requesting financial assistance under Special Projects in respect of Natural hazards such as flood, earthquake, fire, etc. and accordingly, **I request Government of India,**

- (i) to accord special sanction of 2 Lakh additional houses to the coastal districts under PMAY (G) Special Projects to Tamil Nadu, to enable the construction of permanent houses for the families whose huts are fully damaged in Gaja cyclone.**

- (ii) As many eligible households are omitted in the SECC data the above sanction should be independent of the SECC data in order to benefit genuine rural households.**

25. COMPREHENSIVE FLOOD MITIGATION – CHENNAI AND OTHER VULNERABLE COASTAL CITIES

Request to allocate necessary funds for Comprehensive Flood mitigation Project for Greater Chennai and Vulnerable urban pockets in other Coastal Districts of Tamil Nadu

During your visit to Tamil Nadu in November 2017, you had kindly agreed to provide Rs.1,500 crore as a Special allocation for flood prevention in Chennai. Chennai city is facing the fury of floods, almost every year during North East Monsoon.

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. The Greater Chennai and its Peri-Urban areas spread over an almost flat terrain along the coastal plains having an average altitude of only 2.00m above Mean Sea Level and 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. It is proposed to undertake permanent mitigation measures by adopting the

following three **approaches** namely,

1. Conservation of Flood Water, 2. Climate Change and Adaptive Rehabilitation of Flood Damaged Water bodies and 3. Flood Protection and River Training Works

- ❖ The proposed works besides reducing vulnerability to floods in the already identified vulnerable locations, they will result in
 - ✓ Enhancement of **surface water storage capacity** for effective drinking water augmentation of **4.76 TMC** (approximately) to Chennai
 - ✓ Increase in **ground water storage** through interventions like construction of **Recharge wells with shafts, Check dams, Bed dams, Sub surface dykes and Barrages** and strengthen ability to face hydrological drought.
 - ✓ Drinking water supply to the **Urban local bodies** of Peri-urban areas will be supplemented.

These works would be executed by the State Public Works Department.

The Greater Chennai Corporation will undertake formation of storm water drains, adopting cut & cover systems and restoration of small water bodies.

The fund requirement for these works are detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Subject	(Rupees in crore)
<u>Projects to be executed by the Public Works Department</u>		
I	Conservation of Flood Water	1157.47
II	Climate Change and Adaptive Rehabilitation	931.50
III	Flood Protection and River Training works	911.03
	Total (A)	3000.00
<u>Projects to be executed by the Greater Chennai Corporation</u>		
IV	Integrated storm water drain construction in Kosasthalaiyar Basin	2518.00
V	Integrated storm water drain construction in Kovalam Basin consists of three components (i) M1 & M2 components–Pallikaranai water shed (ii) M3 component - South coast water shed	973.00 270.00
VI	Purchase of machineries for Chennai Corporation	100.00
VII	Restoration of 210 small water bodies in Chennai Corporation	200.00
	Total (B)	4061.00
	Grand Total (A) + (B)	7061.00

- ❖ For the construction of the Integrated Flood Management System (Sl.Nos.I, II, III, as indicated in the Table above) to be executed by the State Public Works Department the proposal was posed for funding from World Bank through the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority.

- ❖ The Project proposal was placed and discussed in 95th Screening Committee Meeting (SCM) held in Department of Economic Affairs, New Delhi on 16.05.2019 and the clearance from the Ministry of Water Resources and Centre Water Commission was acknowledged by the concerned Departmental representatives. The representative of NITI Aayog has sought for copy of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) which was also presented at the same day. At this juncture the Department of Economic Affairs has intimated that in principle clearance is given for the said project subject to the conditions of inclusion remarks by NITI Aayog.

Hon'ble Prime Minister is requested to kindly intervene and direct NITI Aayog for necessary approval and funding may be arranged for speedy execution of the works at a total cost of Rs.3000 crore, for the construction of the Integrated Flood Management System as a special case over a period of three years and accordingly the proposal may be approved by the Department of Economic Affairs in Government of India.

As far as the Projects to be undertaken by the Greater Chennai Corporation namely construction of Integrated Storm Water Drain network (Sl.No.IV - comprising M1, M2 and M3 components as indicated in the table above) at a cost of Rs.1243.15 crore the KfW has agreed to sign the loan agreement by mid 2019. In the meanwhile, KfW (German Development

Bank) has given go ahead with the tendering and awarding of works in M3 component of Kovalam Basin at a cost of Rs.270.38 crore. KfW is undertaking revision of DPR for M1 & M2 components and likely to give approval for this project by June 2019 at a tentative cost of Rs.973 crore.

Regarding construction of Integrated Storm Water Drain in Kosasthalaiyar basin (Sl.No.V as indicated in the table above) it was put up to multilateral financial agencies like JICA, ADB, World Bank etc., and also to NITI Aayog and MoUHA for financial assistance for the last 2 years, but funding assistance could not be obtained.

However, in the 96th Steering Committee meeting of Department of Economics Affairs held in New Delhi on 22.01.2019, in-principle approval was accorded and the same was forwarded to the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for allocation in the forthcoming years. This is a critical work to be undertaken in Kosasthalaiyar Basin which houses 2 major ports, 5 National and State Highways and more than 50 large scale Industrial houses and the Metro Hub of North Chennai. These works would mitigate the flooding of North Chennai areas and protect the infrastructure as indicated above. Hence, I request the kind intervention of the Hon'ble Prime Minister so that the ADB prioritizes this project and sanction the project at the earliest.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly instruct the concerned Ministries to allocate necessary funds from Government

of India or recommend to the International/Bilateral funding agencies for taking up the Comprehensive Flood mitigation Project for Greater Chennai and Vulnerable urban pockets in other Coastal Districts of Tamil Nadu for a total cost of Rs.7061 cr.

26. 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 Colachel. 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 communication equipments 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:

Tamil Nadu is an important maritime State of India and comprises of 13 coastal districts with vast coastline of 1076 km. In Tamil Nadu, as on date, there are 35,348 motorised country crafts and 5778 Mechanised fishing boats registered under uniform online registration of fishing crafts. Among this, deep sea going multiday fishing boats are venturing beyond 150 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. In order to avoid this, and to tide over any such disaster in future, these deep seas fishing boats of Tamil Nadu have to be brought under seamless communication networking system in order to enhance and ensure their own safety and security while venturing into the deep sea.

Providing Satellite phone

Satellite phones use Low Earth Orbiting (LEO)/(MEO) Medium Earth Orbiting / Geo stationery satellites. Hence providing Satellite phone will give synergy in terms of communication coverage and cost. The satellite Phones

comes with relatively higher upfront cost and operational cost, and are easy to operate as an ordinary cell phone.

It is proposed to provide 1000 satellite phones on 90% subsidy besides and affixed operating cost for a period of one year besides establishing required control rooms in for locations in Tamil Nadu. An amount of **Rs.15 Crore** may be provided for procurement of Satellite phone for Deep sea venturing fishing boats.

Transponders

Assistance may be extended for installing transponders, which are satellite based location 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 and loss of lives can be prevented. Already Government of India through ISRO has installed Transponders in around 500 mechanized fishing boats in Tamil Nadu on trial basis. Another 5500 transponders are additionally required to equip all the mechanized fishing boats. An amount of **Rs.35 Crore** may be provided for procurement and fitment of transponders in 5500 fishing boats.

Development of new fishing harbour 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 into use by the fishermen. The Thengapattinam fishing harbour is nearing completion. Large number of deep sea fishing boats are operating from Kanniyakumari district and hence the existing fishing harbour in the district do not have the capacity and facilities to accommodate the large fishing vessels. Due to lack of berthing place and infrastructure in the fishing harbours in Kanniyakumari, the fishermen are operating their boats for fishing operations from the neighbouring States. There is a need to develop a new fishing harbour at Enayam in Kanniyakumari district with International standard having infrastructure facilities viz., a) berthing large vessels b) Cold storage C) Processing and packaging and D) Quality testing facilities to facilitate exports.

The proposed new fishing 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 harbour will also generate numerous jobs in allied fishing activity in addition to generating foreign exchange through export. In addition to the harbour facilities, there is a need for structural interventions such as groynes, break water etc to ensure shore protection and minimize the risk of loss of lives. An amount of **Rs.200 crores** is required for establishing these structures.

Providing shore protection works to restore the coast to facilitate the berthing of fishing vessels / crafts in coastal districts of Tamil Nadu

The coastal stretch of Tamil Nadu is undergoing dynamic changes due to climate change and other factors, thereby arises a need to stabilize the shoreline for sustainability. The areas of utmost priority are identified and suitable protection measures are proposed for the various coastal districts with reference to the "Comprehensive Shoreline Protection Management Plan for Entire Tamil Nadu Coast".

An amount of **Rs.250 crore** may be provided for carrying out Shore protection works to safeguard the fishing hamlets so as to provide easy venturing into the sea and back to shore and to berth the fishing boats safely.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly issue suitable instructions to Ministry concerned to allocate an amount of Rs.500 crores for establishing these structures, which may be considered on priority basis.

27. HYDROLOGICAL DROUGHT - MITIGATION MEASURES – FUNDS REQUIREMENT

Temporary and Permanent measures to mitigate Hydrological Drought in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu is multihazard prone, battered with cyclones on one hand and recurring droughts on the other. Close on the heels of extremely

severe drought in 2017, several districts in Tamil Nadu are facing hydrological drought, with Chennai and its neighbouring districts reeling under extremely severe water crisis. 24 districts and 38 Blocks in 7 districts were declared as affected by Hydrological drought.

Chennai region which is a major metropolis humming with industrial activities plays a major role in the economic growth of the country. CMWSSB supplies about 830 mld of water during normal rainfall year to the residents and commercial as against a current requirement of daily supply of 1200 mld and the current supply had to be reduced to 500 mld due to severe drought. The daily required amount of 1200 mld is expected to rise to 2100 mld by 2031. Chennai has historically relied on annual monsoon rains to replenish its water reservoirs since the rivers are polluted with sewage. With the population increasing over the decades, the city faces water supply shortages often, and its ground water levels is often depleted faster.

In order to find a permanent solution to the recurring hydrological drought in Greater Chennai Corporation and its neighbourhood, there is a need for initiating permanent mitigation measures such as construction of new reservoirs, recharge of ground water aquifer, provision of alternate source of drinking water such as desalinated water, tertiary treatment of water etc. These efforts require huge funding which cannot be met by the State Government alone. It is requested that Government of India may

extend a liberal assistance to supplement the efforts of Government of Tamil Nadu to initiate measures for finding a permanent solution to meet the existing as well as the increasing drinking water needs of the people living in the Greater Chennai Corporation and its neighbourhood. The assistance required from Government of India are detailed below.

1. Gap Funding – 400 MLD SWRO Desalination plant at Perur

Government of Tamil Nadu has identified a project for establishing 400MLD sea water Desalination plant at a cost of **Rs.6078.40 Crore** on “Design, Build & Operate basis” at Perur, ECR, Chennai. About 22.67 lakh residents of Chennai core city and suburban area of Chennai will be benefitted.

JICA the funding agency has agreed to extend a loan amount of **Rs. 4267 crore**. The Loan Agreement was signed on 29.03.2018. The balance amount of **Rs.1810 Crore** is to be mobilized by Govt. Of Tamil Nadu, this amount may be extended as a grant by GOI.

2. Formation of Riverine Reservoirs/ In-stream Reservoirs:

To augment the drinking water needs it is proposed to construct series of Barrages/ Check dams in the ephemeral rivers flowing in Chennai, Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram districts like Kosasthalaiyar, Cooum, Adayar and Palar with raised flood banks to store water to sizable extent as well as to retain the flood water for more effective utilisation and recharge. A project for “Comprehensive Flood Mitigation for Greater Chennai Corporation

and its peri urban areas in Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur Districts and vulnerable urban pockets in other coastal districts” at a projected cost of **Rs.3,000 crore** was posed to Department Economic Affairs under (PPRID 10238) which was agreed in principal for external funding. It is requested that the project may be posed to World Bank early for necessary funding. In addition an amount of **Rs.300 crore** is required for formation of Riverine reservoirs and check dams to augment the drinking water resources.

3. Tertiary treatment of waste water for recharge of lakes for industrial and indirect potable use:

Considering the reuse potential of waste water through treatment it is proposed to establish waste water tertiary treatment plants including establishment of treatment and transmission infrastructure and reverse osmosis plants to ensure Ultra Filtration of Tertiary treated water at a cost of **Rs.1900 crore. It is requested that totally an amount of Rs.4010 Crore may be sanctioned for the above works.**

Conversion of Mines of Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) into water storage structure:

Neyveli Lignite Corporation, PSU, Government of India has been playing a significant role in Thermal Power generation from lignite resources available in Cuddalore District for which necessary lands are acquired & alienated by Government of Tamil Nadu. It is learnt that the lignite resources in Mines I are recovered almost fully and it is expected that NLC will stop its operations in Mines I in the next couple of years. It is requested

to instruct Neyveli Lignite Corporation to convert Mines I into a water storage structure rather than using it as land fill. The water stored in the mine will be used for supplementing the drinking water needs of Chennai.

It is also requested that Neyveli Lignite Corporation may be instructed to undertake desiltation of Perumal Eri and Walajah tank of Cuddalore District under CSR funding which will enable storage of significant quantum of water which can be used to meet the drinking water needs of Chennai.

28. DISCONTINUATION OF NEET EXAM

Request to discontinue the National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) in Tamil Nadu

The Medical Council of India had decided to introduce a Common Entrance Examination i.e., National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) for both Under Graduate and Post Graduate medical and dental seats including the seats under State quota and to implement the same from the year 2012-2013. The Government of Tamil Nadu had taken all legal steps to file W.P. in the High Court of Madras which was later transferred to the Supreme Court. The First bench of Supreme Court of India in its judgment dated 18.07.2013 with 2 : 1 majority held that the Medical Council of India is not empowered under the 1956 Act to actually conduct the NEET and allowed the Transferred Cases and Writ Petitions and quashed the impugned notifications of Medical Council of India and Dental Council of India.

The Medical Council of India has filed Review Petitions (Civil) No.2159 – 2268 of 2013 before the Supreme Court of India against the judgment. Tamil Nadu Government has also filed a Petition on the Review filed by Government of India. After hearing the cases on various dates, the Constitution Bench of Supreme Court of India in its order dated 11.04.2016 has allowed the Review Petitions and recalled the Supreme Court order dated 18.07.2013 and directed to hear the matter afresh.

In the meantime, His Excellency, the President of India has promulgated Ordinances viz., Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2016 (No.4 of 2016) the Dentist (Amendment) Ordinance, 2016 (No.5 of 2016) published in Gazette of India No.35 and 36 dated 24.05.2016 respectively, to the effect that there shall be a uniform entrance examination to all medical / dental educational institutions at undergraduate and postgraduate level with a proviso that this section shall not apply in relation to the exam at undergraduate level for the academic year 2016-2017 conducted in respect of State Government seats (whether in Government medical college or in a private medical college) where such State has not opted for such examination. Subsequently, the said Ordinances have been enacted as Act.

It is submitted that, as per the proviso contained in the ordinances, admissions to MBBS / BDS seats in Government Medical / Dental Colleges and Government seats in Private Medical Colleges have been filled up by the

Selection Committee based on the marks obtained by candidates in the qualifying examination i.e. +2 marks and by following rule of reservation prevailing in the State.

National Board of Examination had introduced the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to Post Graduate MD/ MS and Post Graduate Diploma Courses from the academic year 2017-2018 onwards.

Since it infringes the right of the State Government and is against the policy of the Government, the State of Tamil Nadu is consistently opposing the introduction of National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) in any form for the admission to Under Graduate / Post Graduate, Medical / Dental Education. Several times the Government of Tamil Nadu have insisted the Central Government not to implement the National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET).

In order to safeguard the interest of the students and the policy of the Government of Tamil Nadu in admission to Medical / Dental courses two Bills namely, the Tamil Nadu Admission to MBBS and BDS Courses Bill, 2017 (L.A. Bill No.7 of 2017) and the Tamil Nadu Admission to Post Graduate Courses in Medicine and Dentistry Bill, 2017 (L.A. Bill No.8 of 2017) was introduced in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 31.01.2017 and passed in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 01.02.2017. The Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu has reserved the two Bills for the assent of His

Excellency the President of India. The two Bills, for the assent of His Excellency the President of India, was submitted to the Ministry of Home, Government of India on 20.02.2017.

In order to safeguard the interest of the students and the policy of the Government of Tamil Nadu in admission to Medical/Dental courses, the State of Tamil Nadu is consistently opposing the introduction of National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) in any form for the admission to Under Graduate / Post Graduate, Medical / Dental Education and Ayush. Hence, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister not to continue the National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) in Tamil Nadu alone by giving a special exemption.

29. SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Supply Chain Management for Fruits, Vegetables and other perishables in Tamil Nadu: GOI funding request

Post harvest losses in fruits and vegetables due to lack of proper infrastructure has been one of the main reasons for farmers losing value even before their produce reach the market. To ensure remunerative price to the farmers by improving the supply chain management of fruits and vegetables, Tamil Nadu Government has been implementing the Supply Chain Management Project for fruits, vegetables and other perishables in 10 districts of the State at a total outlay of Rs.482.36 crores by way of term

loan from NABARD under Warehouse Infrastructure Fund. The Project was also shortlisted by NITI Aayog under Development Support Services to States for Infrastructure.

The Project will reduce post-harvest losses and enhance the shelf life of fruits, vegetables & other perishables by establishing infrastructural facilities to strengthen the supply chain, creating linkages and enabling market integration of other value chain players with the farming community.

The Project has created 62 Primary Processing Centres with Post Harvest Infrastructure like Pack house, Cold storage, Grading and packing facilities, machineries for primary processing, Storage Godowns, etc. Post harvest infrastructure like APEDA pack house IQF facilities, Hot water/Vapour Heat Treatment unit, Irradiation unit are also created for Export development.

The Project is expected to have impact on the lives of farmers by reduction of post-harvest losses, enhanced income to farmers, encouragement of farmers to shift from traditional crops/cultivation practices towards high yielding and high income generating horticultural produce and will create direct and indirect employment opportunities besides creating an efficient and effective supply chain for fruits and vegetables. Farmer Producer organisations have been given priority to run these primary processing centres and selection of suitable FPOs is under progress.

Expansion of the Project in the remaining 21 Districts will make Tamil Nadu not only the first state with an integrated state wide supply chain infrastructure for fruits and vegetables but also enable its farmers to manage the processing of their produce further down the value chain and thereby increasing their income. The expansion of the project to the remaining districts is estimated to cost more than Rs. 500 crore.

This being the first scheme of such complexity and scale, the State requests the Central Government to augment this innovative effort of Tamil Nadu Government and provide funds to the tune of Rs.500 Crore towards establishing a statewide supply chain Infrastructure for fruits, vegetable and the perishables in the State.

**Issued by: Director of Information and Public Relations,
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