

**MOOVALUR RAMAMIRTHAM AMMAIYAR HIGHER EDUCATION
ASSURANCE - "PUTHUMAI PENN" SCHEME**

According to the fact that only educated women can create a society that has achieved economic progress with social justice and equality, the noble project that arose in the heart of our Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu who realized the importance of girl's education.

Recognizing that the enrolment ratio of girl students from Government schools in higher education is very low and to promote higher education among girls belonging to the economically weaker families, the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Marriage Assistance scheme shall be transformed as the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance Scheme. All girl students who studied from Classes 6 to 12 in Government schools will be paid Rs.1,000/- per month directly into their bank account till the uninterrupted completion of their undergraduate degree, diploma and ITI courses. The students shall be eligible for this in addition to other scholarships.

Eligibility

- The girl students who have completed their school education from 6th to 12th Standard in Government schools.
- Definition of Government schools should mean and include Government schools, Corporation schools, Municipal schools, Panchayat Union schools, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare schools, Kallar Reclamation schools, Forest Department schools students, schools functioning under the control of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment department including Service Homes / Government Children Homes.
- Girl students who studied in private schools in Tamil Nadu from 6th to 8th standard through RTE, and if they studied in Government schools from 9th to 12th standard can be benefitted from this scheme.
- Girl students are Eligible to avail incentive amount of Rs.1000 for the first higher education course viz., Arts and Science, Professional courses, Paramedical, Diploma, ITI, combined Post graduation etc only.

- Incentive amount are available for first three years of arts and science course, first four years of engineering courses and and first to 5 years of medical studies.
- No incentive will be paid for the internship period.
- Any number of girl children passed out from Government school, from the same family who is pursuing higher education are eligible to avail the incentive.
- This incentive amount will be given to the students who are studying in the College.
- Girl students studying in distance education/ un-recognized educational institutions are not eligible under this scheme.
- The students will be eligible for this in addition to other scholarships.
- Students who are already enrolled in higher education can also apply for this scholarship for their remaining years of study.
- A new website (<https://www.pudhumaipenn.tn.gov.in>) has been developed for the scheme. Students can register under this scheme with the nodal officer of the college where they are pursuing higher education.

Salient Features of this scheme

By providing financial benefits to the girl students, under this programme negotiates a behavioral change in the area of reduction in higher incidences of early marriage and low ratio of enrolment in higher education, and retention of girl students in higher education. Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance Scheme therefore envisages empowerment of girls specifically who have passed out from Government schools.

- i. Promotes girl students educational status and instill motivation to pursue higher education giving them better foundation in both economic and social spheres including improving gender parity at higher levels.
- ii. Enables the creation and participation of skilled women workforce.
- iii. Incentive benefits of Rs.1,000/- per month per beneficiary, enables girl children to pursue education without incurring additional expenses and hindrances.
- iv. Enable Girl Students to get involved in public spaces and enhance career opportunities.
- v. Ensures Socio-Economic Empowerment of women.
- vi. Prevents drop outs beyond higher secondary and increase the retention ratio in higher education.

Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance Scheme “Pudhumai Penn Thittam” has been successfully rolled out by Hon’ble Chief Minister on 05.09.2022 in I-Phase and 08.02.2023 in 2nd Phase.

During the year 2022-2023, about 1,16,260 girl students have benefitted in the first phase and 93,105 girl students in the second phase with an expenditure Rs. 100.11 crore.

Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.349.78 crore has been allocated during the financial year 2023-2024, out of which Rs.60.86 crore has been spent till date, about 2,11,506 girl students are benefiting.

Rupees 160.97 crore has been given as cash benefit to girl students till date, since the inception of Pudhumai Penn Scheme.

The girl students applying under the Pudhumai Penn Scheme have been given a facility to register their grievances.

There is no doubt; 'Pudumai penn' scheme implemented by the Tamil Nadu Government will fetch great benefits in the coming years, in addition to encouraging the education of the girl students.

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