



**SOCIAL WELFARE
AND
NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME
DEPARTMENT**

**POLICY NOTE
2017-2018**

DEMAND NO.45

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AND
NUTRITIOUS NOON MEAL PROGRAMME**

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**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
2017**

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CHAPTER – 1

INTRODUCTION

Based on the agreed Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the UN General Assembly, the Government of Tamil Nadu has made significant progress in achieving empowerment of women, equal opportunities for them in all spheres of life and in achieving nutritional well being of children. Tamil Nadu Government has been a model State in implementing various programmes for the welfare of women, children, senior citizens, aged and welfare of third genders which are implemented through the Department of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme.

To ensure the protection of the rights of women and children in difficult circumstances, the Department of Social Defence is implementing the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The Government is providing institutional care to children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law through Children Homes, Observation Homes, Special Homes, After Care Organisations and Vigilance Protective Homes. Short Stay Homes and Shelter Homes under Swadhar and Ujjawala Schemes provide shelter and rehabilitation to women in distress and difficult circumstances.

As a measure to empower the women particularly girl child, the Government is implementing the Girl Child Protection Schemes which incentives enrolment in higher education and instils confidence among the parents to accept girl child with dignity. The Cradle Baby Scheme is an unique scheme to prevent the evils

of female infanticide and also protects abandoned infants and ensures care and protection of children till it is placed on adoption. By proper implementation of Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, the girl child health and education is promoted and life threatening pregnancy risk has been avoided.

The Integrated Child Development Services Scheme and the Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme address the nutritional needs of children in the age group of 0-5 years and the school children from 1st Std. to 10th Std. respectively. The scheme of providing 13 variety meals with masala eggs five days in a week for school children and 3 eggs for anganwadi children has enhanced the nutritive and caloric value of food provided and has been appreciated by Government of India.

Integrated Child Development Services Scheme is a flagship programme for addressing the issues of nutrition, preschool education,

health and personnel hygiene of children, adolescents, pregnant and nursing mother. This scheme strives towards ensuring improved nutrition, promoting well being of children and women, empower adolescent girls and promote inclusive and equitable development. Integrated Child Development Services Scheme delivers a comprehensive package of services to the children from birth to six years, including provision of supplementary nutrition, hot cooked meal, health care and pre school education. Adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating mothers are also provided with supplementary nutrition besides health care, awareness education and capacity building initiatives. Under restructured pattern of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, anganwadi centres are repositioned as a "Vibrant Early Childhood Development Centre" to become the "first post" for learning, health and nutrition, by providing additional human resource and infrastructure.

The department is according top priority to women's safety and security, economic and social empowerment and by recognising their cultural needs in implementing the flagship scheme of "Providing Gold for Thirumangalyam" under the 5 Marriage Assistance Schemes. This has ensured a dignified status to women and poor parents and has also encouraged girls to pursue higher education.

The Government was providing ₹25,000 for the girls studied upto 10th standard and above along with 4 gram of gold coin with 22 carat purity for Thirumangalyam and ₹50,000 for graduates/diploma holders along with 4 gram of gold coin with 22 carat purity for Thirumangalyam. This special initiative has motivated 55% of the girls to pursue higher education with enthusiasm. This scheme is especially meant for the daughters of poor parents, orphan girls, inter-caste marriage, widow's daughter and for the widow remarriage.

From 23.05.2016 onwards the quantum of gold coin for Thirumangalyam has been raised to 8 gram.

The Government has taken several measures to improve the status of the third genders including schemes providing financial assistance for livelihood.

The Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department runs Service Homes where the destitute and deserted women can stay with safety and at the same time pursue educational and vocational training. The Working Women's Hostels where women can stay secured at the affordable rates, are also run by this department.

The Government is also providing free supply of sewing machines to women to help them to improve their economic conditions. Under the 98 Women Industrial Co-operative Societies, 75,807 women members are able to earn a decent income working from their home as they

are provided with the job of stitching of 4 sets uniforms for the children taking noon meal in the State.

This Department also functions as a nodal agency for various Social Security Pension Schemes which are implemented through Commissionerate of Revenue Administration.

Gender based violence is a reflection of bias against women still prevailing in our society inspite of tremendous achievements made by women in all spheres of life. Violence and the fear of violence is one of the factors for inhibiting a woman to participate fully for the development process of the country. Considering this and to ensure gender equality, the Government accords top priority to effectively implement the laws that protect women. The department is implementing various legislations like Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Prohibition of Child Marriage

Act, 2006, Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, Protection of Women from Sexual Harrassment at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, Tamil Nadu Hostel and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act, 2014 and Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

Thus, the Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department deals with people from all walks of life especially the poor and marginalised. Over the years, due to effective implementation of several welfare programmes, the Department has played an important role in the development of human resources in our State.

CHAPTER – 2

CHILD WELFARE

2.1 Government of Tamil Nadu has implemented many schemes for the welfare of the society especially for Women and Children. The future of a nation depends largely on the growth and development of women and children. The Government of Tamil Nadu has always considered welfare and protection of children as one of its top priorities while implementing various development schemes. The Government pays special attention to the issues concerning girl children which is important to achieve an equitable society.

The “Cradle-Baby Scheme” and the “Girl Child Protection Scheme” which are implemented for addressing the issues of female infanticide and sex identifying abortion in the State are unique schemes in the country.

The Girl Child Protection Scheme was started in 1992 by the then Hon'ble Chief Minister of TamilNadu with an objective, viz., development of girls' education, eradication of female

infanticide, to change the attitudes for preference of male child and to encourage small family norm.

The Government has created many opportunities and facilities for girl children to grow in a healthy and safe environment by implementing various schemes by addressing the essential needs of children such as nutrition, health, education etc.

This scheme implemented by State Government mainly focuses on education of girl children as a result of which the girl child literacy which was 64.43% in 2001, has increased to 73.44% in 2011. In order to ensure further development of girl children, the following schemes are being implemented by the Government:-

1. Cradle Baby Scheme
2. Girl Child Protection Scheme
3. Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme
4. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006
5. Crches for the Children of Working and Ailing Mothers
6. Special Need Children Home

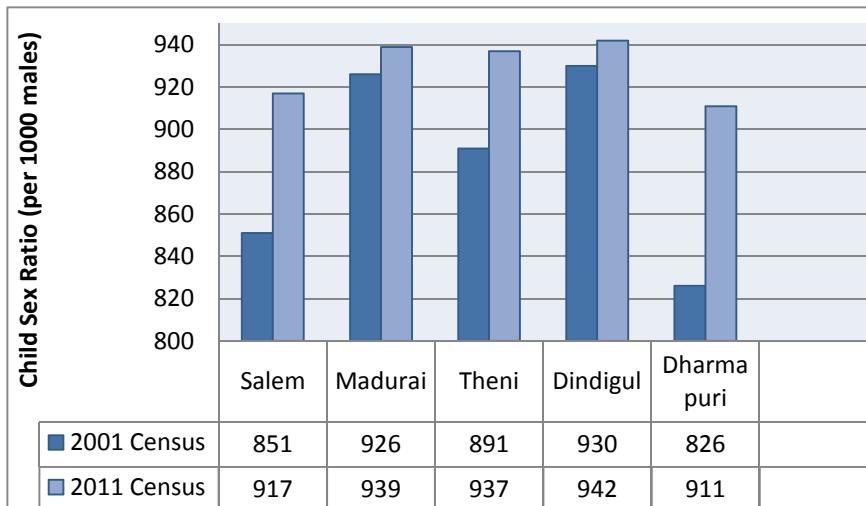
2.2 CRADLE BABY SCHEME

The Government of Tamil Nadu has pioneered the Cradle Baby Scheme in Salem District during the year 1992 to curb the menace of female infanticide prevalent in certain parts of Tamil Nadu to save the girl child and to improve the child sex ratio. Through the Cradle Baby Scheme these babies are saved and handed over to the State for care and protection.

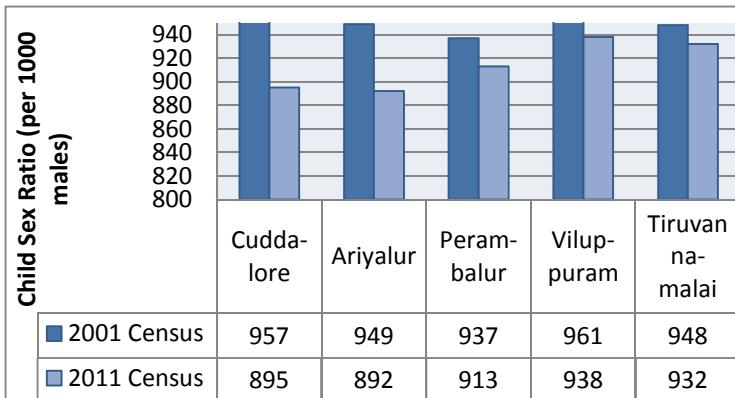
The causes for the prevalence of female infanticide are poverty, preference for male child, lack of acceptance of girl children, the expenses anticipated by the society for the conduct of marriage of the girl children, other cultural practices and inability to care for the new born baby with multiple disorders.

During the year 2001, this scheme was extended to Madurai, Theni, Dindigul and Dharmapuri Districts where the practice of female infanticide was prevalent. After successful

implementation, Child Sex Ratio shows an upward trend in these districts.



As per 2011 Census, Cuddalore, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Villupuram and Thiruvannamalai Districts have recorded lower Child Sex Ratio and hence the Cradle Baby Scheme was further extended to these districts in the year 2011.



Accordingly Reception Centers were opened in the above mentioned districts. Under the Scheme, the children who are abandoned by parents are received in the cradles placed in the Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Children Homes and Protective Homes.

Since the Cradle Baby Scheme began, poverty-stricken parents and single mothers have handed over 5,024 children till March, 2017 (Male–966, Female – 4,058).

The positive effect of the Cradle Baby Scheme in Tamil Nadu has increased the child sex ratio to 943/1000 in 2011 from 942/1000 in 2001.

A sum of ₹37.52 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this Scheme.

2.3 CHIEF MINISTER'S GIRL CHILD PROTECTION SCHEME

The Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme, introduced in 1992, is a pioneering and path-breaking scheme for the welfare of girl child. The Girl Child Protection Scheme is aimed at preventing gender discrimination by empowering and protecting the rights of girl Children through direct investment from Government.

The scheme aims to:

- Promote enrollment and retention of the girl child in school and to ensure her education at least up to High School level.
- Encourage girls to get married only after the age of 18 years.
- Encourage parents to adopt family planning methods after two children.
- Protect the rights of the girl child and provide social and financial empowerment of girl child.

- Strengthen the role of the family in improving the status of the girl child.

Mode of Deposits under the Scheme

Scheme-I

An amount of ₹50,000 is deposited in the name of the girl child born on or after 01.08.2011, in the form of fixed deposit with the Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, for a family with one girl child only. The copy of the fixed deposit receipt is given to the family of the girl child.

Scheme-II

An amount of ₹25,000 is deposited in the names of two girl children born on or after 01.08.2011 in the form of fixed deposits with Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, for a family with two girl children only. The copy of the fixed deposit receipts are given to the family of the girl children.

The deposit is renewed at the end of every 5 years and on completion of 18 years of age, the amount deposited along with interest will be given to the girl child. To get this benefit, the girl child should appear for 10th standard public examination. Thus, the matured amount will help the girl child to pursue her higher education.

Details of Final Maturity

Sl. No.	Schemes	Initial Deposit Amount (₹)	Maturity payable after 18 years including annual incentive of ₹1,800 approximately
1	Scheme-I	50,000	3,00,232
2	Scheme-II	25,000 (for each girl child)	1,50,117 (for each girl child)

Annual incentive of ₹1,800 is given to the girl child every year from the 6th year of deposit in order to meet the education expenses of the girl child.

From the year 2013-2014, the benefits provided under the Marriage Assistance Scheme have also been extended to the beneficiaries under the Girl Child Protection Scheme who were enrolled from 1992 to 1995.

Under this scheme, the Annual income limit was enhanced from ₹24,000/- to ₹72,000/- with effect from 14.10.2014 for both Schemes.

Impact of the Scheme

The increasing trend in the female literacy of Tamil Nadu from 64.43% in 2001 to 73.44% in 2011 and the reduction in the dropout rate of girl children can also be attributed to the success of the scheme. So far 8,68,218 beneficiaries have been benefitted under this scheme from 1997-2017. An amount of ₹1,259.32 crore have been deposited.

A sum of ₹14,013 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this scheme.

2.4 BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO (BBBP)

The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme was first launched on 22nd January, 2015 at Panipat, Haryana by Hon'ble Prime Minister to protect the interest of the girl children and ensure their education. Ministry of Women and Child Development is the Nodal Ministry for implementing the Scheme.

The Census 2011 reveals the extensive and significant decline in Child Sex Ratio (CSR) recording an all-time low of 919 girls for every 1000 boys. Therefore, Government of India selected 100 districts on the basis of low Child Sex Ratio as per Census 2011 covering all States/UTs on a pilot basis covering at least one district in each State to implement this Scheme.

In Tamil Nadu, Cuddalore District has been chosen for implementation of the BBBP scheme as the Child Sex Ratio is the lowest in the State. However the Child Sex Ratio for Tamil Nadu is

943/1000 which is above the national ratio of 919/1000.

The CSR for the Cuddalore district, Tamil Nadu and India is detailed below:-

	Census 2001	Census 2011
India	927	919
Tamil Nadu	942	943
Cuddalore District	957	896

The Objectives of this scheme are

- Prevention of gender biased sex selective elimination.
- Ensuring survival and protection of the girl child.
- Ensuring education of the girl child.

The District Collector is the Chairperson for implementation of the Scheme.

Achievement of the Scheme:

1. Child Sex Ratio in Cuddalore District has increased from 886 in 2015 to 895 in 2016.
2. Dropout Rate for Upper Primary School (girls) has come down from 1.5 % in 2015 to 1.0% in 2016.

3. Dropout Rate for Secondary School (girls) has come down from 3.26% in 2015 to 1.5% in 2016.
4. Under Suganya Samirithi Yojana, new account have been opened for 59,491 children.
5. Over all infrastructure have been developed like residential school, provision of toilet, water facility and installation of incinerator in girls schools.

AWARD

Cuddalore district was chosen as Best District in implementing the programme and National Award was given by the Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development during the celebration of the National Girl Child Day in Delhi on 24th January, 2017 for the good performance of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme for **“Effective Community Engagement”**.

2.5 THE PROHIBITION OF CHILD MARRIAGE ACT, 2006

Child marriage is a marriage, according to the Indian Law, where either the woman is below 18 years or the man is below 21 years. Most child marriages involve under aged women, many of

whom are in poor socio-economic conditions and without awareness about the ill effects of child marriage.

Child marriage still remains a common phenomenon in India, despite endeavors on the part of the Government and Civil Society to eradicate it. In order to eradicate the child marriages within the society, the Government of India enacted the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 repealing the earlier legislation of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929. This legislation is armed with enabling provisions to prohibit child marriages, protect and provide relief to victims and has enhanced punishment for those who abet, promote or solemnize such marriages.

Implementation of the Act

To implement the Act, the Government of Tamil Nadu have framed and notified the State Rules on 30.12.2009. The District Social Welfare Officers of each District are appointed as Child

Marriage Prohibition Officer to implement the Act effectively. The Child Marriage Prohibition Officers are vested with powers to act upon any information of solemnization through any mode of communication. On receipt of such information they can file a petition for annulling the Child Marriage in District Courts and seek orders for the custody and maintenance of the children.

Panchayat Level Core Committees have been constituted under the Chairmanship of Panchayat Presidents to report and prevent child marriages.

Steps taken for creating awareness to prevent child marriage

1. Creation of awareness among the public regarding child marriage through various programmes like Puppet Show, Street Plays, Rallies and Seminars.
2. In order to protect the Girl Children from the evil of Child Marriage, a Documentary Film was produced and telecasted in Television. The Government of India has telecasted this documentary film in Doordarshan with english subtitles.

3. The various welfare schemes implemented by Tamil Nadu Government focus on the education of girl children. The marriage assistance schemes have been designed to benefit the girl who has completed 18 years of age, with the aim of eradicating child marriages.
4. Caravan Campaign has been organized in collaboration with UNICEF in 13 districts to create awareness against the child marriages.
5. The Act and Rules have been translated in Tamil and distributed at free of cost to the public to create awareness about the Act and Rules. Since 2008 around 5,037 child marriages have been stopped in Tamil Nadu.

2.6 CRECHES FOR THE CHILDREN OF WORKING AND AILING MOTHERS

Creche is a place where young children are cared for during the day while their parents are away or engaged with some work. In Tamil Nadu creches are established by the Government as a measure of support for the working and ailing mothers. Children between the age group of 0-5 years, whose parents are below the poverty line, are admitted in the

creches. The children are provided with supplementary food and education at the creches.

Creches and Day Care Services are not only required for working mothers but also for women belonging to poor families and ailing mothers who require support and relief from child care responsibilities as they struggle to cope with the burden of work, within and outside the home.

At present, there are 6 creches run by Voluntary Organizations in 4 districts viz. Kanniakumari, Sivagangai, Tirunelveli and Vellore with the help of State Government grants. A sum of ₹25,410/- per annum is given as grant to each creche for taking care of 25 children.

A sum of ₹3.82 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2017-2018 for this scheme.

2.7 HOMES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

4 homes for children with special needs are being run by the department through Non Governmental Organisations in the following districts:-

1. Premavasam, Kancheepuram
2. Sri Arunodayam Trust, Chennai
3. Families for Children, Coimbatore
4. Community Health Education Society (CHES), Tiruvallur

At present 137 children are provided with necessary care and facilities in these Special Need Homes. An amount of ₹120 per child per day is being given as grant to the Non Governmental Organisations for the maintenance of the Special Need Children.

A sum of ₹37.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this Scheme.

CHAPTER - 3

WOMEN WELFARE

3.1 The Government of Tamil Nadu has been a forerunner in country in formulating several initiatives and schemes for empowerment of girl children, women, elderly and the most marginalized communities in the State in alignment with the Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the National Policy for Empowerment of Women and the State's Vision 2023.

Focus has been given to destitute women, widows, orphaned children, needy senior citizens and marginalized communities like the Third Genders to achieve social equity and to provide adequate social security. The underprivileged are supported by providing food, shelter, medical care and education through Service Homes and Old Age Homes and this has helped to improve the indicators relating to health, nutrition, literacy, etc. of disadvantaged communities in the State.

In Tamil Nadu, the welfare and empowerment of women have remained as one of the priorities of the State's development agenda. Marriage Assistance Schemes encourage the girls to take up higher education and provide financial support to the girls' parents during marriages. The schemes have made a positive impact in improving the female literacy and reducing the school dropout rate of female children in Tamil Nadu.

Under this Flagship Scheme, the Government was providing cash assistance of ₹25,000 and 4 gram (22 carat) gold coin for making Thirumangalyam for Non-Graduates and ₹50,000 and 4 gram (22 carat) gold coin for making Thirumangalyam for Graduates / Diploma holders from 17.5.2011 to 22.5.2016.

The Government has now enhanced the 4 gram (22 carat) gold coin to 8 gram (22 carat) gold coin for making Thirumangalyam for all the five marriage assistance schemes from

23.5.2016. To help more poor families to benefit by this scheme, the annual income ceiling has been raised from ₹24,000 to ₹72,000.

The Service Homes run by the Government ensure safe and secure environment for all destitute women where the women can stay with their children and are given an opportunity to pursue their education and acquire other skills. Accommodation, food, education and skill development training are provided to destitute women, widows, deserted women, and women in distress. This facility empowers them to become confident and lead a dignified life.

To help women who are from economically weaker sections to be employed, the Government has provided them facilities to enroll them as members in the Industrial Co-operative Societies, where they are trained and engaged in stitching 4 sets of uniforms for school children thus improving their standard of living.

Government implements various welfare measures specially to address the need of Third Genders who are socially marginalized.

The department also implements several social legislations to protect the rights of women and prevent various crimes like domestic violence and dowry related incidents viz., Dowry Prohibition Act,1961, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act,2005, Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act,2013 and Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act,2014.

In 1993, the Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women was constituted which is dealing with complaints related to crimes against women and sexual harassment at work place.

3.2 MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEMES

In Tamil Nadu, it is customary to wear Thirumangalyam made of gold for marriages. The cost of gold often puts a burden on the parents

apart from the other marriage expenses. In order to help poor parents and to encourage them to educate their daughters till the right age, Marriage Assistance Schemes were introduced by the Government.

The Government is implementing Five Marriage Assistance Schemes for the daughters of poor parents, orphan girls, widows who re-marry, widow daughter's marriage and inter-caste married couples.

The percentage of graduate beneficiaries has increased from 28% in 2011-12 to that of 60% in 2016-2017.

1,52,500 beneficiaries have availed the benefits under the five Marriage Assistance schemes during the year 2016-2017.

3.2.1 MOOVALUR RAMAMIRTHAM AMMAIYAR NINAIVU MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME

This scheme provides marriage assistance to the poor girls who have attained the age of 18

years at the time of marriage and should have studied upto X Standard and in the case of Scheduled Tribes, they should have studied upto V Standard. Along with cash assistance of ₹25,000 for non-graduates and ₹50,000 for Graduates/Diploma holders, one sovereign (8 gram) 22 carat gold coin are provided under this scheme with effect from 23.05.2016. In case of death of parents, the assistance is given to the daughter. To avail benefit under this scheme, the annual income of the family should not exceed ₹72,000.

A sum of ₹67,078.50 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017-2018 for this Scheme.

3.2.2 Dr.DHARMAMBAL AMMAIYAR NINAIVU WIDOW REMARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Widow remarriage gives a new beginning towards women empowerment and rights of women and brings a change in the lives of young widows who remarry. The Government launched

Dr. Dharmambal Ammaiyar Ninaivu Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme to provide a life of respect, social acceptance and dignity for the young widows. Cash assistance of ₹25,000, out of which ₹15,000 is disbursed through Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) and ₹10,000 as National Savings Certificate (NSC) for non graduates and ₹50,000 for the degree/diploma holders out of which ₹30,000 is disbursed through Electronic Clearing Service(ECS) and ₹20,000 as National Savings Certificate(NSC) are given along with one sovereign (8 gram) 22 carat gold coin with effect from 23.05.2016. There is no income ceiling and educational qualification prescribed to avail benefit under this scheme.

A sum of ₹76.25 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017–2018 for this scheme.

3.2.3 E.V.R. MANIAMMAIYAR NINAIVU MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR DAUGHTER OF POOR WIDOWS

To help the poor widows to get their daughter married, E.V.R. Maniammaiyan Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme is being implemented by the Government. Financial assistance of ₹25,000 for non-graduates and ₹50,000 for degree / diploma holders is given along with one sovereign (8 gram) 22 carat gold coin with effect from 23.05.2016. To avail benefit under this scheme, the annual income of the family should not exceed ₹72,000.

A sum of ₹3,771.09 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017–2018 for this Scheme.

3.2.4 ANNAI TERESA NINAIVU MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR ORPHAN GIRLS

In order to help poor orphan girls and to enable them to get married, the Government provides financial assistance of ₹25,000 for non

graduates and ₹50,000 for degree / diploma holders along with one sovereign (8gram) 22 carat, gold coin with effect from 23.05.2016. There is no income ceiling for availing benefit under this marriage assistance scheme.

A sum of ₹373.75 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017–2018 for this Scheme.

3.2.5 Dr. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDY NINAIVU INTER-CASTE MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME

To eradicate caste based discrimination and promote social equality among communities, the Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing the Inter-Caste Marriage Assistance Scheme. Cash assistance of ₹25,000 out of which ₹15,000 is disbursed through Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) and ₹10,000 in the form of National Saving Certificate to non graduates and cash assistance of ₹50,000 for degree / diploma holders out of which ₹30,000 is disbursed through Electronic Clearance Service (ECS) and ₹20,000

as National Savings Certificate (NSC) given along with one sovereign (8 gram) 22 carat gold coin is given with effect from 23.05.2016. There is no income ceiling and educational qualification is not necessary for this scheme.

Types of Inter-caste Marriage

Scheme – I : Either of the spouse of the Inter-caste married couples should be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe while the other spouse may be from any other Community.

Scheme – II : Either of the spouse should be from forward or other community and the other spouse may be from Backward Class/Most Backward Class.

A sum of ₹1,100.41 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017–2018 for this Scheme.

3.3 GOVERNMENT SERVICE HOMES

Service Homes are run by the Government to provide care and protection to deserted wives,

widows, girls, economically backward women rescued from child marriages and neglected by their families. Nine Government Service Homes, one each at Chennai, Salem, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai, Krishnagiri, Madurai and Perambalur are functioning in Tamil Nadu. Women who have discontinued their studies due to various situations are encouraged to stay along with their children and pursue their schooling in the same place.

The Service Homes provide accommodation, food, health and medical facilities to the inmates. Girl children can stay up to XII Standard, while the male children can stay up to V Standard in the Service Homes. Vocational Trainings are also provided to enhance their skills. Spoken English, Computer Training, Counselling and Career Guidance Facilities are also made for the girls in the Service Homes. In order to step up the security of the girl children and women staying in the Service Homes, CCTV Cameras have been installed in the Service Homes.

To help more poor girls to benefit from this scheme, the annual income ceiling has been raised from ₹24,000 to ₹72,000.

A sum of ₹524.43 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017–2018 for this Scheme.

3.3.1 Higher Education to girls

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

A sum of ₹33.78 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017-2018 for this Scheme.

3.3.2 Secondary Grade Teacher Training Institute

Girl Children who have completed Higher Secondary education in Government Service Homes are eligible for admissions into the Secondary Grade Teacher Training Institute at

Tambaram. 40 students are enrolled for the 2 years Teacher Training Course in this Institute. Study tour is also organized every year to provide them an opportunity to visit historical places, museums, science exhibitions, zoological parks and amusement parks. To provide additional living space for the inmates of the Teacher Training Institute, a new dormitory has been constructed at a cost of ₹1 crore.

A sum of ₹9.23 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017-2018 for this Scheme.

3.4 GOVERNMENT WORKING WOMEN'S HOSTELS

Young women have more job opportunities in the cities and towns and hence they are compelled to stay away from their homes on account of their employment. Hence, they need a safe and secure housing facilities in the cities at a relatively affordable cost. For this reason, the Government runs 28 Working Women's Hostels in 18 districts, throughout the State. Women who earn upto ₹25,000 per month in Chennai and

₹15,000 per month in other places are eligible to stay in these working women hostels. The monthly rent is fixed for ₹300 in Chennai and ₹200 in other places. Sharing / Dividing system is followed for food expenses, electricity and other charges. The staff salary is paid by the Government.

A sum of ₹117.46 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017-2018 for the Working Women Hostels.

3.5 SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES FOR WOMEN

Government of Tamil Nadu implement various special schemes for the socio economic development of women through Co-operative Societies. The empowerment of women not only fulfills their economic needs but also makes them independent by using their skill and intelligence which paves the way for gender equality.

With the above vision in mind, 98 Industrial Co-operative Societies are functioning under the

administrative control of Director of Social Welfare.

Out of these Societies, 80 Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies engage their members in tailoring activities i.e. production of 4 sets of uniform for students covered under Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme, school children of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minority Welfare Department and other Welfare Departments. The other 18 Societies engage their members in manufacturing products like registers, records, chalks and coir products in addition to the tailoring work.

25 Weaning Food Manufacturing Societies are functioning under the administrative control of the Director cum Mission Director of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

Details of Cooperative Societies and members enrolled are as follows:

S. No.	Type of Society	No. of Cooperative Societies	No. of Members
1.	Women Tailoring Industrial Cooperative Societies	80	73,047
2.	Women Stationery Industrial Cooperative Societies	15	1,017
3	Weaning Food Manufacturing Women Industrial Cooperative Societies	25	1,450
4	Other Industrial Cooperative Societies	3	1,743
	Total	123	77,257

These Industrial Co-operative Societies are functioning exclusively for the women who are from the poorer sections of the society. The women above the age of 18 years, below the poverty line, destitute and deserted women with a skill in tailoring alone are eligible to become the members of the societies and they are provided with employment opportunities with a decent income throughout the year. The Government have issued orders to provide 4 sets of uniform from the academic year 2012-2013. The 4 sets of uniforms provided to 43 lakh children during the year 2016-2017 have been stitched by the members of these societies. The stitching charges of uniform has been doubled from the year 2011-2012 onwards and every year an average of ₹90 crore is being allocated for this purpose by the School Education Department.

The production of uniform by the women members of Tailoring Industrial Co-operative

Societies gives them an opportunity to earn considerable income for their livelihood.

15,500 Advanced type of sewing machines were provided to the members of Women Industrial Co-operative Societies with 10% Government subsidy. This has improved the quality of stitching of uniform and increased the productivity of the Women Industrial Co-operative Tailoring Societies.

These Societies are playing a vital role in the implementation of Social Welfare Schemes which gives social status empowerment and economic development to the poorer section of women.

Women Tailoring Training Centres are functioning at Salem and Tiruvannamalai exclusively for the tribal women. In these centres, 35 tribal women are trained every year.

3.6 SATHIYAVANI MUTHU AMMAIYAR NINAI VU FREE SUPPLY OF SEWING MACHINE SCHEME

To enhance the livelihoods of widows, deserted wives, women from economically weaker sections, differently abled men and women through self employment, the Government provide free motorized sewing machines with additional features through the Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department.

To help more poor people to benefit from this scheme, the annual income ceiling has been raised from ₹24,000 to ₹72,000.

A sum of ₹135.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate of 2017-2018 for this Scheme.

3.7 TAMIL NADU STATE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

The Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women, which is a Statutory body was constituted in 1993 to deal with the cases relating to crimes against women and to safeguard the

rights of women. The Chairperson and 9 Members, appointed by Government are empowered to investigate specific problems of women and to take action to provide speedy relief to the petitioners. The Commission also takes up studies related to women issues and recommends changes to the Government.

The Commission also ensures the implementation of the provisions of various Acts like Dowry Prohibition Act,1961, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act,2005, and Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act,2013 and takes steps to ensure gender equality and protection of women against all forms of harassment faced within the families and at work places.

3.7.1 The Role of Women Commission

1. Adherence to the provisions and protection provided under the Constitution and Legislation for women are taken care by the Women Commission.

2. Report to Government when the protective measures for women are not effectively implemented by various agencies.
3. Recommends amendments in the provisions of law when it fails to impart justice to women.
4. Takes up issues related to violation of rights of women and follow-up action with the concerned authorities.

Aggrieved women with complaints of violation of their rights and non-implementation of their protective measures guaranteed under the Constitution of India can directly approach Women Commission for redressal. The Women Commission also organizes legal awareness programmes for the women and girls through National Commission for Women.

3.8 TAMIL NADU SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

The Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board which was constituted in 1954 has been working for the development of Women and Children through Voluntary Institutions in the State with the following objectives:-

1. To encourage and promote voluntary effort in the field of Women and Children.
2. To render technical and financial assistance to the Voluntary Institutions for better quality and standard of services.
3. To monitor the Programmes aided by Central Social Welfare Board allotted by State Government for effective implementation.

The Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board consists of a Chairperson and 30 Non Official Members. Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board provides support to Voluntary Organisations for a variety of programmes to facilitate and strengthen their role in empowering women through education, training, awareness creation and income generating facilities by provision of support services to the Non Governmental Organisation.

3.8.1 Grants received from State Government to Non-Governmental Organisation for working in rural areas through Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board

The Government of Tamil Nadu provide ₹10.00 lakh every year to the State Social Welfare Board to help 200 registered Voluntary Organisations who have completed 3 years after its registration under the Societies Registration Act/Trust Act. This grant is extended for the voluntary institutions who are working for the welfare of women and children. An amount of ₹5,000/- is being given as one-time matching grant on 50:50 ratio.

A sum of ₹10.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2017-2018 for this scheme.

3.9 FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRES (AIDED BY STATE GOVERNMENT)

The Government of Tamil Nadu is assisting six Family Counselling Centres in

Chennai, Thiruvallur, Villupuram, Thiruvarur, Tirunelveli and Sivagangai run by the Non Governmental Organisation through the Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board. The Government has sanctioned a sum of ₹4.80 lakh for the year 2017-2018. The main aim of this Family Counselling Centre is to provide counseling to preserve the basic social unit of a family. It helps women who approach the centre to redress their grievances relating to dowry harassment, marital maladjustment, cases of alcoholism and counseling to AIDS victims by giving suitable and appropriate guidance.

The State Government also provides assistance to the six family counsellors those who are serving in All Women Police Stations aided by Central Government and run through Non Governmental Organisations for amicably solving family disputes arising out of alcoholism, drug addiction, dowry harassment, etc. The counsellors provide counselling services to help to change the

negative attitudes and to bring good family environment where women will be treated with respect and dignity. Every year, the State Government provides an additional honorarium of ₹3,500 per month per counsellor.

Family Counselling Centre (Government of India through Central Social Welfare Board)

In Tamil Nadu, the Family Counselling Centres are functioning since 1984 supported by Government of India, through Central Social Welfare Board. There are 62 centres functioning in the entire State. During 2016-2017, ₹198.40 lakh was sanctioned and 59,520 persons were benefited under this programme.

Out of 62 Family Counselling Centres, 2 are functioning at Central Women Prisons in Vellore and Puzhal, Chennai and 3 Family Counselling Centres are functioning in All Women Police Stations at Police Commissioner's Office, Thousand Lights Police Station and Flower Bazaar Police Station in Chennai.

Details of sanctions aided by Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board in 2016-2017

	No. of Voluntary Organisations	No. of Units	Budget Allotment (₹ in lakh)	No. of beneficiaries
State Government	207	209	17.32	8840
Central Government	267	954	1434.55	82170

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL CRECHE SCHEME (Government of India Scheme implemented through Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board and Indian Council for Child Welfare)

To give a helping hand to ailing mothers and working women, Creche Programme was initiated to benefit their children. Children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years are given care and protection by 2 trained creche workers from morning to evening when the parents are away. The children are provided three meals, recreational and educational facilities for their physical and mental growth. During the year 2016-2017, a sum of ₹1236.15 lakh was

sanctioned by the Government of India to cater to the needs of 892 creche units benefiting 22,650 Children.

3.10 TAMIL NADU THIRD GENDERS WELFARE BOARD

The Government has taken initiatives in interests of the welfare of Third Genders so as to mainstream them in all walks of social life.

The Government has constituted a Welfare Board for Third Gender to redress their grievances through welfare measures. The Tamil Nadu Third Gender Welfare Board consists of 11 Official Members including the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Nutritious Noon Meal Programme as its Chairperson and 9 Non-Official Members (Third Genders).

The foremost difficulty faced by the Third Genders is to earn their livelihood through a decent and respectable profession. To empower the Third Genders economically, Bank loans upto ₹15.00 lakh with 25% subsidy are provided to the

Third Genders Self Help Groups to take up income generating activities. Through the Third Gender Welfare Board, economic activities like provision stores, rearing of milch animals, canteens, production units of soap, napkin, milk products, plying passenger autos, load autos and business activities related to cloth, coir, rice etc., have been taken up by Third Gender Self Help Groups.

51 Third Gender Self Help Groups, with 442 Third Gender members have been provided assistance for various projects totalling ₹2.20 Crore with 25% subsidy amounting to ₹55.00 lakh and ₹1.65 crore as bank loan.

The Government introduced a Pension scheme for destitute Third Genders who are above 40 years, wherein ₹1,000 is paid as monthly pension which is first of its kind in India. Presently, 1,000 Third Genders are being provided with monthly pension under this scheme.

Documents like Birth Certificate, Educational Certificate, Community Certificate and other essential identity cards like Ration Card, Voter Identity Card etc. and housing facilities are provided through convergence with other departments.

A sum of ₹220.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for the welfare of the Third Gender.

3.11 LEGISLATIONS PERTAINING TO WELFARE OF WOMEN

Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department being the Nodal Agency implements the following Legislations pertaining to women for their protection and rights:-

1. Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
2. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and its Rules, 2006.
3. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

4. Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act, 2014 and Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Rules, 2015.

3.12.1 PROTECTION OF WOMEN FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT, 2005

This Act has a special feature with specific provisions under law which provides protection to a woman to live in violence free home. The Act ensures a woman's right to reside in her matrimonial home. Though this Act has civil and criminal provisions, a woman victim can get immediate civil remedies within 60 days. Aggrieved women can file cases under this Act against her husband and his relatives. This Act provides for more effective protection of victims of violence within the family.

Salient features of the Act

- Ensures Right to Residence under Section 17.
- Protection order prohibiting the respondents from committing any act of Domestic Violence.
- Monetary relief for maintenance.
- Recognises verbal and emotional violence.

- Provides temporary custody of child to the women.
- Compensation for injuries, mental torture, emotional distress is ensured.
- Getting interim order, Judgements within 60 days of filing of the case.
- Multiple Judgements in a single case.
- Cases can be filed under Prevention of Women from Domestic Violence Act,2005 in addition or even if other cases and legal proceedings are pending between parties.
- Both petitioner and respondent can prefer Appeal to the court of sessions within 30 days from the date on which the order is made.

3.12.2 The following remedies are available under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

- Section 18 -- Protection Order
- Section 19 -- Residence Order for residing at Matrimonial House
- Section 20 -- Monetary Orders which includes maintenance for herself and her Children
- Section 21 -- Temporary Custody of Children
- Section 22 -- Compensation order for the damages caused to her

3.12.3 PROTECTION OFFICERS

Protection Officers have been appointed by the Government to help the aggrieved woman in filing the cases against respondents who have committed domestic violence and who is in domestic relationship with the petitioner. The Protection Officer facilitates the women to approach the court. They ensure that the petitioner is provided legal aid and gets appropriate relief from the courts concerned. Further, they execute the orders of the Court wherever necessary with the help of police. The Protection Officers are placed at District Social Welfare Office in each District. Options are also available to the aggrieved person to file the petition before the Judicial Magistrate Court directly or with the help of Service Provider or if Police receives the complaint, petitioner has to be assisted to file the petition before court.

3.12.4 SERVICE PROVIDERS

Under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Service Providers are the members from notified Non Governmental Organizations. They coordinate with all the stakeholders in getting justice and relief to the victims of domestic violence. The Service Providers help the aggrieved women in filing the Domestic Incident Report (DIR), provide accommodation in the Short Stay Homes along with their children, counsel them and help the aggrieved women to get medical treatment if necessary. Based on the need they also impart vocational training to help them secure employment and sustainable income. 33 Service Providers have been appointed by the Government i.e. Two in Chennai and one in each District.

3.12.5 SHELTER HOMES AND MEDICAL FACILITIES

The Government has taken steps to implement the Protection of Women from

Domestic Violence Act, 2005, under which, 98 Shelter Homes have been notified and are functioning in the State. About 1,849 Medical Institutions which include Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centers and Government Medical College Hospitals, ESI dispensaries, etc have been notified as "Medical facilities", to provide medical support to the victims of violence.

3.13 DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT,1961

The Dowry Prohibition Act was passed in 1961 and the Tamil Nadu Dowry Prohibition Rules were framed in 2004. The Act is being implemented by the District Social Welfare Officers who are designated as the Dowry Prohibition Officers as per the Dowry Prohibition Rules, 2004. Necessary training is imparted to the District Social Welfare Officers for the effective implementation of the Act. Complaints filed with the District Social Welfare Officers and complaints referred by the Police are enquired into by the Dowry Prohibition Officers relating to the dowry.

The genuineness of the case is verified by the District Social Welfare Officers and accordingly a report is filed with the Police or Court for taking necessary action under Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

Dowry Prohibition Day is observed on the 26th of November every year. Awareness Creation Programmes on Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 are organised by the District Social Welfare Officers in co-ordination with the District Administration on that day.

3.14 TAMIL NADU HOSTELS AND HOMES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN (REGULATION) ACT, 2014

In order to enhance security and prevent acts of violence against children and women who are accommodated in places away from their homes and for regulating the functioning of these homes, hostels and other residential places where children / adolescent girls / women are accommodated, the Government of Tamil Nadu

have enacted Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act, 2014. The Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Rules, 2015 has also been notified in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette. The District Collectors are the registering authority for such homes and hostels. This Act is aimed to reduce unwanted institutionalization of children and ensure security for the working women living in hostels.

3.15 STATE RESOURCE CENTRE FOR WOMEN (SRCW)

The State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW) is an initiative of National Mission for Empowerment of Women, Government of India, functioning in the Directorate of Social Welfare with a primary objective to work for holistic empowerment of women through convergence of initiatives of other women-centric schemes through awareness generation programmes. The State Resource Centre for Women implements the

following schemes of Government of India since 2012:-

3.15.1 SAKHI (ONE STOP CENTRE-OSC)

The objective of the One Stop Centre (OSC) Scheme is to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces under one roof and to facilitate immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services including medical, legal, psychological and counselling support. The Government has started a One Stop Centre in Chennai on a pilot basis and the centre caters to women in difficult situation by providing them counselling, medical, legal and short stay facilities.

3.15.2 WOMEN HELP LINE SCHEME (WHL)

The Women Help Line Scheme is intended to provide toll-free 24 hours service to women affected by violence seeking support and information. It facilitates crisis and non-crisis intervention through referral to the appropriate

agencies such as Police / Hospitals / Ambulance Services / District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) / Protection Officer (PO) to the women affected by violence. In Chennai, the Women Helpline (WHL) will be integrated with One Stop Centre in the current year.

3.15.3 VILLAGE CONVERGENCE AND FACILITATION SERVICE (VCFS)

The primary objective of Village Convergence and Facilitation Service (VCFS) is to work for holistic empowerment of women in the State. It facilitates Government and other stakeholders involved in women empowerment issues to implement Gender sensitive programmes, laws and schemes through effective coordination and convergence of women centric programmes/ schemes. In Tamil Nadu, Cuddalore District has been identified for the implementation of Village Convergence and Facilitation Service Scheme.

3.15.4 POORNA SAKTHI KENDRA (PSK)

The Poorna Sakthi Kendra is the focal point of action on ground through which the services to women at grassroot level would be facilitated. In Tamil Nadu, Poorna Sakthi Kendra (PSK) is being implemented in 10 Village Panchayats in Salem District under the National Mission for Empowerment of Women, Government of India. Various awareness programmes and convergence services are being implemented in the District, Block and Village levels through Poorna Sakthi Kendra (PSK) team in convergence with the District Administration.

3.16 SWADHAR GREH

The Government of India has introduced 'Swadhar Greh' in 2016 by merging two schemes namely, 'Swadhar' and 'Short Stay Homes'. Accordingly, 26 Short Stay Homes functioning under the Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board and 12 Swadhar Homes functioning under the Directorate of Social Defence were merged as

Swadhar Greh and brought under the control of Directorate of Social Welfare.

The Scheme provides accommodation and training to women in difficult circumstances. At present, 38 Swadhar Greh Homes are functioning in the State. Each Centre is catering to the needs of 30 women. The scheme is implemented through Non-Governmental Organisations with a sharing pattern of 60:30:10 between Centre, State and Non-Governmental Organisations.

3.17 STATE AWARDS

March 8th, being the International Women's Day is a day dedicated for the women across the world. To mark this occasion, the "Avvaiyar Award"(State Award) is given to one eminent woman who has rendered excellent service in any one field such as Social Reform, Women Development, Communal harmony, Service for language, Service in various disciplines in Art, Science, Culture, Press, Administration, etc., A Gold Medal weighing 8 gram (22 carat), cash

award of ₹1.00 lakh as Cheque, a Shawl and a Citation are given to the recipient of the Avvaiyar Award.

Every year on Independence Day, Awards for Best Social Worker for outstanding work done for women and Best Institution for serving women are given. The Best Social Worker is given 22 carat Gold Medal weighing 10 grams, a Shawl and a Citation and the Best Institution is given a cash award of ₹50,000 in addition to a shawl and a gold medal.

CHAPTER - 4

PURATCHI THALAI VAR M.G.R. NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME

4.1 Tamil Nadu is a pioneering State which introduced the Nutritious Meal programme during the year 1982. The objective was to enhance the enrolment of students and retain the attendance in schools and simultaneously to improve the nutritional levels among children. A Child who is hungry or ill cannot concentrate in his/her studies with full attention. Due to this factor a free hot cooked lunch is being provided to children in Primary and Upper Primary Classes upto Tenth Standard in Government, Government aided Schools, Special Training Centres, Madarasas and Maktabs supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

4.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

1. To maximize enrollment and reduce school dropout rates with a view to universalize elementary education.
2. To provide nutrition to the under fed and under nourished children.

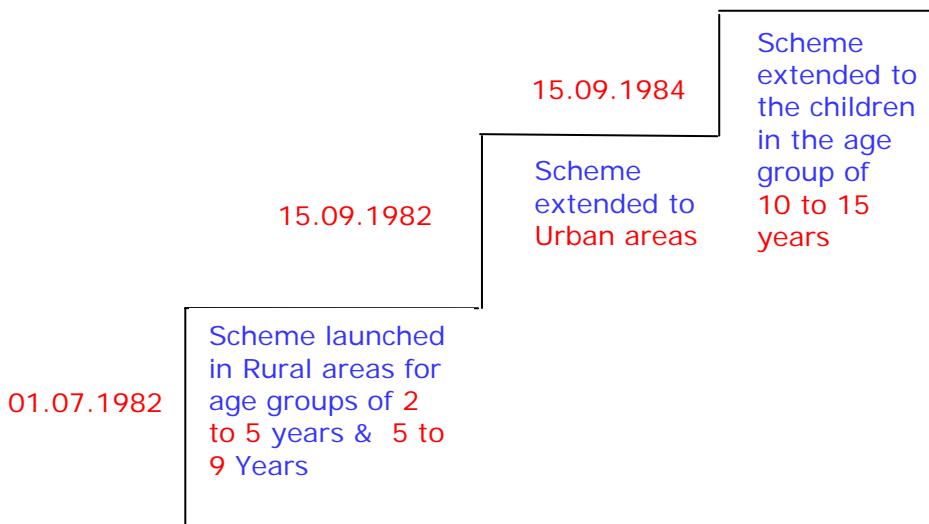
3. To encourage children from disadvantaged backgrounds to attend school regularly and to help them in attaining formal education.
4. To empower women by offering employment opportunities

4.3. SALIENT FEATURES OF THE SCHEME

- i. Primary School children in the age group of 5-9 years and Upper Primary School children in the age group of 10-15 years are provided with hot cooked nutritious variety meals inside the school campus itself, for five school days in a week for a total of 220 days in a year.
- ii. The children enrolled under National Child Labour Project Special Schools in 16 Districts viz., Kancheepuram, Vellore, Tiruvannamalai, Namakkal, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Salem, Coimbatore, Erode, Tiruppur, Thiruchirappalli, Dindigul, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi and Chennai are also provided with hot cooked nutritious variety meals for 312 days in a year.
- iii. Foodgrains (rice) @ 100 gm per child per school day for primary children (1st Std. to 5th Std.) and @ 150 gm for upper primary and high school (6th Std. to 10th Std.) is provided.

4.4 GROWTH OF NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME IN THE STATE

The Nutritious Noon Meal Programme was introduced by the then Chief Minister **Dr.Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.** with effect from 01.07.1982 for the Children in the age groups of 2 to 5 years and 5 to 9 years in primary schools. The scheme was extended to urban areas with effect from 15.09.1982 and further extended to all the children in the age group of 10-15 years with effect from 15.09.1984.



4.5 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL

Nutritious Meal Centres functioning in the schools in Chennai District as well as in all 31 Districts of the State come under the administrative control of the Directorate of Social Welfare. The Officials from Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department implement the programme in all the 31 Districts except Chennai District of the State. The Additional Educational Officer (AEO) under the guidance of District Educational Officer (DEO) of Chennai Corporation implement the scheme in Chennai District.

The pre-school Nutritious Meal Centres catering to the children in the age group of 2 to 5 years are under the administrative control of Director-cum-Mission Director of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

4.6 BENEFICIARIES IN SCHOOLS (NUTRITIOUS MEAL CENTRES) 2017-18

The total number of beneficiaries in Primary Schools (1st Std. to 5th Std.) are 26,18,063 covering 26,810 Noon Meal Centres.

The total number of beneficiaries in Upper Primary Schools (6th Std. to 8th Std.) are 20,63,766 and in respect of 9th Standard and 10th Standard are 6,41,770 covering 16,064 Noon Meal Centres. As regards the National Child Labour Project 7,612 beneficiaries are covered by 269 Noon Meal Centres. Thus the total number of beneficiaries are 53,31,211 in 43,143 Noon Meal Centres during the year 2017-2018.

4.6.1 Fixation of Feeding Strength

Based on the reports received from the Block Development Officers concerned, the District Collectors arrive at the number of beneficiaries at each centre, during each academic year, and the same is reviewed

periodically every trimester. Further, all possible steps are taken by the District Administration to cover all the enrolled children in eligible schools under the programme as per the Right of children to free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

4.7 PROVISION OF NUTRITIOUS MEAL TO CHILDREN

4.7.1 Introduction of Variety Meals

As a special nutritional intervention 13 kinds of variety menu with 5 different kinds of egg masalas were introduced during the year 2013 in one pilot block of each district. After ascertaining the success of this scheme, the variety meals programme has been extended to the rest of the blocks in all Districts from 15.8.2014. Elaborate training was provided to the cooks and field staff in a phased manner and the system was strengthened. The menu of Variety Meals is detailed as follows:-

Days	FIRST AND THIRD WEEK	SECOND AND FOURTH WEEK
Monday	Vegetable Biryani with Pepper Egg	Sambar Sadham (Bisibelabath) with Onion Tomato Masala Egg.
Tuesday	Black Bengal Gram Pulav (கொண்டைக்கடலை புலவு) with Tomato Masala Egg.	Mixed Meal Maker with Vegetable Rice and Pepper Egg
Wednesday	Tomato Rice with Pepper Egg	Tamarind Rice with Tomato Masala Egg
Thursday	Rice, Sambar and Boiled Egg	Lemon Rice, Sundal and Tomato Egg
Friday	Curry Leaf Rice / Keerai Sadham with Masala Egg and Chilly Fried Potato.	Rice, Sambar and Boiled Egg with Fried Potato.

4.7.2 Provision of egg in Noon Meals for Children

Along with hot cooked nutritious meals, all willing enrolled children are provided with an egg with minimum weight of 46 gms on all school working days. An egg weighing 46 gms provides

6.12 gms of protein and 80 kcal of energy. The cost of the eggs is fully met by the State Government.

Eggs of 'A' medium grade Agmark specification are procured through State level tender by following the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act,1998 and Rules,2000 framed thereunder. Eggs weighing a minimum of 46 gms to a maximum of 52 gms are supplied directly to the Noon Meal Centres. In order to strengthen the monitoring measures, stamping of eggs with food graded colours has been put into practice.

Initially, during the year 1989, one egg was provided on fortnight basis and in 1998 one egg was provided on a weekly basis to all the children. Later, during the years 2005, 2007 and 2010, the number of eggs per child was increased to 2, 3 and 5 respectively.

4.7.3 Introduction of Pulses – Bengal Gram / Green Gram

During first and third week of a month, on Tuesdays, 20 gms of 'Black Bengal Gram' is provided to each child in the form of 'Pulav' (கொண்டைக்கடலை புலவு) which provides 72 kcal of energy and 3.42 gms of protein.

During second and fourth week of a month on Thursday, 20 gms of Green Gram is provided to each child which provides 67 kcal of energy and 4.80 gms of protein.

4.7.4 Introduction of Potatoes

To increase the carbohydrate content, all children are provided with 20 gms of chilly fried potato, every Friday which has 19.04 kcal of energy and 0.32 gms of protein. Potatoes are bought by the Noon Meal Organisers from the local market. The amount for the procurement of 20 gms of Potato has been enhanced from 16 paise to 40 paise from the year 2015.

4.7.5 Introduction of Banana

Children who are not willing to eat egg are provided with Banana weighing 100 gms which provides 1.2 gms of protein and 116 kcal of energy. Banana is procured from the local markets by the Noon Meal Organisers.

4.7.6 Introduction of Double Fortified Salt and Cooking Oil

In order to address iodine and iron deficiency among children and as a part of health intervention programme, Double Fortified Salt is used for cooking which prevents iodine and iron deficiencies. Palmolein supplied to Nutritious Meal Centres by Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation is fortified with Vitamin A & Vitamin D.

4.8 NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF MID DAY MEAL

- The Government of India initiated the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE) on 15th August 1995 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. During 1997-98, the scheme was

universalized across all blocks of the country covering children from 1st standard to 5th standard. During October 2007, the scheme was extended to upper primary classes of 6th standard to 8th standard and the name was changed from 'National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education' to 'National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools'.

- The Government of India provides fund for implementing the programme. The funding pattern between the Centre and the State has been revised as 60:40 from the year 2015-2016. Accordingly, cooking cost and honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers are shared by Centre and State in the ratio of 60:40, while food grains, transportation of food grains and Monitoring, Management and Evaluation (MME) component is 100% funded by Government of India.

- Government of India has fixed the nutritional norm for primary children as 450 kcal and 12 gms of protein and for upper primary as 700 kcal and 20 gms of protein. Considering the best interest of the children the State Government provides 553.30 kcal and 18.12 gms of protein for primary children and 733.86 kcal and 21.64 gms of protein for upper primary children.
- Government of India provides rice at the rate of ₹3,000 per MT to children from 1st standard to 8th standard. In addition, a sum of ₹750 per Metric tonne is provided as transportation cost.
- Government of India provides cooking cost (excluding the labour and administrative charges) @ ₹4.13 for primary and ₹6.18 for upper primary children. However, the State Government provides more than the

mandatory share of 40% so as to provide nutritious food to children.

(in ₹)

Class	MDM Norms (60:40)	Centre (60%)	State (40%)	Additional State Contribution	Total
Primary (1 to 5 Std.)	4.13	2.48	1.65	2.81	6.94
Upper Primary (6 to 8 Std.)	6.18	3.71	2.47	0.86	7.04
9th & 10th Std.	100% contribution by State Government				8.61

4.9 FOOD GRAINS MANAGEMENT

- The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation is the Nodal Agency to supply food commodities like Rice, Dhal, Oil, Black Bengal Gram and Green Gram required for the Nutritious Meal Programme.
- The Food Corporation of India is responsible for issue of rice of Fair Average Quality.
- The rice allocated by the Government of India is lifted by the TNCSC from the Food Corporation of India and supply directly to the Noon Meal Centres based on the indent placed by the District Officials.

- The State Government has also extended the programme to 9th & 10th std children and the entire expenditure is met out of State funds. Rice for 9th & 10th std, children is supplied by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation at the rate of ₹10,438/- per MT.
- Double Fortified Salt is procured from the Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation and distributed to the Noon Meal Centres by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation.
- Thus, the network with TNCSC ensures constant supply of food items directly to the Noon Meal Centres without any hindrance.
- The Noon Meal Organisers are permitted to purchase vegetables and condiments locally using the funds credited as advance grant into their bank account through Electronic Clearance System (ECS). From the year 2012, an amount of ₹1.17 per primary school child and ₹1.27 per Upper Primary school child is provided to the Noon Meal Organisers towards this purpose.

4.10 INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES

4.10.1 Construction of Kitchen-cum-Stores

The Central Government started providing 100% central assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-stores in Government schools, since

the year 2006-2007 at a flat rate of ₹60,000/- per unit. However, from the year 2009 onwards, the cost of construction of kitchen-cum-stores is determined on the basis of plinth area norms and State schedule of rates prevalent in the State. Now, 20 sq.mt plinth area is admissible for schools having upto 100 children. For every additional 100 children, additional 4 sq.mt plinth area can be added. The expenditure arrived out of the schedule of rates are shared in the ratio of 60:40 between the Centre and State.

From the year 2006-2007 to 2012-2013, a sum of ₹59,035.55 lakh had been sanctioned for the construction of 28,856 Kitchen-cum-stores shed. As on 31.03.2017, 20,496 Kitchen-cum-Stores have been constructed by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj. The construction of the balance Kitchen-cum-Stores are under progress.

4.10.2 Modernisation of Noon Meal Centres

In order to create 'smoke free atmosphere' in the Noon Meal Centres, Modernisation of Noon Meal Centres, have been taken up and LPG connection is provided to the centres exclusively out of State Funds. A sum of ₹22,350/- is provided per centre, which is inclusive of the cost of construction of cooking platform, procurement of Gas Stove and gas connection (including non returnable valve, safety measures etc.). The work in 34,721 centres have been completed and the work is in progress in 8,422 centres. All Noon Meal Employees have been provided training by the respective gas agencies in handling the gas stoves.

4.10.3 Kitchen Devices

Noon Meal Centres are provided with sufficient kitchen devices like Aluminium Dabara with lid, Stainless steel karandi, Indolium kadai etc., to facilitate cooking. Government of India provides funds to the tune of ₹5,000 per Noon

Meal Centre as one time Central Assistance for the procurement of kitchen devices. Stainless Steel Plates and Tumblers are provided to the Noon Meal Beneficiaries both out of State and Central funds. All Noon Meal Centres have also been provided with mixies to grind masala exclusively from State fund.

4.10.4 Contingencies

To meet contingent expenditure such as purchase of cleaning material like soap, Phenyl, broomstick, etc., each Noon Meal Centre is being provided funds to the tune of ₹50 every month.

4.11 TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

In order to ensure transparency and accountability, all Noon Meal Centres have been directed to display the following information at a visible place inside the campus for the information of the general public :-

- i. Number of children enrolled
- ii. Number of children provided Mid Day Meal
- iii. Daily Menu
- iv. Ration for primary and upper primary children

4.12 MONITORING MECHANISM

- ❖ As a special initiative, since the year 2013, Social Audit has been introduced to create awareness among the general public and to encourage community participation. The accounts of the Noon Meal Centres are to be placed before the Grama Sabha twice in a year (i.e. January 26th and August 15th), in which the students, teachers, mothers and public participate actively and the programme is discussed in detail.
- ❖ Targets have also been fixed for each official to conduct surprise checks at the time of serving Mid Day Meal. They are also expected to examine the quality and quantity of food cooked and served, the number of children fed, the stock on hand, registers maintained etc.
- ❖ The State Level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to Government has been constituted by the State Government to implement the programme effectively. In addition, District level and Block level committees have also been formed to review and monitor the progress of the scheme at the District and Block level.
- ❖ The Noon Meal Employees and the school teachers have been instructed to taste the food half an hour before serving the

food to the children. In addition, the teachers are also maintaining a 'Taste Register' in this regard.

- ❖ Under the Management Information System (MIS), the details are updated monthly on the Government Website (pertaining to the number of children benefitted under Mid Day Meal scheme, number of Noon Meal Centres, construction of kitchen-cum-stores, provision of gas connection, water facility, movement of supplies made from the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, Bills raised and settled, details of cook-cum-helpers engaged etc.) from the block and district level.

4.13 GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM

- Toll Free numbers are in operation in 29 Districts of the State for the redressal of grievances.
- Complaint / suggestion boxes have been kept in the schools to facilitate the better implementation of the scheme.
- PA (NMP) of the District and Block Development Officers at the Blocks have been designated as Grievance Redressal Officers to set right the grievances.

4.14 TRAINING PROGRAMME

Training programmes are organized at regular intervals to orient the employees on Nutrition, Health and Personal Hygiene like regular cutting of nails, washing hands/ feet with soap before commencement of cooking / serving and preparation of food. For maintenance of hygiene in the kitchen cum stores, cleaning of cooking and serving utensils, storage of commodities and disposal of wastes also adequate training has been imparted. The employees have also been trained by expert chefs in the preparation of variety meals.

4.15 CONVERGENCE WITH SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMME

Health Check-up Camps in all schools which aims to address the health and nutrition needs of the children are conducted through the Health and Family Welfare Department. The components of the School Health Programme are detailed as below:-

- i. Screening for anemia, general health and other health problems – health care and referral.
- ii. Immunization, eye and dental check-up in particular.
- iii. Administration of micronutrients like Iron Folic Acid (IFA) tablets, vitamin A.
- iv. De-worming medicines
- v. Providing and maintaining individual health cards to all the children to monitor their health status.

4.16 NOON MEAL EMPLOYEES

4.16.1 Sanctioned Strength

At present, there are 43,143 Noon Meal Centres catering to 53.31 lakh children studying from Std I to X. Each Noon Meal Centre has three sanctioned posts of Noon Meal Organiser, Cook and Cook Assistant. But, if the number of Noon Meal beneficiaries in a school exceeds 500, an additional Cook Assistant can be appointed.

As per the norms of Government of India, only one post of Cook cum Helper is allowed for a strength of 25 beneficiaries and an honorarium of

₹1,000 is allowed in the sharing pattern of 60:40 between the Centre and State. However, in order to provide quality, healthy, safe and delicious food for children, the Government of Tamil Nadu has appointed three staff in each centre.

The sanctioned post of Noon Meal Employees are tabulated below:-

S. No.	Post	Sanctioned post
1	Noon Meal Organiser	42,423
2	Cook	42,852
3	Cook Assistant	42,855
Total		1,28,130

The working hours for the noon meal employees are from 9 am to 2 pm.

4.16.2 Scale of Pay

These employees are classified as 'Part Time Permanent Employees' and are being paid a Special Time Scale of pay as tabulated below:-

Sl. No.	Post	Scale of Pay	Minimum - Maximum
1.	Noon Meal Organiser	₹2,500-5,000 + Grade Pay ₹500	₹7,530 – ₹10,478
2.	Cook	₹1,300-3,000 + Grade Pay ₹300	₹4,380 – ₹5,055
3.	Cook Assistant	₹950 – 2,000 + Grade Pay ₹200	₹3,368 – ₹4,380

4.16.3 Special Monthly Pension

Till 31.01.2016 all retired Noon Meal Employees were provided with a special monthly pension of ₹1,000 per month. The Special Pension has been enhanced to ₹1,500 irrespective of all categories with effect from 01.02.2016.

Budgetary provision for the year 2017-2018 is **₹8,534.95 lakh.**

4.16.4 Lumpsum Payment

A sum of ₹50,000 to the Noon Meal Organiser and ₹20,000 to the Cook and Cook Assistant were provided as lumpsum amount at the time of their retirement till January, 2016.

However, since February 2016, the amount has been enhanced to ₹60,000 to Noon Meal Organisers and ₹25,000 to Cook and Cook Assistant.

Budgetary provision for the year 2017-2018 towards lumpsum payment to employees is **₹2,097.44 lakh.**

4.16.5 Festival Advance

All Noon Meal Employees are sanctioned with festival advance of ₹5,000 every year. The advance amount will be deducted from their salary in 10 equal installments.

Budgetary provision for the year 2017-2018 is **₹4,774.32 lakh.**

4.16.6 Pongal Bonus

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

4.16.7 Hill Allowance and Winter Allowance

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

4.16.8 Special Provident Fund cum Gratuity Scheme

A sum of ₹20 is being recovered from the Noon Meal Employees salary for 148 months which amounts to ₹2,960. The same will be paid at the time of their retirement along with interest (as per GPF interest rate). In addition, ₹10,000 is also paid as Government contribution to the Noon Meal Employees.

4.16.9 Additional charge allowance to Noon Meal Organisers

The Noon Meal Organisers who are provided with additional charge of another Noon Meal Centre are provided with an additional charge

allowance of ₹10 per day till March 2015. From April 2015, this amount has been enhanced to ₹20 per day.

4.16.10 Family Benefit Fund

Like regular Government Employees, the monthly recovery from the salary of Noon Meal Employees has been enhanced to ₹60 per month and the payment of lumpsum amount increased to ₹3.00 lakh for the family of the deceased employees.

4.16.11 Immediate relief to the Noon Meal Employee who die while in service

The immediate relief given to the family of the deceased Noon Meal Employees has been enhanced from ₹5,000 to ₹25,000 since February 2016. It will be adjusted from the Family Benefit Fund amount of ₹3.00 lakh.

4.16.12 New Health Insurance Scheme

Till the year 2016, a monthly subscription of ₹150 was deducted from the salary of the Noon Meal Employees under New Health

Insurance Scheme, 2012 for providing health care assistance upto the limit of ₹4.00 lakh in a block year of 4 years commencing from 01.07.2012 to 30.6.2016. The Government had exempted the employees from the monthly subscription of ₹150 who draw an annual salary less than ₹72,000 since May 2015. Now, the scheme has been extended in the name of "New Health Insurance Scheme, 2016" and implemented with effect from 01.07.2016 for a further period of four years.

4.16.13 General Provident Fund

General Provident Fund account has been started for all the Noon Meal Employees with a monthly subscription at the rate of 12% on Basic pay and Grade pay w.e.f.1.8.2015. The Noon Meal Employees were assigned with nine digit G.P.F account number with suffix NMP and the GPF schedules are sent to Government Data Centre for accounting purposes.

4.16.14 Casual Leave

All Noon Meal Employees can avail 12 days of casual leave every year.

4.16.15 Maternity Leave to Noon Meal Employees

The paid absence on Maternity Leave of 90 days has been enhanced to 180 days to the married women employees of Nutritious Meal Programme since May 2015.

4.16.16 Voluntary Retirement

From April 2015 the willing Noon Meal Employees are permitted for special voluntary retirement on health grounds with eligible retirement benefits.

4.16.17 Compassionate Ground Appointment

District Collectors are delegated with powers to give appointment on compassionate grounds to the female or male legal heir (if female legal heir is not available) of the deceased noon meal employee. In cases, where relaxation of rules is needed for appointment on

compassionate grounds, necessary proposals are sent to Government for rule relaxation and necessary appointment orders are issued. The implementation of the programme has brought a positive change on enrolment, retention and attendance of students and all the three parameters have shown marked improvement in their nutritional status which helps them to concentrate and perform better in the class room. In addition, the Mid Day Meal Programme has reduced the gender equality by providing equal opportunities in education, nutrition and upbringing of the girl child.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has allocated a sum of ₹1,687.37 crore (inclusive of Central and State share) in the Budgetary Estimate for the year 2017-2018 for this scheme.

CHAPTER- 5

WELFARE OF THE AGED AND SENIOR CITIZENS

5.1 The increase in human life expectancy over the years has resulted in a very substantial increase in the number of older persons. India's older population will increase dramatically over the next four decades. The share of India's population ages 60 and older is projected to climb 8% in 2050 according to the United Nations Population Division (UN 2011). By mid-Century, India's 60 and above older population is expected to surpass 323 million people. To fulfill the needs of the Senior Citizens for leading a safe and dignified life, the State Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing various schemes for their welfare.

5.2 INTEGRATED COMPLEX OF SPECIAL HOMES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND DESTITUTE CHILDREN

In the Budget Speech for the year 2011-2012, it was announced that an Integrated

Complex of Special Homes would be set up in each block of the State for the Senior Citizens and Destitute Children where they can share love and affection with each other, involving reputed Non-Governmental Organizations and Corporate Houses as part of their Corporate Social Responsibilities.

As a first step, 64 Integrated Complexes of Special Homes in all 32 Districts (2 homes per district) in the State was inaugurated during 2012.

In each Integrated Complex, 25 children and 25 senior citizens are accommodated. As of now in 50 Integrated Complexes, 1,189 children and 1,144 elders are benefitting under this scheme. A sum of ₹628.70 lakh was sanctioned towards the recurring expenditure for the period of 2016-2017 to the 50 voluntary Institutions in 29 districts for running the Integrated Complex of Special Homes.

A sum of ₹670.76 lakh has been sanctioned in the Budget Estimate for the year 2017-2018 for this scheme.

5.3 OLD AGE HOMES RUN BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS WITH STATE GRANT

The State Government is providing maintenance grant for the Old Age Homes run by the Voluntary Organisations to safeguard the life of destitute elders in the age group of 60 years and above and who are homeless and abandoned by their families. Food, shelter, clothing, health care and recreational facilities etc. are provided in these homes to these beneficiaries.

21 Non-Governmental Organisations are provided with grants by the State Government to run the Old Age Homes in 19 Districts. A sum of ₹5.60 lakh per year is given as grant to maintain 40 inmates in each home. 709 elders are benefitted in these homes. A sum of ₹75.13 lakh has been incurred as expenditure during the year 2016-2017. As per the

announcement of the then Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Assembly, the feeding charges payable to each inmate in the Old Age Home run with State Government Grant was enhanced from ₹300 to ₹1,200 .

A sum of ₹64.00 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2017-2018 for this scheme.

5.4 THE MAINTENANCE AND WELFARE OF PARENTS AND SENIOR CITIZENS ACT, 2007

The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, which provides a statutory protection for the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens as guaranteed and recognized under the Constitution is being implemented in this State with effect from 29.09.2008. The Tamil Nadu Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Rules have also been framed and notified on 31.12.2009.

For speedy disposal of petitions received under this Act, a Tribunal presided over by the Revenue Divisional Officer has been constituted in each sub-division, to obtain maintenance amount from children/legal heirs by the senior citizens and parents. There are 81 Tribunals functioning in the State. The District Social Welfare Officers are acting as the Maintenance Officers as well as Conciliation Officers. An Appellate Tribunal chaired by the District Collector has been constituted in each District to hear appeals against the orders of the Tribunal. Till 2016-2017, 2,030 petitions have been received and as on date 1,547 cases have been settled under this Act.

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE ACT

A senior citizen or a parent who is unable to maintain himself from his own earnings or out of the property owned by him is entitled to make an application under Section 5 of the Act to obtain

maintenance amount from his children / legal heirs as follows:-

- An application filed under this Act for monthly allowance/maintenance shall be disposed off within 90 days.
- If the children or relatives fail to obey the orders of the Tribunal, the Tribunal may levy fines and may sentence such persons for the whole or any part of each month's allowance for the maintenance and expenses of the Senior Citizens or order imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month or until payment is made.
- The maximum maintenance allowance shall not exceed 10,000 per month.
- The Tribunal may give an interim order during the pendency of the proceeding for such children or relatives to provide monthly allowance for the maintenance of the senior citizen.

- If the persons responsible for the care and protection of senior citizens abandon the senior citizens, such persons shall be punished with imprisonment for three months or fined up to ₹5,000 or with both.

5.5 FIXING OF MINIMUM STANDARDS / ESSENTIAL STANDARDS TO BE MAINTAINED IN OLD AGE HOMES

The Government have issued detailed guidelines fixing minimum standards / essential standards to be maintained in old age homes run by Non Governmental Organizations.

5.6 CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SENIOR CITIZENS

The International Day of Senior Citizens is celebrated on 1st October of every year at State level and also at District level in Tamil Nadu to implement the resolution passed by the United Nations Assembly for the Welfare of Senior Citizens to recognize their services and to make optimum use of their resourcefulness.

Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs, District Collectors, Members of Local Bodies, Senior Citizens, Voluntary Organizations, District Level Officials etc. participate in the celebration. Exhibition on the diet suitable for elders is also conducted. Pamphlets on the welfare of Senior Citizens are distributed to create awareness among the participants.

During the celebration, seminars and competitions in colleges and schools are organized in order to create awareness about the needs of the Senior Citizens and about the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 among youth and the general public. Free health check-ups for senior citizens are also conducted during the celebration.

The best Non Governmental Organization and Social Workers who have worked for the cause of the senior citizens are honoured during the celebration. Various aids and appliances are

also distributed to needy senior citizens during the celebration.

A sum of ₹5.70 lakh has been sanctioned in the Budget Estimate for the year 2017-2018 for this celebration.

5.7 STATE COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COMMITTEES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

A High Level Advisory Committee with the Chief Secretary as Chairperson, 15 official members and 7 Non-official members has been constituted in the State to advise and supervise on the effective implementation of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. Similarly, District Level Committee with the District Collector as the Chairperson, 3 Official members and 4 Non-official members including 2 Senior Citizens have been constituted in all the Districts.

CHAPTER - 6

INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SCHEME

Tamil Nadu has a long history of providing organised child care services with emphasis on nutrition to children under institutionalized care. In 1956, midday meal scheme was in operation in schools in the then Madras State. In 1961, CARE offered food commodity assistance (Bulgar Wheat) under which children in 30,000 schools were covered. In 1967, the system was radically modified to operate through Central Kitchens. In 1970, **Special Nutrition Programme** was introduced to cover children below the school age group.

Realizing the fact that "**Investment in children is investment in the welfare of the Nation in future**", Integrated Child Development Service Scheme was introduced with the support of Government of India with the main focus on Health, Nutrition, Pre-school education and Health education for women and children. The

Integrated Child Development Services Scheme was launched in India in the year 1975 on the 106th birth anniversary of **Mahatma Gandhi** with 33 Projects which was designed as a befitting tribute to him and for development needs of young children, Adolescent girls, Pregnant & Nursing mothers across the life cycle. It is the most effective programme for breaking an inter generational cycle of gender disparity by intervening as early as possible to promote survival, growth and development, protection and participation of the yet to be born girl child, the young child and Adolescent girls. Three Projects namely Chennai, Nilakottai and Thali being urban, rural and tribal respectively were started in Tamilnadu. Now the scheme is being implemented in all the Districts.

6.1 UNIVERSALISATION OF ICDS – OPENING OF NEW CENTRES

In order to fulfill its commitment towards universalisation of ICDS and operationalising 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres throughout the

Country, the Government of India have revised the population, nutrition and financial guidelines for setting up of the Anganwadi Centres based on the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Task Force.

As per the revised guidelines, the population norms for setting up of a Anganwadi Centre is :-

Project Location	Main AWC		Mini AWC	
	Minimum Population	Maximum Population	Minimum Population	Maximum Population
Rural	400	800	150	400
Urban	400	800	150	400
Tribal	300	800	150	300

In Tamil Nadu, the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) is now implemented through 49,499 Main Anganwadi Centres and 4,940 Mini Anganwadi Centres, totalling to 54,439 centres functioning under 434 ICDS Projects. Of which, 385 are rural projects, 47 are urban projects and 2 are tribal projects.

6.2 Vision of ICDS

Restructured ICDS visualises

1. A holistic physical, psychosocial, cognitive and emotional development of children under 6 years of age.
2. To nurture protective, child friendly, development, learning and promotion of optimal early childhood care with greater emphasis on children under three years.
3. A gender sensitive family, community programme and policy environment including adolescent and maternal care.

6.3 Organizational Set up of ICDS in Tamil Nadu

Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department



ICDS (Mission Director)/State Child Development Society



District Programme Office/ District Child Development Society – 32 Districts



Child Development project Office – 434 Projects (385-Rural, 47-Urban, 2 Tribal)



Anganwadi Centres 54,439
(Main 49,499 and Mini 4,940)

6.4 Objectives and Strategies

- To institutionalize essential services and strengthen infrastructures at all levels
 - Implementing ICDS in Mission Mode to prevent under nourishment and assure children of the best possible start to life, focussing on children under-3 years; focussing on early child care and learning environment.
- To enhance capacities at all levels
 - Training of all functionaries / staff to strengthen field based joint action and teamwork to achieve desired results and laid down objectives.
- To ensure appropriate inter-sectoral responses at all levels
 - Ensure convergence at the grass root level by strengthening partnership with the Health, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Departments and Communities to improve outreach and quality of child development services.
- To raise public awareness at all levels and participation
 - Inform the beneficiary group and public on the availability of the four core child development services under ICDS and promote social mobilization and voluntary action.

- To create database and knowledge base for child development services
 - Strengthen ICDS Management Information System (MIS); Use Information Communication Technology (ICT) to strengthen the information base and facilitate sharing and dissemination of information; Undertake research and documentation.

6.5 Services provided under ICDS Mission

- i. Early Childhood Care Education and Development (ECCED)
 - Supplementary Nutrition
 - Preschool Education
- ii. Care and Nutrition Counseling
 - Infant young child feeding practices (IYCF)
 - Community based management of severely and moderately undernourished
- iii. Health Services
 - Health Check up, Ensuring Immunization services
 - Referrals
- iv. Community Mobilization, Awareness, Advocacy and IEC

6.6 BENEFICIARIES OF THE SCHEME

- i. Children in the age group of 0-72 months
- ii. Adolescent girls
- iii. Pregnant women and Lactating mothers
- iv. Old Age Pensioners

6.6.1 Budget Estimate for 2017-2018 is detailed below:-

(₹ in crore)

Gross Total Project Cost	GoI share	Total State share
1917.55	681.88	1235.67

The overall percentage of State share for the year 2017-2018 is 64% and the Government of India share is 36%.

6.7 SUPPLEMENTARY NUTRITION

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State in implementing various nutritional schemes, with an aim to march towards "Malnutrition Free State". In order to bridge the protein and energy gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) and average dietary intake of ICDS beneficiaries, the following efforts are being put into operation.

6.7.1 Weaning Food

To increase the nutritional level of the children, supplementary nutrition is provided to children in the age group of 6 months to 36 months, Pregnant and Lactating mothers, Adolescent girls in 9 districts, 3-5 years children who are moderately and severely under nourished additional quantity of supplementary nutrition to children in 5 districts which are prone to Japanese Encephalitis.

COMPOSITION OF WEANING FOOD

Sl.No	Raw Materials	Grams
1	Wheat/Maize/ Bajra	52
2	Powdered Jaggery	30
3	Bengal Gram	12
4	Malted Ragi	5
5	Minerals and Vitamin Premix	1
Total		100

6.7.2 Weekly Food Schedule:-

Age	Food provided	Quantum of Supplementary food / Nutritious Meal provided and cost	Number of Beneficiaries
6 months - 1 year children	Supplementary Nutrition	130 gm /day @ ₹8.30 for Normal, MUW Children and 190 gm/day @ ₹12.14 to SUW children.	3,65,464
1-2 years children	Supplementary Nutrition plus One boiled egg per week (Wednesday)	130 gm /day @ ₹8.30 for Normal, MUW Children and 190 gm/day @ ₹12.14 to SUW children.	6,77,959
2- 3 years children	Supplementary Nutrition plus Nutritious Meal plus Black Bengal gram/Green gram 20 gm (Tuesday) plus Boiled Potato (Friday) plus Three boiled eggs per week (Mon, Wed,	130 gm /day @ ₹8.30 for Normal, MUW Children and 190 gm/day @ ₹12.14 to SUW children + Hot Nutritious Variety meal @ ₹4.79 / child / day	7,06,121

	Thurs) / banana for children who do not consume eggs		
3-5 years children	Nutritious Variety Meal plus Black Bengal gram/Green gram 20 gm (Tuesday) plus Boiled Potato (Friday) plus Three boiled eggs per week (Mon, Wed, Thurs) / banana for children who do not consume eggs	Hot Nutritious Variety meal @ ₹4.79 / child / day	6,52,558
Ante & Post natal mothers	Supplementary food	160 gm/day @ ₹10.22 per day	6,59,000
Adolescent Girls	Supplementary food	130 gm/day @ ₹8.30 per day	4,12,119
Old Age Pensioners	Hot cooked Nutritious meal	200 gm/day	71
Total			34,73,292

6.7.3 Cost of Supplementary (Weaning) Food and the Quantity/day

Beneficiaries	Weaning Food Norms (in gm)	Cost (in ₹)
6-36 months (Normal and MUW)	130	8.30
6-36 months (SUW)	190	12.14
Adolescent Girls	130	8.30
Pregnant & Lactating Mothers	160	10.22

Though the fund sharing pattern for the cost of Supplementary nutrition is 50:50 between centre and State, the State Government incurs more than the mandatory norms fixed by Government of India. Every month the quality of Supplementary Weaning Food is being tested by Food and Nutrition Board and in Government Accredited Labs at random basis.

6.7.4 Nutritional intervention in Japanese Encephalitis prone areas

Japanese Encephalitis (JE) is a vector-borne disease. Under nutrition is an important risk factor for Japanese Encephalitis / Acute

Encephalitis Syndrome. Special efforts are made to improve the nutritional status of the children in high risk areas.

Five districts namely Karur, Madurai, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, and Villupuram have been identified as high risk prone areas to be affected with Japanese Encephalitis. Under nutrition is an important factor for this syndrome and hence special efforts are being taken to improve the nutritional status of the moderately/ severely under nourished children in the age group of 37 months to 60 months in those districts. These children are provided with 80 gms of Supplementary Nutrition for 300 days in a year through anganwadi centres.

6.7.5 Variety Meal to Anganwadi Children

Considering the special nature and digestive capacity of children attending Anganwadi Centres, Government of Tamil Nadu have designed the following variety Meal in consultation with nutritional experts. The scheme was first

introduced on 20.03.2013 on a pilot basis in one block of each district. After the successful implementation of the programme, from 15.08.2014, the scheme was extended to all the Anganwadi Centres across the State of Tamil Nadu.

Details of Variety Meal menu provided in Anganwadi Centres to 2-5+ years children:-

 DAYS	 MENU
Monday	Tomato Rice + Boiled Egg
Tuesday	Mixed Rice + Black Bengal Gram/ Green Gram
Wednesday	Vegetable Pulav + Boiled Egg
Thursday	Lemon Rice + Boiled Egg
Friday	Dhal Rice + Boiled Potato
Saturday	Mixed Rice
Sunday	Dry Ration as Take Home Ration

6.7.6 Fortification of Food Commodities

- Salt fortified with iron and Iodine (Double Fortified) is supplied to all Anganwadi Centres by Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation Ltd.

- Palmolein supplied to Anganwadi Centres by Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation is fortified with Vitamin A & Vitamin D.
- To enhance the nutritive value of Supplementary Weaning Food, Micro Nutrients and soluble Vitamins are being added.

6.7.7 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

ECCE refers to programmes and provisions for children from prenatal to six years of age, which cater to the needs of a child in all domains of development i.e. physical, language, cognitive, socio-emotional and creative and aesthetic appreciation; and ensure synergy with health and nutrition aspects. This could cover developmental priorities for each sub stage within the continuum, i.e. care, early stimulation/interaction needs for children below 3 years and developmentally appropriate preschool education for 3 to 6 year children, with a more structured and planned school readiness component for 5 to 6 year children.

Thus, ECCE in ICDS encompasses the inseparable elements of care, health, nutrition, play and early learning within a protective and enabling environment. It is an indispensable foundation for lifelong development and learning and has lasting impact on human development.

This programme with emphasis on repositioning the AWCs as a '**Vibrant ECD Centre**' providing joyful learning environment with emphasis on dedicated 4 hours of ECCE sessions covers developmental priorities for each sub stage within the continuum, i.e. care, early stimulation/interaction needs for children below 3 years, and developmentally appropriate preschool education for 3 to 6 years children and with a more structured and planned school readiness component for 5 to 6 years children.

In line with the National ECCE Policy 2013, State specific, developmentally and age appropriate Annual Contextualized Curriculum termed as "AADI PAADI VILAIYADU PAPPA" has

been developed by ICDS and the same has been validated by Government of India and introduced in Anganwadi Centres. This curriculum consists of 11 month, theme based activities to be conducted for children at AWCs, 12th month being the revision of the same. Necessary Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs) viz. ECCE Curriculum Books for AWWs, Activity Book and Assessment Cards for children has been provided to all Anganwadi Centres. In addition to the above, from 2016-2017 onwards, Pre school Completion Certificate is being issued to the children for the enrollment in Primary Schools.

6.7.8 ECCE TRAINING

The Non-Formal Preschool Education (PSE) under the strengthened package of services is a crucial component under ICDS scheme. It aims at holistic development of young children. This ECCE training aims to train and enable AWWs to understand the concept and policy of ECCE and enable them to provide comprehensive care and

early learning opportunities to the children. This training is conducted in a cascade model at three levels, viz. State, District and Sector level. The vital components covered under this training are effective transaction of **“Aadi Paadi Vilaiyadu Pappa”** curriculum, use of Assessment Cards and Activity Books.

During the year 2015-2016, First phase of ECCE Training was imparted to the field functionaries as per the guidelines of Government of India. The fund utilized for this Training is ₹387.20 lakh.

6.8 HEALTH

6.8.1 Weight Monitoring

Under ICDS, weighing of children in the age group from birth to 60 months is being done every month and the same is plotted in the WHO growth register and nutritional status from the growth curve is assessed and measures are taken to reduce malnutrition.

6.8.2 Supply of Weighing Machines to Anganwadi Centres

Age appropriate Weighing machines (Baby Weighing Scale, Bar Scale and Adult Weighing scale) are provided to the Anganwadi Centres for monitoring the weight of Anganwadi Children and Pregnant and Lactating mothers. Every year, replacement of 15% of weighing scales is ensured to substitute for the weighing machines under repair.

6.8.3 Anaemia

Anaemia is one of the most important public health problem among children and Women. The infants, preschool children, adolescent girls and pregnant women who are at highest risk of nutritional anaemia are provided with Iron Tablets/Iron syrup to mitigate the problem of Anaemia. Further, in order to tackle the problem of anaemia, awareness programmes are conducted to educate the mothers on the importance and advantages of consumption of iron rich / iron fortified foods.

6.8.4 PROVISION OF MEDICINE KIT TO ALL ANGANWADI CENTRES

Each Anganwadi Centre is being provided with Medicine Kit which contains paracetemol tablets/ syrup, ORS packets, povidone iodine ointment, bandage cloth, cotton, Iron Syrup, Deworming syrup, Multivitamin drops, Zinc tablets, and Povidone Iodine solution for the management of common ailments like fever, diarrhea, dressing of wound, skin infections etc. These medicines are provided to Anganwadi Centres in consultation with State Public Health Department.

Proper guidelines on skill, knowledge, expiry date, drug management viz wasting /misuse of drugs, dosage, adverse effects, on drug storage to keep out of reach of children have been imparted to the Anganwadi Worker. The procurement and supply of the above medicine to all Anganwadi Centres is done through Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation. Children who

need further treatment are referred to the nearest PHCs/ Government Hospitals.

A sum of ₹5.19 crore has been provided for the procurement and supply of Medicine kits for the year 2017-2018.

6.8.5 IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

Immunisation is a process whereby a person is made immune or resistant to an infectious disease, typically by the administration of vaccine. Vaccines stimulate the body's own immune system to protect the person against subsequent infection or disease. The Anganwadi Worker and the Village Health Nurse of the sub centre work together for providing motivation and mobilisation of beneficiaries in Antenatal Care including immunisation services and also assist the Village Health Nurse in identifying dropout children. ICDS has been providing good support to the Health service in rendering basic health care services to the rural community.

BCG is administered at birth or as early as possible till one year of age. Anganwadi Children are administered with Pentavalent vaccination which protects the children against 5 life threatening diseases namely Diphtheria, whooping cough, Tetanus, Hepatitis-B, Haemophilus Influenzae Type-B, since 21.12.2011.

In order to reduce the incidence of Measles and Rubella, MR vaccination (Measles - Rubella) campaign is done in convergence with Health Department. The Anganwadi employees and supervisors have been advised to motivate the parents so as to achieve 100% coverage of Anganwadi beneficiaries.

6.9 Provision of Preschool Education Kit

Children between the age of 2 to 5 years are imparted non-formal pre-school education in each Anganwadi centre. Emphasis is laid on pre-school activities for the physical, language, cognitive, socio-emotional aesthetic appreciation

of the children and for developing desirable attitudes, values and behavior patterns. Pre-school Education Kits are supplied to each Anganwadi centre and Anganwadi workers are provided with skill training to develop play and educational aids.

Further, in line with the National Early Childhood Care and Education Policy, 2013 to reposition the Anganwadi Centres as a vibrant Early Childhood Development Centre, Early Childhood Care and Education activities are also carried out in addition to supply of Pre-school Education kits.

In the year 2017-2018 ₹15.59 Crore is provided for procurement of Pre-School Education Kits and to carry out ECCE activities.

6.10 Provision of Colour Uniform to Anganwadi Children

As a special initiative, in order to attract children in the age group of 2 to 5 years to attend

anganwadi centres, in order to take nutritious food and also to get pre-primary, non-formal education and to motivate the parents to send their children to Anganwadi Centres, during the year 2012-2013, free colour uniform scheme was introduced in 5 districts on pilot basis in Chennai, Vellore, Theni, Tiruchirappalli and Dindigul. Each child was provided with two sets of uniform free of cost @ ₹125 per set. After the successful implementation of the programme, the scheme extended to 5 more districts viz., Villupuram, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Nagapattinam and Tirunelveli. Under the scheme, an amount of ₹9.36 crore was sanctioned, exclusively out of State funds to benefit 3,74,243 children.

6.11 Infrastructure development of Anganwadi Centres

6.11.1 Construction of Anganwadi centres

To enhance the infrastructure facilities of Anganwadi Centres, an announcement was made in the Budget Speech 2011-2012 for construction of new buildings to 15,313 Anganwadi centres in

a phased manner by dovetailing the funds of various programmes of line departments, namely Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Municipal Administration and Town Panchayat Department. So far, new buildings to 8,092 anganwadi centres have been constructed.

During 2016-2017, construction of 1000 new Anganwadi Centres at the rate of ₹7.00 lakh per centre has been taken up in convergence with MGNREGS of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and ICDS. Further for the year 2017-2018, construction of 1000 new Anganwadi Centres at the rate of ₹7.00 lakh per centre will be taken up in convergence with MGNREGS of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and ICDS.

6.11.2 Establishment of Anganwadi cum Creches

To take care of children (below 5 years) of working mothers in the Anganwadi centres, 211 Anganwadi cum creches were started in 13 districts viz., Chennai, Tiruvallur,

Kancheepuram, Vellore, Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Perambalur, Salem, Dindigul, Coimbatore, Pudukottai, Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari Districts from the year 2014-2015 at a total cost of ₹2.31 crore. So far, 3,125 children have benefitted.

6.11.3 Modernization of Anganwadi Centres

The scheme of modernisation of Anganwadi Centres was introduced with a view to maintain 'smoke free kitchen', to save cooking time and to provide healthy food in a smokeless atmosphere to the children. Under this scheme, to provide gas connection, gas stove, pressure cooker, and construction of cooking platform to the Anganwadi Centre, necessary funds are allocated under MLACDS Fund. So far 50,201 Anganwadi Centres have been modernized out of 54,439 Centres. Action is being taken to modernize the remaining 4,238 Anganwadi Centres in a phased manner.

6.12 Schemes for Adolescent Girls

6.12.1 Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY)

This programme is implemented in 23 districts covering 295 Projects in the State and aims to equip the out of school going adolescent girls in the age group of 11-18 years to improve and upgrade their life and vocational / domestic skills, to promote their overall personality development, including dissemination of information about their health, personal hygiene, nutrition, legal rights, family and stress management, etc. Vocational Training is being provided to 16-18 years of Adolescent Girls through Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) in various employable Skill Training Programmes such as Apparel design, Zardousi work, Artificial Jewellery making, Poultry farming, Cell Phone servicing, Ornamental Fish culture, Repair of Home Appliances and Basic Electrical Works etc. The funding for base training cost, transportation charges, boarding

and lodging cost and assessment charges are met by Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation in addition to the fund provided under Vocational Training Component of this scheme. An amount of ₹1.60 crore was sanctioned towards the implementation of the scheme.

₹3.24 Crore expenditure is provided for implementing Kishori Shakti Yojana Scheme for the year 2017-2018.

6.12.2 Scheme for Adolescent Girls (Formerly SABLA)

The Scheme for Adolescent Girls to address the multidimensional issues of Adolescent Girls, has been introduced during 2011-2012 in 139 projects on pilot basis in 9 districts viz. Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Ramanathapuram, Tiruvannamalai, Madurai, Salem, Kanyakumari and Tiruchirapalli. This scheme has two components viz. Supplementary Nutrition Component and Non-Supplementary Nutrition Component. The State Government

provides 50% financial assistance towards Supplementary Nutrition Component in which the out of school going adolescent girls of 11-18 years and school going adolescent girls of age 15-18 years who are registered in Anganwadi Centres are provided with supplementary food in the form of Take Home Ration (THR) at the cost of ₹8.30 per individual per day for 300 days in a year. A sum of ₹95.44 crore has been spent during 2016-2017 benefitting 4.12 lakh adolescent girls. Under Non Supplementary Nutrition Component, the adolescent girls are provided with IFA tablets, life skill education, nutrition and health education, mainstreaming the Adolescent Girls into formal Educational Stream, counselling, health check-up and vocational training.

Vocational training to 16-18 years adolescent girls under this scheme is given through Government ITI, Registered Vocational Training Providers (VTPs) etc. Vocational Training

in the trades like Beautician, Repairing of Home appliances, Basic Computer, Tailoring, Basic Electrical works and Handicrafts are being given, which enable adolescent girls to attain socio-economic empowerment.

₹102.58 crore expenditure is provided towards Supplementary Nutrition to Adolescent girls and ₹5.28 crore for the Non-Nutrition Component for the year 2017-2018.

6.13 Matritva Sahyog Yojana (MSY)/ Maternity Benefit Scheme (MBP)

Government of India introduced the Matritva Sahyog Yojana for pregnant women and lactating mothers on pilot basis in the districts of Erode and Cuddalore of Tamil Nadu by providing cash incentive of ₹4,000 per beneficiary through ICDS platform during the year 2011-2012 in convergence with Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme implemented by Health

and Family Welfare Department of Tamil Nadu State.

Subsequently, in accordance with National Food Security Act, 2013, the cash incentive provided to pregnant and lactating mothers was revised and enhanced to ₹6,000 per beneficiary and the same was released on conditional basis from July 2013 onwards in the sharing pattern of 60:40 between GoI and State. The Maternity Benefit Scheme (MSY) has now been extended to the entire State from 01.01.2017. This extended Maternity Benefit Scheme is being implemented in convergence with the cash benefit of ₹18,000 provided under Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme of Health and Family Welfare Department.

A sum of ₹ 20.86 crore has been incurred during the financial year 2016-2017.

6.14 TRAINING

Training is the most crucial element in ICDS scheme. The achievement of programme goals

depends upon the effectiveness of frontline workers in improved and effective, qualitative delivery of package of services under ICDS.

Capacity building initiatives is the vital element for improving and maintaining the quality of performance of the Project personnel as well as delivery of the Project services to all the eligible beneficiaries and community. Well trained cadre of field functionaries will always be more efficient in various community based strategies with prime focus on the holistic development and empowerment of the community. Thus correspondingly, training has been geared up towards improving and fine tuning the knowledge, skill and capabilities of all front line project functionaries so that they are not only better service providers but also act as "Change Agents" and "Social Agents" in order to bring about desirable behavioural and attitudinal change among the various sections of the stakeholders.

Tamil Nadu has a unique and effective decentralized pattern of three tier training methodology for the Project personnel at various levels, which has been widely appreciated due to its efficacy, economical and cost effectiveness. The evaluation of the training is done then and there and is facilitated on the spot by the Supervisors in the field appropriately. Every Project has a Trainer who conducts the Job and Refresher Trainings to all frontline field functionaries. The various types of training imparted at the State level, Middle level and Project level covering the Project functionaries is as given below:-

S. No.	Training venue	Nature of training	Functionaries
1.		Job and Refresher Training Course	Child Development Project Officer (CDPO)
2.	State Training Institute, Taramani, Chennai-113.	Job/Orientation and Refresher Training Course	Instructress of Anganwadi Training Centres (Grade-I Supervisors)

3.	Middle Level Training at ICCW, Chennai.	Job and Refresher Training Course	Grade-II Supervisors
4.	Project Level Training at Blocks in the Districts	Job and Refresher Training Course	Anganwadi Workers
5.		Job/Orientation and Refresher Training Course	Anganwadi Helpers

In addition to the above mentioned regular training, need based, content specific training programmes are organized by the State under "Other Training" component. Personality Development Training, Stress Management Training, Yoga Training for field functionaries is provided to enable them to take up more proactive initiative in the field and ensure a proper work-life balance. Further the State has been given flexibility to the extent of 25% in the training syllabus to identify State specific issues that may need more focus, importance or innovation.

Thus, training is an important component in ICDS, as the achievement of the programme objectives and various indicators depends on effectiveness of all frontline workers in empowering communities and ensuring their participation for improved child care practices as well as effective inter-sectoral co-ordination and service delivery.

A sum of ₹3.64 crore is provided for the year 2017-2018.

6.15 Information Education Communication (IEC) Awareness Activities

In ICDS, the IEC activities were planned and conducted to create awareness by disseminating various Nutrition, Health and Child development messages to the mothers, care givers, adolescent girls and the community, to bring attitudinal and positive behavioral changes in nutrition and health practices.

A variety of IEC programmes like "Samuthaya Valaikappu", "Breast feeding Week Celebration", Infant Young Child Practices,

Nutrition Week Celebration, Advertisement in T.V Channels and FM Radio are planned regularly to create awareness on ante natal and post natal care, child rearing, nutrition and health practices and to elicit and sustain community participation.

A number of IEC materials like Posters, Folders, Dangler kit etc., on Health, Nutrition and Child Development were also printed and supplied to the Anganwadi centres, Health centres, CDPO and P.O offices.

“Chittu Kuruvi Sedhi Theriyuma” a Bi monthly news letter is being published and supplied to all the Anganwadi centres to spread latest information about the scheme.

Various IEC programmes, campaigns and drives for the promotion of Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices will be conducted at District and Project level.

A sum of ₹7.93 crore is provided for IEC activities for the year 2017-2018.

6.16 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The monitoring and supervision of the scheme is recognized as one of the essential requirements for effective working of the scheme. As per GoI norms, monitoring committees have been constituted at State, District, Block and Anganwadi Centre level to review the progress of the measured inputs, processes, outputs and outcomes.

A sum of ₹5.44 crore is provided for monitoring and evaluation component during the year 2017-2018.

6.17 Welfare of Anganwadi Employees

The Anganwadi employees working in 54,439 Anganwadi Centres are provided with special time scale of pay. The allowances like Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance, Medical Allowance, Hill Allowance and Winter Allowance are provided to them along with 3% annual increment. The Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers are

eligible for lumpsum grant at the time of retirement and ₹60,000 is being paid to Main and Mini Anganwadi Workers and ₹25,000 to Anganwadi Helpers with effect from 01.02.2016. The Anganwadi Employees are paid special pension of ₹1,500 on their retirement from 01.02.2016. Every year, all Anganwadi employees are being provided with two sarees as uniform.

Every year 98 Anganwadi Workers in the State who have rendered their best services are felicitated with State cash award for ₹5,000 and appreciation certificate per worker.

ICDS Mission is to set a positive impact on the health and nutrition of the vulnerable Children, Adolescent girls and Women and thereby developing the Health and Education of the society. This mission, when achieved will render a progressive society which will have strong improvement in the Socio Economic Index of the State.

CHAPTER – 7

SOCIAL DEFENCE

7.1 The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 postulates care and protection of children by catering to their basic needs, development, treatment and social re-integration by adopting a child friendly approach in consonance with the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of Children. The Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to provide the best possible opportunities for the overall growth and development of every child so that children are safe in the society.

The State of Tamil Nadu is known for its innovative programmes for children and women in difficult circumstances and protection of their rights. In 1887, an approved school was established at Chengalpattu for addressing the needs of children left without shelter, destitute, abandoned and missing children. Subsequently, the Madras Children Act, 1920 was enacted for

the care and protection of children and the management of residential care institutions. The State of Tamil Nadu is first in India for enacting a separate and exclusive legislation for children.

The child protection and welfare of women in difficult circumstances are the main concern of the Department of Social Defence for which the department is implementing two important legislations in the State, namely the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.

Child Care Institutions such as Reception Units and Children Homes are managed by the Government as well as by the Non-Governmental organizations. The Observation Homes, Special Homes and After Care Organizations are exclusively run by the Government under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The Department is also successfully implementing the Integrated Child Protection Scheme by having adequate structures at the

District and State level for ensuring effective child protection. The Department is maintaining Vigilance/Protective Homes under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.

7.2 THE JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN) ACT, 2015

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 envisages an effective provision in law for children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. The Act governs separate set of procedures for the following two categories of children:-

- I. The children in need of care and protection
- II. The children in conflict with law

7.3 CHILDREN IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION

A child who does not have a parent or guardian or any other relatives to take care of him/her and is without any home or settled place or abode and is without any ostensible means of subsistence and street children, working children,

abused, tortured, exploited and any one found vulnerable and victim of natural calamities come under the category of a child in need of care and protection.

7.3.1 Child Welfare Committees

The Government of Tamil Nadu has constituted 32 Child Welfare Committees for exercising the powers and to discharge their duties conferred on them in relation to children in need of care and protection under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 in 32 Districts of the State. The Committees are functioning as a Bench with the powers of Metropolitan Magistrate or Judicial Magistrate of First Class as per the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. They conduct the proceedings in a child-friendly manner in the best interest of children.

A sum of ₹490.80 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018

for the effective functioning of the Child Welfare Committees.

7.3.2 Children Homes for Boys and Girls

The Children homes administered by the Directorate of Social Welfare and the Directorate of Social Defence are brought together for an effective management of Child Care Institutions and for better service delivery. Now all the Child Care Institutions are functioning under one umbrella viz. the Department of Social Defence. At present, 36 Children Homes are directly run by the Government and 142 Homes are functioning under the Non-Governmental Organisations with financial assistance from the Government, among which 5 homes are catering to the needs of physically and mentally challenged children. Children Homes provide the means for growth and development such as food, clothing, shelter, medical assistance, education, vocational training, etc.

A sum of ₹10,727.26 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for children homes run by Government as well as by Non Governmental Organisations.

7.3.3 Open Shelters for Children in need in Urban and Semi Urban Areas

Open Shelters are established to provide a safe shelter facility for children vulnerable to abuse and exploitation such as homeless children, pavement dwellers, street and working children, drug and substance abuse, child beggars etc. At present, 13 Open Shelters (one each in Salem, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirapalli, Coimbatore and 9 in Chennai) are functioning in Urban and Semi-Urban areas in Tamil Nadu. Maintenance grant of ₹2000/- per child per month is being provided to voluntary organisations apart from expenses towards rent, water, electricity, transportation and contingencies.

A sum of ₹265.15 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for the programme.

7.4 CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH LAW

Child in Conflict with Law means a child who is alleged to have committed an offence and has not completed eighteenth year of age as on the date of commission of such offence.

7.4.1 Juvenile Justice Boards

The Juvenile Justice Boards deal with the children in conflict with Law. The Government of Tamil Nadu had constituted 32 Juvenile Justice Boards in the State to have a Juvenile Justice Board in each district. The Juvenile Justice Board consists of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the first class with two Social Worker Members (including one Woman Member). Similar to Child Welfare Committee, the Board also conducts the proceedings in a child-friendly manner and not as judicial proceedings of Court. The Board holds its sittings from Monday to Friday not exceeding 20 sittings in a month.

A sum of ₹254.64 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018

for the effective functioning of Juvenile Justice Boards.

7.4.2 Observation Homes

The Observation homes are established to provide temporary residential care for children in conflict with law while their cases are under enquiry before the Juvenile Justice Boards. In Tamil Nadu, there are 9 Observation Homes directly functioning under Government. Of which Observation Home at Madurai is under construction. Children residing in the Observation Homes are provided with basic amenities like food, clothing, shelter, medical and non formal education besides counseling and guidance. To ensure the safety of children and for close monitoring, the Government had installed surveillance and security equipments to seven Observation Homes. The inmates of these homes are provided with conselling services through consellors.

A sum of ₹502.34 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for the programme.

7.4.3 Special Homes for Boys and Girls

Children found guilty of committing an offence after due process of law by the Juvenile Justice Board are sent to Special Homes for rehabilitation. Children could stay in the special home for a maximum period of three years. There are two Government Special Homes, one at Chennai for girls and the other at Chengalpattu for Boys. In Special Homes, the children are provided with education, vocational training, counselling and facilities for co-curricular activities to develop their skills for self reliance. To ensure the safety of children and for close monitoring, the Government had provided surveillance and security equipments to Government Special Homes with 100 KVA Automatic Diesel Genset for uninterrupted power supply.

A sum of ₹253.82 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for the programme.

7.4.4 Resource Centres

Resource Centres are established for providing Psycho-Social support, guidance for children in need of care and protection as well as children in conflict with law while their cases are handled by Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Boards respectively. These centres also attend to the psychological needs of children in the child care institutions while referred by the Superintendents of child care institutions and also their parents. The Resource Centers are run by Non-Governmental Organisations with the financial assistance from Government in 14 Districts of Tamil Nadu.

A sum of ₹8.88 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this programme.

7.4.5 Psychological Counselling for Children

Children alleged to have committed an offence and admitted into Observation Homes while not released on bail and similarly those committed to Special Homes on being found guilty by the Juvenile Justice Board exhibit aggressive and deviant behavior at times as a result of psychological and emotional problems including withdrawal of addiction in certain cases. In order to overcome the psychological trauma and to help them to adjust with the institutional environment, the Government have provided counselling services to the inmates of the Observation Homes and Special Homes through the counsellors. The scheme provides for engaging Psychological experts for counselling children for 180 days in a year on a honorarium basis of ₹1,000 per day for each counsellor.

A sum of ₹16.20 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this programme.

7.4.6 Construction of New Building for Observation Home, Chennai.

The Government Observation Home in Chennai is presently functioning in an old building and not suitable for developing additional facilities in terms of infrastructure to meet the present day changing needs of children. Hence, to enhance the safety and security of children with comfortable accommodation, the Government has sanctioned for construction of a new building at a total cost of ₹250.00 lakh and the work is in progress.

7.4.7 Construction of New Building for Reception Unit in the campus of Government Children Home, Royapuram, Chennai

The Government Children Home in Chennai is presently functioning in an old building and not suitable for developing additional facilities in terms of infrastructure to meet the present day changing needs of Children in Reception Unit. Further, Chennai being a Metropolitan City, experiencing migrant population from other

States in large numbers. Since, transferring of children to their respective States requires a reasonable time for investigation by the Child Welfare Committee, there is an inevitable need for proper accommodation of children during such period. Hence to have facilities for additional accommodation and to enhance the safety and security of children, the Government has sanctioned a sum of ₹100.00 lakh for construction of a new building for this Reception Unit.

7.4.8 Place of Safety

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 envisages establishment of a "Place of Safety" to accommodate children between the age of 16 and 18 years and also those completed eighteen years of age but apprehended for offence committed while he was under the age of eighteen years. Hence it is essential that the "Place of Safety" require a comprehensive rehabilitation programme with enhanced security arrangements. The

Government have sanctioned a sum of ₹42.00 lakh for repairs, renovation and additional infrastructures to convert the erstwhile Reception Unit building in Vellore as a "Place of Safety" and the work is nearing completion.

7.4.9 The Juvenile Justice Fund

As per the provisions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, the Government have created "The Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice Fund" with a corpus of ₹25.00 lakh for undertaking welfare and rehabilitative activities for children. The fund facilitates to implement activities which are of urgent need as well as programmes that are not covered under regular budget.

7.4.10 The Government After Care Organisations

On completing rehabilitation programmes in the children homes and special homes, if children require extended institutional care after 18 years of age, such young adults are accommodated in the after care organizations till

they attain the age of 21 years. Young Adults who could not be restored to their family for various reasons or children continuing their education or undergoing training are usually admitted in the After Care Organizations. There are two After Care Organizations catering to the needs of young adult boys one at Athur, Chengalpattu (Kancheepuram District) and the other at Madurai. One After Care Organisation is functioning at Vellore for young adult girls.

In addition, a Non-Governmental Organization in Mayiladuthurai in Nagapattinam District is supported by Government for running a shelter home with vocational training for mentally challenged adults.

A sum of ₹242.94 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this programme.

7.4.11 Suicide Prevention Programme for School Children

In order to address the psychological disturbances among children and their tendency

towards committing suicide especially during their results of final examinations, the department organised Suicide Prevention Programmes in schools at a cost of ₹15.04 lakh. This Programme is aimed to train 100 teachers in the schools in each District as a "Training of Trainers Programmes' in collaboration with expert NGOs in the field so as to keep the programme ongoing at regular intervals.

7.4.12 Child Adoption

"Adoption" is the process through which the adopted child becomes the lawful child of his adoptive parents with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities that are attached to a biological child.

Adoption undoubtedly offers an important avenue for the care and protection of orphaned, abandoned, destitute, surrendered and neglected children in a family environment and provides an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding, thus bringing their talent and

capacity to the fore. It provides the child emotional, physical and material security. Further, adoption gives the issueless couple an opportunity, happiness and the satisfaction of having a child solely belonging to them.

As per constitutional rights, every child should have Right to Live, Right to Education and Rights against Exploitation. In order to fulfill the rights, the Government have taken many initiatives to provide care and protection.

Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India was formed and also State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) has been set up to monitor in-country and inter-country adoption programme at Central and State level.

To provide better environment in the "Best interest of the child" the Juvenile Justice Act and CARA Guidelines were framed by Government of India. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of

Children) Act, 2015 emphasises the need for rehabilitation and social integration of orphan, abandoned or surrendered children. The guideline also lays down procedures providing adequate safeguards to the child placed in adoption and ensuring that the priority is given to in-country adoption and also inter-country adoption through various institutions established under this Act.

Specialised Adoption Agencies

There are 17 Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) functioning in Tamil Nadu to promote in-country adoption and inter-country adoption. These agencies are situated in Chennai (2), Salem (2), Madurai (2), Kancheepuram (3) and one each in the districts of Coimbatore, Krishnagiri, Tiruchirapalli, Thoothukudi, Dindigul, Tirunelveli, Namakkal and Vellore.

Apart from Cradle Baby scheme, babies are enrolled through various other sources like Child Line, Police, General public, hospitals, direct

surrender etc. As per CARA guidelines these babies are given in adoption. The details of children placed under 'adoption' from inception of the programme till March 2017 is as follows:-

Sl. No	Children given for Adoption	Male	Female	Total
1.	In-Country	1,178	3,689	4,867
2.	Inter-Country	90	354	444
	Total	1,268	4,043	5,311

A State Adoption Advisory Committee has been constituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu specifically to promote "in-country" and "Inter-country" adoption. The babies are placed under adoption legally by the competent Court under the following Acts.

1. The Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956 (HAMA),
2. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

For transparent in the adoption programme, the new guidelines insisted online registration, information on adoptable children and information on adoption agencies from August 2015 onwards through National Informatics Centre, format available in the www.cara.nic.in website.

7.4.13 Programme Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Cell

In 1991, the Programme Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Cell was established in the Directorate of Social Defence with the financial support of UNICEF to monitor the child welfare programmes (Government and Non-Governmental Organization). The Cell is conducting meetings and conferences pertaining to the children in difficult circumstances and conducting inspections of all the Homes maintained by the Government and Non-Governmental Organizations. The cell is mandated to periodically review the child welfare programmes and suggest measures for improvement. Now this cell is fully funded with the State Budget.

7.4.14 Other Initiatives taken by the Government

7.4.14.1 Infrastructure Facilities

The Government has sanctioned a sum of ₹6.04 crore towards construction of new building for Observation Home for Boys and Observation Home for Girls at Madurai and also for renovation of the building so as to convert it as an office and Juvenile Justice Board.

7.5 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

The Government Child Care Institutions mainly focus on educating children for their empowerment. Children having aptitude for higher education are sent to outside schools for continuing education. Children having interest in vocational training are provided with training in vocational trade of their interest.

In majority of the Child Care Institutions, in built schools have been established to provide formal education. In Child Care Institutions where schools are not available, children are

sent to nearby schools. Non-formal education is provided in Child Care Institutions which provide temporary reception such as Observation Homes and Reception Units.

A sum of ₹4.55 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this Programme.

7.6 MODERNIZED VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Children are imparted with skill based vocational training such as tailoring, carpentry and book binding by the regular staff of the institutions. Apart from regular vocational programmes, short term courses on the following trades are also organised with the support of voluntary agencies:-

- Handy Man - Plumbing / Electrical / Carpentry
- Videography / Photography
- Dress Making / Tailoring Embroidery
- Fabric Painting / Book Binding
- Handicraft / Artistic works / Painting

- Soft toys / paper bag / Plate making / Artificial Jewels making / Fabric , wall and oil painting
- Computer DTP / Photo suite
- Beautician / Mehndi Application course
- Food processing

A sum of ₹79.52 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this Programme.

7.7 CHILDLINE 1098

The children in crisis and children who need immediate help or anybody who comes across such children could immediately contact the CHILDLINE, a toll free round the clock national level outreach programme, implemented by the Child India Foundation founded in June, 1996. The Nation vide common number **Ten Nine Eight (1098)** has been assigned for child line services. The childline services are executed by the Non Governmental Organisations, with the financial assistance of Government of India. The services provided by the Non Governmental Organisations are rescue and interventions. In

Tamil Nadu, the child line is functioning in all Districts except Sivagangai, Namakkal and Vellore.

7.8 INTEGRATED CHILD PROTECTION SCHEME (ICPS)

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the centrally sponsored Integrated Child Protection Scheme for ensuring child protection by developing required structures for effective Juvenile Justice Administration in the State. The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) aims at building a protective environment for children in difficult circumstances, through Government-Civil Society partnership.

Objectives

The objectives of the scheme are effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act, contribution for the well being of children in difficult circumstances and ensuring protection of children in community as well as reducing the vulnerabilities of children to situations and actions

that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation from parents.

These objectives are achieved by

- Improving access and quality of child protection services
- Raising public awareness about child rights and current situation prevailing in India
- Enforcing responsibility and accountability for child protection
- Creating child protection data management system, child tracking system and monitoring of child protection services
- Ensuring appropriate inter-sector response at all levels.

7.8.1 Service delivery structures under Integrated Child Protection Scheme

The Government has established the following service delivery structures to implement the Integrated Child Protection Scheme effectively in the State:-

1. State Child Protection Society (SCPS)
2. District Child Protection Societies / Units (DCPUs)
3. State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA)

All the services available with Child Care Institutions run by the Government / Non-Governmental Organizations and Childline programme are inter-linked with Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Boards. The children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law are benefited directly under this scheme. Through training and awareness programmes conducted under Integrated Child Protection Scheme, the children in the community are also benefitted.

A sum of ₹2240.12 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate 2017 - 2018 for this Scheme.

7.8.2 Registration of all Child Care Institutions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 envisages registration of Child Care Institutions as mandatory and postulates legal punishment for running of Child Care Institutions without

registration. The registration of institution helps to monitor complete ground level situation, analysis and service availability of basic facilities in all such institutions in the State.

The registration of institutions will also serve to have a complete data base of children in the State to facilitate inter-linking of services among Child Care Institutions. So far, 1,096 institutions have been registered and 841 institutions are closed for inadequate infrastructure.

7.9 TRACK CHILD SYSTEM

Missing children, children running away from their homes and those kidnapped are more vulnerable to exploitation and various forms of physical and sexual abuse and other human rights violations. Early identification of such children and timely restoration are the best interventions for securing their life and ensuring their safety. The Government of India has set up a National Portal on Missing Child Tracking

System through National Informatics Centre (NIC) to trace missing and found children. The data on the portal serves as missing children's live database besides monitoring the progress of the children in the institutions.

In Tamil Nadu, Child Track System has been functioning very efficiently by linking all the Police Stations, District Offices and Child Care Institutions in interior parts of the State with computers and network connections. The Department of Social Defence had organized training programmes on "the usage of the software for entering data on the National Portal on Missing Children Tracking System" for the functionaries of Child Care Institutions.

7.10 THE IMMORAL TRAFFIC (PREVENTION) ACT, 1956

7.10.1 Aims and Objectives of The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956

- I. To prevent commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking among women and girls.
- II. To bring the traffickers, abusers and pimps before justice.

- III. To rehabilitate the victims in such a way that they are reintegrated into the main stream.

7.10.2 Vigilance / Protective Homes

The Government of Tamil Nadu is maintaining five Government Vigilance/Protective Homes in Chennai, Madurai, Salem, Coimbatore and Trichy under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act,1956 for the rehabilitation of women victims of trafficking.

Vigilance / Protective homes accommodate women victims who are in moral danger. Women and girls are being admitted as per the orders issued by the courts under various provisions of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act,1956. In these homes basic services like care, medical treatment and counseling are provided to them as part of rehabilitative measure. In these homes, different vocational training is imparted to the victims according to their interest in order to develop their skills and to empower them.

In order to maintain the dignity of the affected women and to avoid revictimization, a video conferencing facility at the cost of ₹20.00 lakh has been established between the Government Vigilance Home, Mylapore and Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Saidapet to facilitate "Virtual appearance in lieu of physical production to Court" for the victims under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act,1956.

7.10.3 Rescue Shelters

Women victims charged for offences under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act,1956 and whose cases are under trial in the court are sent to rescue shelter. There are six Rescue Shelters functioning in the State. They are kept in the shelters temporarily until their cases are disposed of by the courts. These shelters are functioning along with the Vigilance / Protective Homes and one After Care Organisation in Vellore.

7.10.4 Unmarried Mothers Home

Unmarried Mothers Home functioning in Chennai is attached to Government Vigilance

Home, Mylapore to take care of women and girls who are victims of sexual exploitation and have become pregnant. The Unmarried Mothers Home at Adaikalapuram in Thoothukudi District is run by Non-Governmental Organisation.

A sum of ₹502.44 lakh has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for Vigilance / Protective Homes, Rescue Shelters and Unmarried Mothers Home.

7.11 REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

In Tamil Nadu, the State Government has taken up many welfare measures and rehabilitation programmes for the welfare of the Women and Girl Children. One such initiative is the creation of "Tamil Nadu Social Defence Welfare Fund for Women and Children" under this Department. The main aim of the fund is to meet the expenditure for developing facilities for children including institutional care, educational assistance to the needy destitute children. Children could be provided with a financial support upto ₹5,000 in

cash or material assistance upto ₹10,000 to purchase the equipments and raw materials for self employment.

Vocational training is imparted to children and women on trades like Carpentry, Weaving, Book Binding, Gardening, Masonry, Tailoring, Embroidery, Metal Work, Mat Weaving, Plumbing. Similarly, women and girls discharged from the Vigilance / Protective Homes are also given financial support for their self employment.

7.11.1 State Initiatives for Combating Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children

To curb the menace of trafficking and commercial exploitation, the Government of Tamil Nadu has taken the following initiatives :-

- ❖ State Level Coordination Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu was setup.
- ❖ District Level Advisory Boards under the chairmanship of District Collector of the concerned district were formed.

- ❖ Village Level Child Protection Committees under the Chairmanship of Village Panchayat President were formed in the villages to have information of children dropping from schools and missing children.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is the first State in setting up of this three tier system for this purpose.
- ❖ In addition to the above committees, a High Level Supervisory Committee has been formed under the Chairpersonship of the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare to oversee the steps taken to curb the menace of trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation and also rehabilitation provided to the victims.
- ❖ Refresher trainings were organized with the assistance of Government and UNICEF for organizations implementing programmes for awareness generation, rehabilitation of victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

7.11.2 Scheme for Vulnerable Women Victims Relief Fund

The State Government has announced a financial assistance of ₹10,000 to victims rescued from trafficking for their livelihood and

rehabilitation. So far, 209 victims have been benefitted under this scheme.

Ujjawala Scheme

Trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation is a crime planned against human rights. It is necessary for taking preliminary action to prevent trafficking in those areas where probability of trafficking is higher.

To tackle the above threat, Ujjawala scheme has been introduced by the Government of India. This Scheme is a comprehensive scheme for Prevention of trafficking, rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. There are 8 Non-Governmental Organisations implementing this scheme in the State. The financial requirement is shared between the Centre, State and the implementing NGOs at the ratio of 60:30:10.

De-Addiction Programme

Drug Abuse Prevention Programme is implemented in the State through Non-Governmental Organisations through financial assistance from Government of India. The addicts of alcohol / drugs are given free treatment for 21 days as inpatients in the Integrated Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers functioning under this Scheme. There are 26 centers functioning across the State.

7.12 THE TAMILNADU COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

The National Policy for Children, 1974 recognizes that programme for children should find prominent place in National plans for the Development of Human Resources. The Government of India has acceded to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on 11th December 1992 and adopted the National Charter for Children, 2003 on 9th February 2004 which underlines the

commitment of State to secure every child its inherent right to be a child.

In continuation of adoption of the National Charter for Children,2003, the Central Government has enacted the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act,2005 which provides the constitution of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights. The Government of Tamil Nadu has constituted the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and it is functioning since 18.01.2013 effectively.

The powers and functions of the Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights are given below:-

POWERS	FUNCTIONS
This Commission has all powers of Civil Court for trying the case against the violation of Child Rights under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➢ To monitor / supervise the active implementation of following Child related legislations.a. The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.

	<p>b. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.</p> <p>c. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.</p> <p>d. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.</p> <p>e. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.</p> <p>f. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.</p>
<p>To get relevant documents relating to the violation of Child Rights issues from Police and other Departments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To recommend to the competent authority to take necessary and immediate remedial steps towards violation of child rights after making necessary enquiries. ➤ To create awareness to the General Public about child rights. ➤ To take necessary action against child rights violations based on complaints received from General Public, Media, NGO, and suo motto cognizance of the cases.
<p>To monitor the establishment of Special Courts under POCSO ACT, 2012</p>	
<p>To recommend the Government towards compensation for victim children.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To conduct Training / Convening Programme to Government / Non-Governmental bodies with respect to child rights. ➤ To develop child welfare policy.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009

The Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights is committed to monitor the implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 as per the section 31 of the Act.

Further, as per the section 12 (1c) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, the Commission also has the power to verify the 25% of admissions of the weaker and disadvantaged children in private and grant receiving schools across the State.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012

As per the section 44 of the POCSO Act, 2012 the Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights is monitoring the implementation of the Act throughout the State.

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

The Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights is committed to monitor the

implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 as laid down in the section 109 of this Act.

Cases dealt with by the Commission

From the date of inception (18.01.2013) to till date, the Commission has dealt with several cases relating to violation of Child Rights received through News Papers, Media, Public/NGOs, National Commission for Protection for Child Rights and others. Around 1072 cases have been resolved so far. The Official e-mail ID of the Commission is scpcrtn@gmail.com and the Website is www.scpcr.tn.gov.in.

A sum of ₹53.82 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate 2017-2018 for this Commission.

7.13 LINKAGES WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS FOR CHILD PROTECTION

The Child Protection is a very wide field and hence various departments vested with responsibility of delivering required services to children need to come together. The Department of Social Defence aims at

inter-linking such services to serve as a bridge between the line departments by the convergence of their services.

The Department of Social Defence is having a close co-ordination with Social Welfare, Education, Labour Welfare, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, National Child Labour Project, Railway Police, Revenue, Integrated Child Development Scheme, Rural Development, Municipal Administration, Medical and Health, Child line, Police, Judicial, Differently Abled Welfare Departments.

The Government has developed a strong District level mechanism by constituting District Level Committees with the members of different Departments delivering services to children. The District Level Co-ordination Committee / District Child Protection Committee headed by the District Collector, with the assistance of District Administration, is readily available for child protection at district level. Awareness and sensitization programmes have been conducted by the Department of Social Defence for the prevention of child marriage, sexual abuse, trafficking of children,

exploitation, begging, child labour, other forms of physical abuse, etc.

7.14 SOCIAL DEFENCE OFFICIAL WEBSITE AND E-MAIL ID

The official website of Social Defence is **www.socialdefence.tn.gov.in** and e-mail ID is **dsd.tn@nic.in**

CHAPTER - 8

SOCIAL SECURITY PENSION SCHEMES

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing Social Security Pension Schemes to protect the vulnerable sections of the society such as old aged persons, differently abled persons, widows, agricultural labourers, farmers, deserted wives and unmarried women of age of 50 years and above who are destitute and poor. Currently the Government is giving ₹1,000 per month as pension for all the pension schemes.

The allocation for all the pension schemes has been substantially increased up to ₹3,949.97 crore in 2016-2017. As on 31.03.2017, a total of 29,75,885 beneficiaries are getting benefited under the schemes as mentioned below: -

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes	No. of beneficiaries as on 31.03.2017
1	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGN-OAPS)	13,04,357
2	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGN-DPS)	56,217
3	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGN-WPS)	5,28,794
4	Differently Abled Pension Scheme (DAP)	2,18,572
5	Destitute Widows Pension Scheme (DWP)	4,17,564
6	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Padhukappu Thittam (CMUPT)	3,10,514
7	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWP)	1,14,248
8	Pension to Un-married, Poor, Incapacitated Women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	21,141
9	Pension to SriLankan Refugees	4,478
	Total	29,75,885

The Central Government provides funds partly for the pension schemes on the pattern given below: -

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Eligibility Criteria	Central Government Contribution
1.	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme	60 to 79 years	₹200/-
		80 years and above	₹500/-
2.	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension	18 to 79 years	₹300/-
3.	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension	40 to 79 years	₹300/-

In the interest of welfare of these vulnerable categories of persons, the definition of '**destitute**', which was prescribed in the year 1962, has been modified to enable all to get benefits in the year 2015-2016 by the Government and accordingly though such persons have major sons / daughters, they are sanctioned pension provided they normally live together and

are below poverty line. The ceiling on value of fixed assets owned by the beneficiaries has also been revised from ₹5000 to ₹50,000. The Government issued orders deleting the eligibility condition of "**Destitute**" for differently abled persons and reduced the percentage of disability from 60% to 40% in respect of Physically Challenged person so as to enable them to get pension.

The eligibility criteria to avail assistance under the three pension schemes sponsored under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) in Tamil Nadu are as detailed below:-

S. No.	Scheme	Criteria
1	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Destitute➤ Belonging to below poverty line family➤ 60 years and above
2	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGN-WPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Destitute➤ Belonging to below poverty line family➤ 40 years and above➤ Widow

3	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGN-DPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Belonging to below poverty line family ➤ 18 years and above ➤ Disability level should be 80% and above.
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The important eligibility criteria for Social Security Pension Schemes fully funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu are as detailed below: -

S. No	Scheme	Criteria
1	Differently Abled Pension Scheme (DAPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 18 years and above ➤ Disability level 40% and above ➤ Fixed assets not exceeding ₹50,000
2	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme (DWPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Destitute ➤ 18 years and above ➤ Fixed assets not exceeding ₹50,000 ➤ Widow
3	Old Age Pension under Chief Minister's Uzhavar Padhukaapu Thittam (OAP-CMUPT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Destitute ➤ 60 years and above ➤ Landless agricultural labourers ➤ Fixed assets not exceeding ₹50,000

4	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Destitute ➤ 30 years and above ➤ Must be legally divorced or deserted for not less than 5 years (or) obtained legal separation certificate from a competent Court of Law. ➤ Fixed assets not exceeding ₹50,000
5	Pension to Poor Unmarried incapacitated women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Destitute ➤ Should have completed 50 years ➤ Should be an unmarried women ➤ Fixed assets not exceeding ₹50,000

The Government also issued orders to disburse the Social Security Pensions through banks on identification of beneficiaries through Bio-metric enabled smart cards. As on 31.03.2017, disbursement of pension through Banks is made to 29,75,033 beneficiaries out of total beneficiaries of 29,75,885 and through Post Offices to the remaining beneficiaries.

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

pensioners. The beneficiaries under the above schemes are permitted to draw rice at free of cost as per the following norms:-

- ❖ 4 Kgs of fine variety rice per month for those who do not take meals at the Anganwadi Centres.
- ❖ 2 kgs of the fine variety rice per month for those who take meals at the Anganwadi Centres.

Accident Relief Scheme (ARS)

Relief is given to the legal heirs of the household below poverty line on the death of the primary bread winner due to accident in respect of 44 occupational categories. The Government raised the quantum of assistance under ARS from ₹15,000 to ₹20,000 from 31st December 2015.

Distress Relief Scheme (DRS)

On the natural death of the primary bread winner of the family living below poverty line, the assistance is paid to the legal heir of the

deceased. The Government enhanced the relief amount from ₹10,000 to ₹20,000 from 31st December 2015.

**Dr.V. SAROJA
MINISTER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE
AND
NUTRITIOUS NOON MEAL PROGRAMME**

ANNEXURE
BUDGET ESTIMATE – 2017 - 2018
DEMAND No.45

**SOCIAL WELFARE AND NUTRITIOUS MEAL
PROGRAMME DEPARTMENT**

TOTAL BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 2017-2018
₹478117.21 Lakh

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 2017-2018		
HEAD OF ACCOUNT		(₹ in Lakh)
REVENUE SECTION		Allocation
2059	Public Works	262.50
2225	Directorate of Social Welfare	30.26
2235	Directorate of Social Defence	15082.27
2235	Directorate of Social Welfare	101428.71
2235	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	8150.95
2236	Secretariat	23.16
2236	Directorate of Social Welfare	168737.00
2236	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	183566.74
2251	Secretariat	431.56
2551	Directorate of Social Welfare	0.01
REVENUE SECTION TOTAL		477713.16
CAPITAL SECTION		

4235	Directorate of Social Welfare	-
4235	Directorate of Social Defence	404.01
4236	Directorate of Social Welfare	0.01
4236	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	0.01
CAPITAL SECTION TOTAL		404.03
7610	Loans to Government Servants etc.,	0.02
LOAN SECTION TOTAL		0.02
Grand Total		478117.21

GROSS TOTAL:

REVENUE SECTION : ₹ 477713.16 Lakh

CAPITAL SECTION : ₹ 404.03 Lakh

LOAN SECTION : ₹ 0.02 Lakh

TOTAL : ₹478117.21 Lakh

(or)

₹ 4781.17 Crore

A sum of ₹3,929.28 Crore has also been provided in the Budget Estimate for 2017-2018 under the Demand No. 41 Revenue Department for the implementation of Social Security Schemes.
