



# **SOCIAL WELFARE AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT DEPARTMENT**

**POLICY NOTE  
2021-2022**

**DEMAND No.45**

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MINISTER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE  
AND  
WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

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**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU  
2021**

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## DEMAND NO.45

# SOCIAL WELFARE AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT DEPARTMENT

## POLICY NOTE 2021-2022

### CHAPTER - 1

#### Introduction

'பட்டங்கள் ன்  
ப்பாங்கள் வெ  
பாரினில் பெண்கள் நடத்த ந்தோ  
எட்டு அறிவினில் ஒரு கிங்கே  
பெண் இனைப்பில்லை  
காண் என்று கு மியட'

— மகாகவி சுப்ரமணிய பாரதியார்

*The seeds of success in every nation on  
Earth are best planted in women and children*

*- Joyce Banda*

Empowerment provides a greater access to  
knowledge and resources, more independence in

decision, considerable ability to plan lives, more control over the circumstances which influence lives and freedom from customs, beliefs and practices. Thus Women Empowerment is a process in which women challenge the existing norms and culture to effectively promote their well being.

The Indian Constitution guarantees that there shall be no discrimination on the grounds of gender. There are various legal provisions for women safety and empowerment enshrined in the constitution.

The Constitution of India not only guarantees equality to women but also empowers state to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women for neutralizing the cumulative socio, economic, education and political deprivation faced by them.

Fundamental Rights among others ensure equality before the law and equal protection of

law, prohibits discrimination against any citizen on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth and guarantee equality of opportunity in matters relating to employment.

Indian Penal Code provides safety of women against rape (sec 376 IPC) kidnapping, abduction for different purposes (sec 363-373), Homicide for Dowry torture (sec 498-A) Molestation (sec 354) and Sexual Harassment (sec 509 IPC).

In the same way special laws are enacted to safeguard the interests of women like, the Dowry Prohibition Act 1961, Immoral Traffic (suppression) Act 1956, The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005, The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013, The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 are some of the legislation passed in favour of women.

In recent years the empowerment of women has been recognised as the central issue in determining the status of women.

“National Women Commission” was set up by an Act of parliament in 1990 to safeguard the rights and legal entitlements of women. The 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> amendments (1993) to the Constitution of India have provided for reservation of seats in the local bodies of Panchayats and Municipalities for women, laying a strong foundation for women’s participation in decision making at the local bodies.

India has also ratified various international conventions and human rights instruments committing to secure equal rights of women. Key among them is the ratification of the Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1993.

**In order to ensure the right place for women in overall development of the State,**

**the Government of Tamil Nadu has changed the nomenclature of the department of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme into “Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department”. Tamil Nadu Government has committed to enhance rights as per constitution to women, children, elders and transgender by bringing paradigm shift in its approaches towards the on going schemes and programmes implemented at present.**

The Department has drawn policies and various programmes in order to achieve the overall objectives of achieving Social Justice and Empowerment of its citizens especially women. Along with ensuring safety and security of the poor widows, the deserted women and women belonging to socially and economically backward status, the Government proposes to enhance their

position by providing meaningful skill development programmes.

As a welfare State, it implements various Marriage Assistance Schemes for the benefit of poor women, daughters of widows, Orphan women and encourages re-marriages, inter-caste marriage to create casteless society.

To provide safe accommodation with food, skill training and necessary courage to face their future, service homes are accommodating widows and deserted women with their young children and children of prisoners, Differently Abled and marginalised. The service homes are first of its kind in the nation which were later replicated as 'Swadhar Homes' nationwide.

Tamil Nadu has the distinction of highest percentage of women's participation in the urban workforce in India, i.e. 21.8% against National average of 15.4%. Significant numbers of working women in Tamil Nadu are the migrants from

villages and smaller town to bigger towns and cities, apart from other States. The State Government's consistent efforts to encourage and provide higher education to girl children, paying up the dividend in the form of large enrolment and passing of Women from professional courses. This has led large migrations of working women to the cities and towns. The Government of Tamil Nadu, announced setting up of Working Women's hostels across the State to cater to the needs of working women.

The Government of Tamil Nadu through Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment runs 28 Working Women Hostels in 18 Districts. To cater to the growing needs of working women, the Department of Social Welfare proposes to build more hostels across the State as well as upgrade the existing ones. The Government of Tamil Nadu has set up an exclusive Special Purpose Vehicle" *TamilNadu Working*

*Women Hostels Corporation Limited*” (TNWWHCL) under the Companies Act of 2013.

To ensure safety, security and mobility, all women including working women, girl students pursuing higher education, Transgenders and Differently Abled Persons are allowed to travel in town buses run by State Transport Corporation at free of cost.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is always in the forefront in implementing innovative schemes like formation of a Separate Board for Transgenders way back in 2008 which was emulated by many other states recently. Identity Cards provided by the Tamil Nadu Government for Transgenders was appreciated by the community themselves to bring awareness to their counterparts all over the nation. Now a separate “App” has been developed to Transgenders to enroll themselves voluntarily and demand is created for their life skill, trainings and

employment opportunities for their bright future and dignified life in the society.

The Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment has taken efforts to ensure the economic and political empowerment of women through various schemes. Formation of women co-operative societies numbering 124 through which entrepreneurial skill is developed and employment opportunities are created for women by stitching uniforms for the school children and preparing weaning food for the adolescent's girls, pregnant & lactating mothers and children below 2 years.

It gives a holistic approach of bringing up nutritional and health status of women and children, participation in their family income through gainful employment and managerial skill by which they run the societies on their own as well as leadership qualities in the long run to political empowerment.

For ensuring safety and protection of women, convergence activities such as short stay, food, medical & legal help, counselling and skill training are provided through one stop centres and Swadhar Homes. Awareness is being created through Mahila Sakthi Kendra on the existing women welfare schemes and legislations. Distress call services are provided through 181 Women Help Line.

The State of Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State in implementing the rights of the children as enshrined in the constitution of India as well as in UNCRC. The children are the assets of a nation. The State of Tamil Nadu is committed to ensure that the children are protected from all forms of discrimination and abuse. The Government is taking utmost care and protection of the children by enacting and implementing various legislations and schemes. The Government is also taking all measures to a maximum extent for providing a

protective environment by establishing a strong child protection mechanism.

Every child has a right to lead a decent life. The physical, mental & social well being of a child depends upon the family to which it belongs. Various policies and programmes are being implemented for the welfare of children with an objective to safeguard them from all ill effects of poverty, neglect, gender disparity, abuse and economic exploitation.

Guaranteeing the rights of children and giving them equal opportunities to reach their full potential is critical not only for attaining gender equality but also for meeting a wide range of International Development Goals.

Hence, the department is implementing Schemes like Cradle Baby Scheme-1992, Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme-1992, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme-2015, Special Need Children Homes and schemes to encourage Girl

education. The provision of Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 is strictly implemented.

In order to build a prospective society, the Government of Tamil Nadu is investing its resources for the well being of the children through its various progressive welfare oriented programmes. As a protective measure, the Government is taking utmost care to the children from their preconception stage until attainment of the majority. Government of Tamil Nadu is a progressive State promoting the culture, that children to be grown in a peaceful and healthy family environment.

Government is encouraging the family based non-institutional care to the orphan, abandoned and surrendered children. To ensure the quality of care in the institutional children, the Government has put forth the standards of care to be provided to these children.

To realize the responsibility of the stakeholders of child protection the State Government conducts various capacity building programmes to enrich the knowledge as well as to upgrade the capacity to handle various children in difficult circumstances.

Monitoring institutions for children by implementing Juvenile Justice Act 2015 has become an important responsibility of the stakeholders. By developing an important tool called "Individual Care Plan" for every children coming under the purview of the legislation, the wholesome development of each and every child is ensured by the Government authorities.

In order to protect and improve the conditions and to ensure the continuation of the education of the children who had lost both the parent or single parent due to Covid-19, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced various welfare / relief measures including a special

package of financial assistance of Rs.5.00 lakh to the children who had lost both the parents due to COVID - 19 or either one parent deceased and another one died due to COVID - 19 and maintenance grant of Rs.3000/- per month to the child who had lost both the parents and living with his relative / guardian till the child complete 18 years of age and all the expenditure including educational fees and hostel fees shall be borne by the Government up to their graduation. A sum of Rs. 3.00 lakh is given to the surviving parent in case of a child who had lost single parent, due to COVID - 19.

Integrated Child Development Services scheme is a comprehensive programme designed to ensure the holistic development of children. It is one of the largest childcare programme in the world and has been in operation for more than three decades. This address widespread

malnutrition among children in India. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme integrates several aspects of early childhood development and provides supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-ups, and referral services to children below six years of age, adolescent girls as well as expecting and nursing mothers. Additionally, it offers non-formal pre-school education to children in the 3-6 age group, and health and nutrition education to women in the 15-49 age group. Tamilnadu has a long history of providing organised child care services with emphasis on nutrition to children outside the home under institutionalized care.

**Dr. Amartya Sen, Nobel Laureate and Indian Economist** has appreciated the exemplary implementation of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme in Tamil Nadu and quoted that Tamil Nadu is the example where

Anganwadi Workers are responsive to the expectations of the Community and awareness of entitlements has risen from below 20% to 80% or more and enhanced better scope for the implementation of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

Mid Day Meal Scheme is the first of its kind in the nation introduced by Government of Tamil Nadu which was followed by Union Government and now it has become the national programme extended to all states.

The Nutritious Meal Programme is a school meal programme designed to improve the nutritional standard of school going children. The programme provides free lunches on working days for children who are studying in primary and upper primary classes in Government, Government aided and National Child Labour Project schools. The meal not only fights hunger, it brings a hungry child's attention back to

lessons, and it also encourages out of school children to get enrolled so that they can at least be assured of one wholesome meal every day.

Under article 24 paragraph 2(c) of the convention on the rights of the child, India has committed to "**adequate nutritious food**" for children. The programme is covered by the National Food Safety Act, 2013.

The objective of the scheme is to help improve the effectiveness of primary education by improving the nutritional standard of primary school children and upper primary school children.

Mark Twain, (a famous American writer) when asked about him growing old said, Age is an issue of mind over matter, if you don't mind it doesn't matter. Yet the need for senior citizen is a mark of concern as old age is also termed as 'Second Childhood'. Just like how children are to be nurtured, elderly people are to be protected.

Keeping that as a motto, Government of Tamil Nadu brought in various welfare schemes for the protection of senior citizens like establishing old age homes for the destitute senior citizens in the year 1991, way before the act for senior citizen was enacted by the Union Government in 2007. After the enactment of the Act "Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens" in 2007, which gave the guidelines to protect the life and dignity of senior citizens, Tamil Nadu framed detailed rules for the Act in 2009 and strengthened the implementation of various welfare activities fixing the roles and responsibilities for the officials executing welfare measures benefitting senior citizens.

As per Census 2011, there are nearly 10.4 crore elderly persons in India. In Tamil Nadu, the percentage of elderly population is 11.2% of the total population.

With this as a premise, the Government of Tamil Nadu has introduced pension schemes to the Senior Citizens as first of kind on 22.01.1962 and the schemes were extended to Differently Abled persons, destitute women and destitute agricultural labourers on 1975, 1981 and 1986 respectively. From the year 1995, the Union Government has introduced the pension schemes to the Senior Citizens by providing Rs.200 per month and the Government of Tamil Nadu has enhanced the pension by Rs.800/- in addition to the Government of India grant and now the monthly pension of Rs.1000 is being given to the Senior Citizens. To facilitate the easy movement of elderly, free bus pass was introduced. Geriatric wards and separate queues for elderly are practised in Government Hospitals, Old age homes run by the NGOs provided Government grants and are registered and monitored. A state high level council under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary oversees the welfare of the elderly

population of the state and the district committees function to care under the chairmanship of the District Collectors and alleviate the issues faced by the elderly.

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## **CHAPTER - 2**

### **SOCIAL WELFARE AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

The Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment implements welfare schemes and enforces Social legislations to protect and safeguard the rights of the Marginalized sections of the society, i.e., Women, Children, Transgenders and Senior Citizens.

#### **2.1 Child Welfare**

Every child has rights, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status. Children's rights include the right to health, education, family life, play and recreation, an adequate standard of living and to be protected from abuse and harm. Children's rights cover their developmental and age-appropriate needs that change over time as a child grows up.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) defines the child as a person less than 18 years of age. UNCRC is the international agreement on child rights. It acknowledges the primary role of parents and the family in the care and protection of children, as well as the responsibility of the State to help them to carry out these duties.

### **2.1.1 Cradle Baby Scheme**

Girl children often face various challenges from their childhood to their adulthood due to strong preference for male children in the society. The crime against Girl Children like sex selective elimination, female foeticide and infanticide which has resulted in decrease of Sex Ratio without symmetry was curtailed by launching a novel scheme of cradle baby scheme in the year 1992 in Salem District.

By setting up cradles in the hospitals, the mothers are facilitated to leave their unwanted

girl babies safely in the cradles. This is a specific measure to rescue these babies from the jaws of death and to promote the real value of girl children.

Under this Scheme, Parents voluntarily handed over the children due to poverty unwilling to care girl children and children with disability. The babies, received are given for In-country and Inter-country legal adoption to adoptive parents.

During the year 2001, this scheme was extended to Madurai, Theni, Dindigul and Dharmapuri Districts where the practice of female infanticide was prevalent. In the year 2011, the scheme was further extended to Cuddalore, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Villupuram and Thiruvannamalai Districts where the Child Sex ratio was recorded low as per the 2011 Census.

Accordingly, Reception Centers were opened in the above mentioned Districts. Children who are abandoned by parents are also received in

the cradles placed in the Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Children Homes and Creches.

With an aim to prohibit the evil practices of female infanticide and to address the issue of declining child sex ratio, the Government of Tamil Nadu is taking earnest efforts to make the administrative machinery more responsive in enforcing the act and punish the offenders.

Total number of 5656 children (Male 1229, Female 4427) have been saved since the inception of the scheme till July 2021.

**A sum of Rs.43.91 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

## **2.1.2 Homes for Children with Special Need**

The babies received under Cradle Baby Scheme sometimes are not adopted by parents due to various reasons, especially children with disabilities. To overcome this anomaly, the State Government initiated the special scheme to give

special care and protection to these children through homes run by Non Governmental Organizations.

The Government provides grant to the following 4 Homes run by Non Governmental Organizations to take care of these children with Special needs.

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 taken care in these Homes. A grant of Rs.120 per child per day is given as grant to Non- Governmental Organizations for the maintenance of the Special Need Children.

**A sum of Rs.37.00 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022 for this scheme.**

### **2.1.3 Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme**

Girls were seen as financial burden in the poverty stricken families. Education to girl children was preferred least and their opinions are not valued. Educated and empowered girls are seen as agents of change in such communities. Education plays a key role in empowering girls. Education not only increases their age of marriage and enables them to lead a healthy life, and well educated girls participate in the economic development of the nation too.

To eradicate female infanticide, to discourage the preference for male children and to promote family planning Government implements girl children protection scheme for the welfare of girl child.

The Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme was introduced in the year 1992. To protect the rights of the girl children and to ensure education, the Government introduced the scheme of direct financial investment on the girl children.

Under this scheme, the amount is deposited in the name of the girl child with the Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited. The copy of the fixed deposit receipts are given to the family of the girl children. On completion of 18 years, the amount deposited along with accrued interest will be given to her as maturity amount to pursue her higher education.

## **Aim of the Scheme**

- Protect the rights of the girl child and provide social and financial empowerment of girl child.
- Ensure the Girl child education atleast up to High School level and then motivate her to continue Higher Education.
- Encourage girls to get married only after the age of 18 years.
- Encourage parents to adopt family planning methods after two girl children.
- Strengthen the role of the family in improving the status of the girl child.

## **Types of Schemes and Criteria to Get Benefits Under Schemes**

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Schemes</b>	<b>Criteria to enroll under the Scheme</b>
1	<p>Scheme-I (single girl child)</p> <p>Initial Deposit Amount Rs. 50,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family should have only one/two female children and no male child. In future, no male child should be adopted.</li> <li>• Either of the parents should have undergone sterilization within 35 years of age.</li> <li>• The parents should be a domicile of Tamil Nadu for a continuous period of 10 years at the time of submitting the application.</li> </ul>
2	<p>Scheme-II (two girl children)</p> <p>Initial Deposit Amount Rs. 25,000 (for each girl child)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual family Income should be less than Rs.72,000/-</li> <li>• The application should be submitted before the child completes 3 years of age for Scheme 1 and before the second child completes 3 years of age for Scheme II.</li> <li>• In case of birth of more than one girl child in first or second delivery, they will be benefitted under Scheme II.</li> </ul>

## **Coverage of the Scheme**

So far 10,15,975 beneficiaries have been registered under this scheme and an amount of Rs.1628.97 crore have been deposited (up to July 2021). 29,344 girl children were registered and an amount of Rs.73.42 crore have been deposited under the scheme for the year 2020-2021.

Till March 2021 a sum of Rs.76.44 crore maturity amount has been disbursed to 26,561 Girl children through Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited. During the year 2021-22, till July 2021 a sum of Rs.30.88 crore maturity amount has been disbursed to 9379 Girl children.

**A sum of Rs.100.00 crore has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

## **2.1.4 Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme**

Government of India introduced the scheme - Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme, in 2015 considering the declining trend of Child Sex Ratio in 100 districts where the Child Sex Ratio far below the National average. As per the census 2011 data, the National average of Child Sex Ratio has been recorded as 918 Girls for every 1000 Boys. The decline in the Child Sex ratio is a major indicator of women disempowerment as it reflects both pre-birth, as gender based sex selective elimination and post birth discrimination in the form of health, nutrition and education.

### **Objectives of the Scheme**

- I. To prevent gender biased sex selective elimination.
- II. To ensure survival and protection of the girl child

III. To ensure education and improve participation of the girl child.

### **Activities under the scheme**

Following the successful implementation of the scheme in Cuddalore district in Tamil Nadu since the year 2015, where the Child Sex Ratio was below the national average, the scheme was expanded to 10 more districts (Ariyalur, Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Salem, Perambalur, Villupuram, Thiruvannamalai, Tiruvallur, Tiruchirappalli and Chennai) in the year 2018. Multi sectoral, inter-departmental convergence activities regarding the importance of girl child are being done at all levels in these districts.

The scheme is being implemented in these 11 districts with financial assistance by Government of India and a sum of Rs.5.50 crore is allocated at the rate of Rs.50.00 lakh per district.

In the remaining 21 districts, the scheme is implemented through media advocacy and outreach programmes to promote birth of girl child, to ensure safety and improve the education of girl children.

Awareness activities, such as training to field level functionaries by the various departmental officials, celebrating birth of girl child by giving appreciation letter, providing health kit to mothers, providing tree saplings, maintaining Guddi Gudda boards informing numbers of birth of female and male children, signature campaign, Human Chains, rallies, conducting competitions as drawing, essay writing and prize distribution among the school and college students, installing Hoardings and banners in Government office premises and public places, are being done to create mass awareness among public about the scheme.

## **2.1.5 The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006**

The child marriage is any marriage happens either to a girl whose age is less than 18 years or to a boy whose age is less than 21 years. These marriages are considered as criminal offence in violation of the Act.

Children have the freedom to enjoy their childhood to its fullest. Child marriages deprive the children's freedom and their basic rights to health, nutrition, education, protection of physical and mental health and against sexual abuses. Due to child marriages, these children face physical health issues due to early pregnancy, mental health affected due to immaturity and develop stress and depression.

By prohibiting Child Marriages and ensuring strict punishments to who conducts, supports, Child Marriages, the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 is implemented throughout the State

by Social Welfare & Women Empowerment department. Further the Government has framed State Rules on 30.12.2009 and designated the District Social Welfare Officer of each district as Child Marriage Prohibition Officers. They are empowered with powers to receive and act immediately on information from anybody through any mode of communication.

The parents, guardian, bridegroom, religious leaders, relatives, friends, organizations, marriage mediators, who ever abets, performs, supports child marriages are considered as offenders as per the Act.

As per the provisions of the Act, these offences punishable are cognizable and non-bailable with rigorous imprisonment upto 2 years with fine upto one lakh rupees either or both. This Act also has provisions for maintenance, protection and rehabilitation of the child marriage victims.

## **Steps taken for creating awareness to prevent Child Marriages**

- Village Level Child Protection Committees have been formed with various field officials and local people which meets regularly and monitor the activities.
- During the corona pandemic, awareness about prohibition of Child marriages are being created among the general public through Community Radio, Suriyan FM, Arasu Cable TV and print media.
- To protect girl children from the evil of Child Marriages, Documentary film was produced and telecasted in Television.
- Awareness programmes are conducted through Mahila Shakthi Kendra, a Government of India programme, in Blocks, Villages, highly prone areas before subhamuhurtham days about the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act-2006, ill

effects of Child Marriages, Child Helpline No.1098, etc.

- Awareness programmes are conducted following the protocols of corona, among women gathering at work place under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Gurantee Scheme.
- One stop centre staff also on receipt of information about child marriages, immediately reaches the spot and prevents child marriages.
- Various Welfare Schemes including Girl Child Protection Scheme and Marriage Assistance Schemes implemented by the state. Government have been designed in such a way to benefit the Girl Children who have completed 18 years of age in order to prohibit child marriage and to encourage higher education.

- As a rehabilitation measure, 1021 Child marriage victims have been provided 3 month vocational training @ Rs.1000/- per month per child.
- As part of Social Media, an exclusive Youtube channel -"Tamil Magalir Kural- Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment" has been created and short films are uploaded in the public domain.

16,281 child marriages have been stopped since 2008 till July 2021 in Tamil Nadu. During the last year 2020 alone, around 3,208 child marriages have been stopped.

#### **2.1.6 State Awards for Girl Child Empowerment**

The Government has instituted a State Level Award, first of its kind in the country, to recognize and encourage the abilities of a Girl child and to appreciate her efforts in opposing the injustice meted out against Girl children, to be

given to a girl child, below 18 years of age, on the National Girl Child day 24<sup>th</sup> January, every year. The award consists of a cash prize of Rs.1.00 lakh as cheque along with an Appreciation Certificate.

The Government has also instituted awards to three Best Districts in recognition of their remarkable service in improving Child Sex Ratio which includes medals and certificates, to be awarded on Tamil Nadu State Girl Child Protection day, 24<sup>th</sup> February every year.

## **2.2 Women Welfare**

Amartya Sen and Prof. Jean Dreze in the book "An Uncertain Glory – India and its Contradictions" have stated that the foundation of Tamil Nadu's progress has been growth inclined with social welfare and have lauded the work of Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu has a glorious tradition of recognizing the importance of empowering

women. Right to vote for women for the first time was given in 1921. In 1926, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy has appointed first woman Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. The Devadasi Abolition Bill was passed in 1929. For the first time women were appointed into the police force in 1973. A 24-hour medical service was introduced in 1988 in all primary health centres to assist the pregnant women.

First time, in the country, property rights to women was given in 1989. The 30% reservation given to women candidates entering Government service, only women candidates to be appointed as teachers in primary schools up to the fifth standard, Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Financial Assistance Scheme to provide Rs.6000/- and women self-help groups were first started in Dharmapuri district in 1989 are few path breaking schemes introduced by the Government. In 1992, all women police stations were established and for

the first time 33% of seats were reserved for women in 1996 in Tamil Nadu Local Body Elections.

To ensure safety, security and mobility, all women including girl students pursuing higher education, working women are permitted to travel in town buses run by State Transport Corporation at free of cost.

### **2.2.1 Marriage Assistance Scheme**

Marriage Assistance schemes are implemented with the objective of promoting Girl Child education, preventing child marriage and encouraging social reformatory marriages.

The Marriage Assistance Schemes implemented by the Government of TamilNadu are the most popular schemes among the public.

1. Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyan Memorial Marriage Assistance Scheme was launched on 03.06.1989 to help poor parents in getting their daughters married and also promote the educational status of poor girls.

2. E.V.R Maniyamaiyar Memorial Widow's Daughter Marriage Assistance Scheme was started in the year 1982 with an intention to help the poor widowed mothers to get their daughters married.
3. Annai Theresa Memorial Orphan Girls Marriage Assistance Scheme was launched as a marriage assistance scheme, during the year 1985 to help for the marriage of the orphan girls.
4. Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiyan Memorial Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme was started in the year 1975 with an intention to rehabilitate the widows as well as to encourage the remarriage of widows.
5. In order to abolish caste discrimination and to eliminate dowry harassment, a scheme to encourage inter-caste marriage by providing financial assistance was launched in the year 1968 and is now being implemented as Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Ammaiyan Memorial Inter-Caste Marriage Assistance Scheme.

## **Eligibility Criteria for getting benefit under marriage assistance schemes**

<b>Name of the Marriage assistance Scheme</b>	<b>Annual Income Limit</b>	<b>Minimum Age Limit</b>	<b>Educational Qualification</b>	<b>Time for submitting application</b>
Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyan Memorial Marriage Assistance Scheme	Rs.72,000	Bride - 18 yrs, Bridegroom - 21 yrs.	Minimum - Std. X pass For ST - Std. V	Application should be submitted 40 days before the marriage date. In exceptional circumstances the application can be submitted one day prior to the marriage date. Application submitted on or after the marriage date cannot be accepted.
E.V.R Maniyammaiyan Memorial Widow's Daughter Marriage Assistance Scheme	Rs.72,000	Bride - 18 yrs, Bridegroom - 21 yrs.	Nil	Application should be submitted 40 days before the marriage date. In exceptional circumstances, the application can be submitted one day prior to the marriage date.
Annai Theresa Memorial Orphan Girls Marriage Assistance Scheme	No Income limit	Bride - 18 yrs, Bridegroom - 21 yrs.	Nil	Application should be submitted 40 days before the marriage date. In exceptional circumstances, the application

<b>Name of the Marriage assistance Scheme</b>	<b>Annual Income Limit</b>	<b>Minimum Age Limit</b>	<b>Educational Qualification</b>	<b>Time for submitting application</b>
				can be submitted one day prior to the marriage date.
Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiyar Memorial Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme	No Income limit	Bride - 20 yrs, Bridegroom - 40 yrs. (Maximum)	Nil	Within 6 months from the date of remarriage
Dr.Muthu lakshmi Reddy Memorial Inter-caste Marriage Assistance Scheme  <b>Scheme-I:</b> SC / ST with other community.  <b>Scheme-II:</b> Forward Community with BC/ MBC.	No Income limit	Bride - 18 yrs, Bridegroom - 21 yrs.	Minimum - Std. X pass For ST – Std. V	Within two years from the date of marriage

Under, Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Memorial Marriage Assistance Scheme, E.V.R Maniyammaiyar Memorial Widow's Daughter Marriage Assistance Scheme, Annai Theresa

Ammaiyar Memorial Orphan Girls Marriage Assistance Scheme the beneficiaries are given 8 gram gold coin along with cash assistance of Rs.50,000/- for the graduates and diploma holders and Rs.25,000/- cash assistance for others.

Similarly, Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiyar Memorial Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme, Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Memorial Inter-caste Marriage Assistance Scheme, the beneficiaries are given 8 gram gold coin along with cash assistance of Rs.25,000/- which is disbursed as Rs.15,000/- through Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) and Rs.10,000/- in the form of National Savings Certificate (NSC) to non graduates and cash assistance of Rs.50,000/- for Degree / Diploma Holders which is disbursed as Rs.30,000/- through Electronic Clearance Service (ECS) and Rs.20,000/- as National Savings Certificate (NSC).

Under the five marriage assistance schemes, 1,08,373 beneficiaries were benefitted during 2020-2021.

**A sum of Rs.762.22 crore has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for the above schemes.**

#### **2.2.2 Sathyavanimuthu Ammaiyar Memorial Free Supply of Sewing Machine Scheme**

Free motorised sewing machines are provided by the Government to widows, deserted women, women from economically weaker sections for upliftment of their livelihood through self employment. To avail the benefit under the scheme the annual income ceiling is Rs.72,000/- and age limit is 20 to 40 years. During the financial year 2020-2021, 3,000 beneficiaries were benefitted.

**A sum of Rs.1.35 crore has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

### **2.2.3 Government Service Home**

In the Districts of Chengalpattu, Salem, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai, Krishnagiri and Perambalur Government service homes are in function. In these homes, poor girls, deserted women and widows who are in need of care and protection are provided accommodation, food, health and medical facilities.

To enhance their skills, they are also provided with vocational training, spoken English, Computer Training, Counselling and Career Guidance. Women who have discontinued their studies due to various situations can stay along with their children and pursue their schooling. Girl children can stay upto 18 years of age, while the male children can stay upto 10 years of age in these Service Homes.

CCTV Cameras have been installed in all the Service Homes. In the year 2020-2021, 527 inmates were accommodated in these homes.

Government also provides financial assistance of Rs.50,000/- for pursuing Professional Courses and Rs.30,000/- for Degree / Diploma Courses to encourage the inmates of the Service Homes who have completed +2.

**A sum of Rs.486.18 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

#### **2.2.4 Women Industrial Co-operative Societies**

The policy of the Government is to ensure gender equality by empowering women. Women are economically empowered through the Women Industrial Co-operative societies which are functioning under the control of Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment. These Co-operative societies provide gainful employment to women those who are living below the poverty line, widows, deserted and destitute women in the age group of 18 to 40 years.

There are 124 Women Industrial Co-operative societies functioning under the control of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department. So, these society members are stitching the school uniform in their own residence along with their household chores. This complements their family income and overall development of their family members.

98 Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies and one Third Gender Industrial Co-operative Society are functioning under the control of Director of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment and the 25 Weaning Food Manufacturing Women Industrial Co-operative societies are functioning under the control of Director cum Mission Director of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

The Women Tailoring Co-operative Society members are involved in stitching of 4 sets of free

uniform for students who are benefitted under Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme. Apart from this uniforms are stitched for the school children of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department and Minority Welfare Departments too. By this, women of these societies are assured with regular employment and remuneration for their day to day expenses.

Tamil Nadu Government has taken special efforts to form an unique Tailoring Society for the welfare of the Thirunangaiyar to assure self employment and income generation activity.

## **Details of Co-operative Societies and members enrolled:**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Type of Society</b>	<b>No.of Co-operative Societies</b>	<b>No.of members</b>
1.	Women Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies.	83	80,884
2.	Women Stationery Industrial Co-operative Societies. (also engaged in Tailoring)	15	4,087
3.	Weaning food Manufacturing Women Industrial Co-operative Societies	25	1,350
4	Third Gender Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Society	1	25
<b>Total</b>		<b>124</b>	<b>86,346</b>

During the academic year 2020-2021, 38.05 lakh school children were provided with 4 sets of uniforms. The stitching charge of Rs.81.26 crore has been allotted for this purpose by the School Education Department.

## **2.2.5 Swadhar Greh**

In order to prevent women from exploitation and to support their survival and rehabilitation, short stay home, a scheme for women and girls was introduced by Women and Child Development Department, Government of India during the year 1969. With the similar objectives in 2001-2004 Swadhar Scheme was introduced by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. This scheme provides shelter, food, clothing, counselling, training, clinical and legal aid to rehabilitate such women in difficult circumstance.

In Tamil Nadu 36 Swadhar Greh homes are functioning in which 916 women and 66 children are benefitted. The grants to swadhar homes run by Non Governmental Organisations are funded by Central and State Government in the ratio of 60:40.

**For the year 2021-22, a sum of Rs.3.35 crore as Union share and Rs.2.23 crore as State share is provided in the Revised Budget Estimate.**

## **2.2.6 Mahalir Sakthi Maiyyam (Mahila Shakti Kendra-MSK)**

Mahalir Sakthi Maiyyam (Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) was introduced by Government of India in the year 2017-2018 under the umbrella scheme of “National Mission for Empowerment of Women”. This scheme creates opportunities for rural women to easily approach and avail integrated services like skill training, Government welfare schemes, Legal assistance, Safety measures, Education, health care and nutritional services.

The cost sharing pattern of this scheme is 60:40 between Union and State Governments. The new scheme is envisaged to work at State, District and Block levels.

### **2.2.6.1 State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW)**

The State level MSK is the State Resource Centre for Women which is mandated to undertake research on inter sectoral issues affecting women belonging to vulnerable and marginalized communities. It conducts training and capacity building programs for them to sort out their issues.

Its role includes functioning as the technical body to support the implementation of women centric schemes such as One Stop Centre, Women Help Line and to undertake efforts to access the benefits of other department schemes.

At present 32 District Level Centres and 16 Block level centres are functioning at two aspirational districts (Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar).

**A sum of Rs.9.77 crore has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

## **2.2.7 One Stop Centre (OSC)**

One Stop Centre, a special scheme, also known as 'Sakhi' is being implemented by Government of India to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence both in private and public spaces within family, community and in work places. One Stop Centres are functioning in 32 districts to facilitate temporary shelter, medical assistance, psycho-social support, free legal aid, police assistance and counseling services, under one roof for women affected with gender based harassment and domestic violence. All these centres are functioning inside the district headquarters hospitals/medical college hospital premises.

Government of India has sanctioned One Stop Centres for the newly created 4 districts namely Ranipet, Tiruppathur, Kallakurichy and Tenkasi in the current year 2021-2022. This scheme is implemented with 100% fund

assistance from Government of India. So far, 16,799 women are benefited through one stop centres till July 2021. So far, 1470 aggrieved women have been provided temporary shelter in One Stop Centres.

Government of India is also sanctioning construction fund to one stop centres for own building at the rate of Rs.48.00 lakh per centre.

### **2.2.8 Women Helpline (181)**

The Women Helpline aims to provide 24 hours immediate and emergency response to women affected by violence through nationwide similar short code '**181**' with 100% financial assistance by the Government of India from 2018. Details regarding Government programmes and schemes pertaining to women are provided to the information seeking women through this helpline. The Women Helpline was started on 10.12.2018. A sum of Rs.23.25 lakh has been sanctioned by

Government of India as recurring cost for the year 2021-22.

Among 3,21,174 answered calls through Women Help Line from 2018 to July 2021, and 21,094 calls have been registered and the aggrieved women were provided various services through different departments.

### **2.2.9 Nirbhaya Fund**

Nirbhaya Fund was set up in the year 2016 by the Government of India, Ministry of Home affairs with an aim to provide safe environment for women. It is implemented in 8 cities, including Chennai, in the country to implement projects for safety of women. Government of India sanctioned a sum of Rs.425.06 crore to implement 12 projects through 4 departments viz Greater Chennai Police, Greater Chennai Corporation, Metropolitan Transport Corporation and Social Welfare Department. It is being implemented in

the sharing pattern of 60:40 between Union and State Governments from the year 2018-19.

Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department has been sanctioned with Rs.12.96 crore under Nirbhaya Fund for strengthening Women Helpline and the first instalment of Rs.6.48 crore was received in the year 2019-2020. The Women Help Line is at present functioning 24 x 7 with additional personnels.

To reach out women from all walks of life, to resolve and emergency needs of women, in addition to telephone services, calls are also being received through Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Instagram, Email, Short Message Service (SMS) and services are being provided to women. Exclusive website has been created for Women Helpline and it is enabled to provide services like information sharing, legal aid, counselling, Police help and medical assistance through Teleconferencing to women in distress.

### **2.2.10 Social Legislations for Women**

To ensure the safety and protection of women and their rights, the Department implements various Social Legislations like:

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.

### **2.2.11 Government Working Women Hostels**

Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to the cause of protection and security of the employed women, by being their guardians and

establishing shelters to make them feel at home. In the present scenario, women who are voluntarily coming out of their family to any place to contribute economically for their family income are in need of safe and affordable accommodations. In the Hon'ble Governor's Address 2020-2021, it has been announced that Working Women's Hostels will be established in every district. Apart from 28 hostels in 18 districts, action is being taken to establish Working Women's Hostel in the remaining districts.

#### **2.2.12 Tamil Nadu Working Women Hostels Corporation Limited (TNWWHCL)**

As per the Company Act, 2013, Tamil Nadu Working Women Hostels Corporation Limited as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) was established in 2018-2019 to undertake required Infrastructure Development, Management and Maintenance of

Working Women Hostels, Creches, Senior Citizen Homes, Child Care Institutions with modern facilities funding from the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Fund Management Corporation Ltd (TNIFMC). The Directorate of Social Welfare is the Nodal agency for implementation of this project.

The objective of this project is to provide hostel facilities as an alternate “**home away from home**” enabling secure and pleasant accommodation at affordable prices.

### **2.3 Senior Citizen Welfare**

People above 60 years are Senior Citizens. According to Population Census 2011, Tamil Nadu (10.4%) is one of the best performing State in the Country in providing services to the elderly population of 75 lakh which is next only to Kerala.

In Tamil Nadu, the Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment provides food, clothing, shelter and medical support for those 60

years and destitute elderly through old age homes and executes an array of welfare schemes for their benefit along with ceaseless efforts to implement the Act.

### **2.3.1 Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007**

The Government of India has enacted the Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act in 2007. This Act provides financial security, welfare and protection of senior citizen, thus ensuring the right to live with dignity, right to life and liberty and right to shelter guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution.

It is the duty of the children and the legal heirs to take care of parents and senior citizens as per this Act. It also mandates the Government to provide Old Age Homes and ensure the welfare and protection of destitute senior citizens. The Act addresses the issues related to the physical health, mental health and property of the Senior

Citizens for which they can get relief through the Maintenance Tribunals. The State of Tamil Nadu has framed the State Rules under this Act in 2009. This Act has come into force with effect from the date of issue of Notification in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette.

### **Special Features of the Act**

- This Act includes senior citizens and biological, adoptive, step father, step mother as parents
- Any senior citizen who is aggrieved for not being maintained by their children/legal heirs can file a petition before the Maintenance Tribunal constituted under this Act for receiving a maintenance allowance upto a maximum of Rs.10,000/-
- A petition filed under this Act for maintenance allowance shall be disposed off within 90 days.

- If the persons responsible for the care and protection of senior citizens abandon them, such persons shall be punished with imprisonment for three months or fine up to Rs.5,000/- or with both.
- If any parent or senior citizen who after the commencement of this act on 31.12.2009, has transferred by way of gift his property to his children or legal heirs, subject to the condition that the transferee shall look after them, and such transferee fails to do so then the parent or a senior citizen shall give a petition to Maintenance Tribunal to cancel the gift deed.

## **Maintenance Tribunal**

The Government under section 7 of the Act have constituted Maintenance Tribunal by appointing Revenue Divisional Officers for the purpose of adjudicating, deciding and appointing order for maintenance under sec 5 of the Act. There are 92 such Tribunals functioning in the

State. This Tribunal has all the powers of a Civil Court.

### **Conciliation Officer**

The State Government have notified the District Social Officer as Conciliation Officer under section 9 of Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizen Act, 2007. However, if an aggrieved elder and the opposite party agree to compromise, then the tribunal shall refer the case to a Conciliation Officer or appoint such person acceptable to both parties by forwarding the related documents to work out a settlement acceptable to both parties within a period not exceeding one month.

### **Maintenance Officer**

The Government have designated the District Social Welfare Officer as Maintenance Officer under section 18(1) of the Act, 2007 who shall represent a parent if desires so, during the

proceedings of the Tribunal or Appellate Tribunal, as the case may be.

### **Appellate Tribunal**

The State Government have constituted Appellate Tribunal by appointing District Collector who will hear the appeal against the order of the Maintenance Tribunal.

An appeal can be made within 60 days against the orders of the Tribunal. However, the Appellate Tribunal may entertain the petition if it is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from preferring the appeal in time.

### **State and District Level Senior Citizen Welfare Committee**

In order to advise and supervise the effective implementation of the Maintenance and welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, the Government have constituted a High Level Advisory Committee namely State Counsel for

Senior Citizen under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary at the State Level and District Committee for the Welfare of Senior Citizens as District Collector as a Chairperson in the District Level.

### **Institutional Services to Senior Citizens**

#### **2.3.2 Institutional Services to the Senior Citizens**

In the year 1991, Government of Tamil Nadu encouraged the NGOs to start Old age homes where financial assistance is provided in order to protect the life of destitute elders above 60 years who are abandoned by their family.

Food, clothing, shelters, medical aid and recreation are provided in these homes. For each home 40 inmates can be accommodated and Rs.1,200/- is sanctioned as feeding grants per month per person.

724 elders were benefitted from 21 old age homes. The sharing pattern of grants for the scheme is 5:1 between State and NGO.

### **2.3.3 Integrated Complexes of Special Homes for Senior Citizens and Destitute Children**

With a novel idea of creating an environment of sharing love between grandparents and grand children in an institutional set up, the Integrated Complexes of Special Homes for Senior Citizens and destitute children was started in the year 2011-12 through the Non-Governmental organizations with the financial support of the State Government.

In each Integrated Complexes 25 elders and 25 children are accommodated. There are 44 Integrated Complexes functioning benefiting 1005 children and 1020 senior citizens during 2020-2021 in the State. The grants are given in the ratio 75:25 between State and NGO.

**A sum of Rs.6.43 crore has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

### **2.3.4 Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSRc)**

Government of India with a main objective to improve the quality of life of the Senior Citizens by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities and by encouraging productive and active ageing through providing support for participation of the stake holders has implemented this Scheme since the year 2016-2017.

Through this scheme, the Government of India is providing grant in aid directly to old age homes run by Non Governmental Organisations at a ratio of 90:10. This scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

Apart from running the homes for senior citizens, several other projects are implemented

namely Mobile Medicare Unit, Continous Care Home and Physiotherapy Clinic. Under the scheme, 71 projects are running with a budget of Rs.12.85 crore benefiting 3,054 elders.

### **2.3.5 Elders Resource Centre**

The present socio economic scenario of the society excludes the elders from within the family due to various causes including education, occupation and preference to nuclear family. This leaves the senior citizens to lead a lonely life, which causes physical as well as mental illness. To address these issues of senior citizens, to enhance their skills, the Government of Tamil Nadu in collaboration with a team led by Noble Laureate Dr.Ester Duflo conducted a study. Based on its findings, a concept of an exclusive centre for elders namely, Elders Resource Centre was conceptualized.

A sum of Rs.37.00 lakh has been sanctioned to set up these centres through the NGO's on pilot

basis and they are functioning in two blocks in 37 districts.

These Elders Resource Centre functions as Day Care centres unlike shelter homes. Newspapers and books are made available in these centres. Simple physical activities and counselling are provided through counsellors. It serves as a place where the elders can meet and share their love and feelings with their peers whereby they can find happiness and show case their talents.

### **2.3.6 Senior Citizen Helpline 14567**

A unique Senior Citizen Help Line number **14567** providing service to the Senior Citizens from 08.00 AM to 08.00 P.M was launched by Government of India on 28.04.2021 in the State of Tamil Nadu. The Union Government provides 100 percent financial assistance to the implementing agency which runs the helpline. A

sum of Rs.1.67 crore has been sanctioned for the year 2021-22.

The senior citizen helpline **14567** is a toll free phone number which provides the following services:-

- Rescue of affected elders and relief coordination activities
- Information on old age homes
- Information on senior citizen welfare schemes
- Psychological and Legal Counselling

### **2.3.7 Elders Abuse Awareness Day**

Society plays an important role in alleviating the problems of elders. The inactiveness of the elderly is seen as inefficiency of elders and thus considered as a 'sect' in the society which is not needed, giving rise to abuses against them. The United Nations has declared June 15<sup>th</sup> as Elders Abuse Awareness Day which is observed by the State Government every year by conducting

various activities creating awareness to protect and support the Senior Citizens. On this day, the school/ college students and Government servants are encouraged to take oath against elders abuse.

**A sum of Rs.4.00 lakh has been sanctioned in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

### **2.3.8 International Day of Older Persons (Senior Citizens)**

On 14 December 1990, the United Nations General Assembly designated 1<sup>st</sup> October as the International Day of Older Persons (Senior Citizens). The Government of Tamil Nadu celebrate this day every year by honoring the services and talents rendered for the welfare of senior citizens. On this day, voluntary organizations and social workers who have rendered exemplary service for the elderly are felicitated at the State and District Level.

**A sum of Rs.5.70 lakh has been sanctioned in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

### **2.3.9 Action Plan for Senior Citizens**

Based on the and Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, National Policy for Senior Citizens, 2011, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formed an Action Plan from the year 2019 till 2025. To fulfill the preferential need of Senior Citizens, the following 10 components have been included in the Action Plan

- Financial Security
- Health Care and Nutrition
- Shelter and Welfare
- Protection of Life and property of Senior Citizens
- Active and Productive Ageing with Intergenerational Bonding and State Development

- Accessibility, Transport and Age friendly environment
- Awareness Generation and Capacity Building
- Promoting Silver Economy: Senior friendly industrial goods and services in the society
- Research and Study
- Project Management

Under the State Level Action Plan, the Union Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.1.18 Crore for the following projects

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Projects</b>	<b>Allotment (Rs. in Lakh.)</b>
1.	Creation of database of Senior Citizens	25.00
2.	Mobile App for Senior Citizens	15.00
3.	Awareness Generation and Capacity Building	48.00
4.	Mobile Medicare Unit at kolli hills	30.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118.00</b>

## **2.4 Transgender Welfare**

Indian Constitution (Articles 14,15,16, 19 and 21) ensures 'enjoyment of life by all citizens and an equal opportunity to grow as human beings irrespective of their race, caste, religion, community, social status and gender' and the basic tenets lies in the recognition and acknowledgement of the 'right of choice and self-determination'. Determination of the gender to which a person belongs and relates is intrinsic to their right of self-determination and their dignity.

Government of Tamil Nadu being a forerunner in addressing the welfare of transgenders, has not only paved the way to treat Transgenders respectfully by coining the word 'Thirunangai' but also has been the pioneer in the country to constitute a separate welfare board for Thirunangaiyar in 2008, thereby assisting transgenders to gain proper recognition in the society.

Thirunangaigal Welfare Board helps them to get

- Identity Card
- Family Card
- House site Patta
- Housing
- Sewing Machine
- Financial Assitance for Higher Education
- Formation of Self Help Group to improve the standard of living of Thirunangaiyar, an amount of Rs.20,000/- to Rs.50,000/- is being distributed as grants to start self employment activities.

In order to support the Thirunangaiyar who are unable to earn their livelihood on their own were given a monthly pension of Rs.1000/- per person who are above 40 years of age. 1000 Thirunangaiyar are being benefitted every year under this scheme.

The Tamil Nadu Government pays special attention towards Thirunangaiyar welfare. As a covid-19 relief measure to the Thirunangaiyar Tamil Nadu Government announced and distributed Rs.4,000/- in two spells to 8493 Thirunangaiyar who did not posses family ration card but registered with Thirunangaigal Welfare Board.

In order to ensure safe travel and equal opportunities with women, Tamil Nadu Government has also announced free bus travel to Thirunangaiyar.

“A State level Award for the Thirunangaiyar”, with Rs.1.00 lakh cheque and a citation has been instituted from the year 2020 to encourage the Transgender who has done eminent work for the welfare of Transgender and who has built their career on their own efforts. The award will be felicitated on “Thirunangaiyar Day” which falls on 15<sup>th</sup> April of every year. A mobile app named

“Moondram paal” has been created in order to register the self details of each Thirunangaiyar at a cost of Rs.10.00 lakh and it is started functioning from 04.02.2021.

**A sum of Rs.5.92 crore has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

## **2.5 Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women**

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

The Commission is empowered to investigate specific problems of women and take action to provide speedy relief to the petitioners. The Commission also takes up studies related to women issues and makes recommendations to the Government. The Commission also ensures the implementation of various women related Social Legislations such as, the Dowry Prohibition Act

1961, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005, Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 and the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013.

The Commission conducts various programmes like Walkathon, Rallies, Legal Awareness Programmes at State and district levels with the assistance of National Commission for Women.

**A sum of Rs.73.49 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

## **2.6 Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board**

The Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board which was constituted in 1954 has been working for the development of below poverty line Women and Children through Voluntary Institutions. It monitors the effective implementation of the Programmes aided by Central Social Welfare Board and State Government.

Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board supports the Non Governmental Organisations to provide services to women like education, training and awareness creation.

**A sum of Rs.44.37 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022.**

#### **2.6.1 Family Counselling Centres (State Grant)**

The Government of Tamil Nadu is assisting 5 Family Counselling Centres in Chennai, Thiruvallur, Villupuram, Thiruvarur, and Sivagangai run by the Non Governmental Organisations.

The State Government also provides an additional honorarium of Rs.3,500/- per month for each counselor along with the Central grant of Rs.10,000/- who are placed in All Women Police Stations.

**A sum of Rs.10.06 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022 for this scheme.**

## **2.6.2 Family Counselling Centre (Union Grant)**

Family Counselling Centre has been started in the State with Government of India grant from 1984. At present, 56 Family Counselling Centres are functioning in the State. Out of which 2 are functioning at Central Women Prison in Vellore and Puzhal in 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. The remaining 51 Counselling Centres are functioning in the State Government's Office premises like, Collectorate Campus, DSWO, AWPS, and Panchayat Union Office from 2018-2019. Two counsellors are appointed in each family counselling center. Each Counsellor is getting Rs.10,000/- as Honorarium, in which Rs.9,000/- as grant from CSWB,

Government of India and Rs.1,000/- from NGO share.

During the year 2020-2021, a sum of Rs.182.40 lakh was sanctioned to Family Counselling Centres benefitting 66,424 persons.

## **2.7 STATE AWARDS**

### **2.7.1 Avvaiyar Award**

The “Avvaiyar 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., on the International Women’s Day which is being celebrated on March 8<sup>th</sup> every year.

The recipient of the Avvaiyar Award is honoured with a Gold Medal weighing 8 grams (22

carat), cash award of Rs.1.00 lakh as Cheque, a Shawl, and a Citation.

### **2.7.2 Best Institution and Best Social Worker Award for serving Women**

In order to encourage the best services done by the institutions and individuals for the welfare of women, every year on Independence Day, Awards are given. “Best Social Worker Award” consists of Gold Medal weighing 10 grams and a Citation and “Best Institution Award” consists of Rs.50,000 cash and 10 grams of Gold Medal.

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## **CHAPTER-3**

# **PURATCHI THALAIVAR M.G.R. NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME**

### **3.1 Mid Day Meal Scheme**

Mid Day Meal scheme is a flagship programme implemented in all Government and Government aided Schools which caters the nutritional needs of the school going children. It is a programme not only to drive out classroom hunger but also to build the nation by providing nutrition to the children who are the future citizen of India.

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State in introducing Mid Day Meal programme in India to increase the number of children coming to school. Thiru.K.Kamaraj, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, introduced the Mid Day Meal Scheme in Chennai. Then the scheme was extended throughout Tamil Nadu. Nutritious Meal Programme was launched in the year 1982. Since

1989, Thiru Kalainger Karunanithi former Chief Minister has introduced Egg in the Nutritious Meal Programme.

### **3.2 The Objectives of the Programme**

- To reduce the school drop outs and thereby ensuring the increase in the enrollment of children.
- To eliminate the class room hunger.
- To increase the Literacy Rate and to combat malnutrition among the children.

### **3.3. Prominent 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 10-15 years are provided with hot cooked variety meals along with masala eggs for 220 working days in a year.
- ii. The enrolled children in 15 Districts under National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Special

Schools are also supplied with hot cooked nutritious variety meals along with masala egg for 312 days in a year.

- iii. Food Entitlement Norms - Rice at the rate of 100gms per day per beneficiary for primary children (1<sup>st</sup> Std. to 5<sup>th</sup> Std.) and 150gms for upper primary and high school (6<sup>th</sup> Std. to 10<sup>th</sup> Std.) students are being given.

### **3.4 Evolutionary Growth**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Growth of Nutritious Meal Programme</b>
1962	Started Mid Day Meal Programme all over Tamil Nadu.
1982	Started Nutritious Meal Programme for the poor children from 5+ to 9+ years.
1984	Extended the Nutritious Meal Programme to 6 <sup>th</sup> standard to 10 <sup>th</sup> standard children
1989	Introduced one Egg fortnightly to all children.
1997	Introduction of sweet pongal to the Nutritious Meal Beneficiaries on the Birthdays of eminent leaders.
1998	Introduced one Egg per week for the children in the age group of 2 to 14 years.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Growth of Nutritious Meal Programme</b>
2006	Introduced two Eggs per week for the children in the age group of 2 to 15 years.
2007	Introduced three Eggs per week for the children in the age group of 2 to 15 years.
2010	Introduced Eggs on all working days (5 days per week) for students studying from 1 <sup>st</sup> standard to 10 <sup>th</sup> standard
2014	Introduced Variety Meal with Masala Eggs.

### **3.5 Nutritious Meal Centres and Beneficiaries in Schools**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Stage</b>	<b>No. of Nutritious Meal Centres</b>	<b>No. of Beneficiaries</b>
1	Primary (1 <sup>st</sup> std to 5 <sup>th</sup> std)	26,872	21,30,216
2	Upper Primary (6 <sup>th</sup> std to 8 <sup>th</sup> std)	16,116	14,34,549
3	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> std		6,44,842
4	NCLP – Special Schools	186	4,010
	<b>Total</b>	<b>43,174</b>	<b>42,13,617</b>

### 3.6 Components of Nutritious Meal Programme

#### Variety Menu

As a special Nutritional intervention Variety Menu with 5 kinds of egg masala is being provided as of now:-

Days		FIRST & THIRD WEEK		SECOND & FOURTH WEEK
Monday		Vegetable Biriyani with Pepper Egg		Sambar Sadham (Bisibelabath) with Onion Tomato Masala Egg.
Tuesday		Black Bengal Gram Pulav 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.

## **Additional Nutrition**

<b>Food Provided</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
	Black Bengal gram / Green Gram
	Potato
	Egg
	Banana

## **Double Fortified Salt**

Double Fortified Salt with iodine and iron are used for cooking.

## **Double Fortified Oil**

Double fortified oil with vitamin "A" and "D" is being used daily in the Nutritious Meal Programme.

## **Entitlement Nutritional Norms per child per Day under Mid Day Meal Scheme**

Sl. No	Standard	GOI Norms		State Govt Provision	
		Calories (In Kcl)	Protein (In gms)	Calories (In Kcl)	Protein (In gms)
1.	Primary (1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> Std.)	450	12	557.00	18.92
2.	Upper Primary (6 <sup>th</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup> Std.)	700	20	735.00	22.77
3.	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Std	---	---	735.00	22.77

### **3.7 National Programme of Mid Day Meal**

Government of India started the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (*NP - NSPE*) on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1995 and implemented from 1997-1998. Then it was extended to upper primary from October 2007. The Government of India assists the scheme in the components of Cooking Cost and Honorarium to Cook cum Helpers at a fixed norm in the sharing pattern between Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu in the ratio of 60:40. Moreover 100% funded by Government of India for the Cost of Foodgrains (Rice), Transportation of Foodgrains and Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME).

### **3.8 Cooking cost**

**(Per Child per Day Cost in Rs.)**

<b>Class</b>	<b>MDM Norms (60:40)</b>	<b>Centre (60%)</b>	<b>State (40%)</b>	<b>Additional State Contribution</b>	<b>Total</b>
Primary (1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> Std.)	4.97	2.98	1.99	2.65	<b>7.62</b>
Upper Primary (6 <sup>th</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup> Std.)	7.45	4.47	2.98	0.27	<b>7.72</b>
9th & 10th Std.	100% State Government Contribution				<b>9.33</b>

### **3.9 Management of Food Grains**

As per the requirement of Nutritious Meal centre, Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation supplies rice, dhal, fortified cooking oil, fortified salt, Black Bengal Gram and Green Gram at its doorstep. Once in three months, vegetables &

Condiments advance is credited to bank account of the Nutritious Meal Organizer.

Egg weighing between 46 to 52 gram is supplied by the successful tenderer twice a week to the Nutritious Meal Centre. To prevent pilferages prescribed colored seal is marked on the eggs.

### **3.10 Infrastructural Facilities of Nutritious Meal Centres**

Kitchen cum stores are constructed for cooking the nutritious meal and to store the food commodities safely. As a part of modernisation of NMP centres, Gas connection provisions are made along with sufficient kitchen devices.

### **3.11 Monitoring Mechanism of Nutritious Meal Centres**

- Three tier monitoring system is ensured (State/District/Block).

- As per the prescribed menu and operative procedures, NMP functionaries at field level monitor the quality and quantity of food.
- Before serving the Nutritious Meal the taste of the food is checked by the Headmasters and Teachers at school level.
- Tamil Nadu is the pioneer state for the certification for the Nutritious Meal Centre under ISO. So far, 100 Nutritious Meal Centres are certified under International Organization for Standardization (ISO).
- Tamil Nadu is the only State registered all Nutritious Meal Centres under Food Safety and Standards Authority of India Act and being renewed every year.
- The accounts of NMP centres are placed in Grama Sabha conducted in Village Panchayats.

### **3.12 Grievance Redressal Mechanism**

To ensure transparency the public can make a complaint or give suggestion regarding implementation of Nutritious Meal Programme to the Directorate of Social Welfare & Women Empowerment through

Toll Free number: 1800-425-8971.

Website—<http://www.middaymeal.tn.gov.in>-online complaint

The received complaint or suggestion is registered and is informed to the District Officer and Deputy Block Development Officers concerned, who in turn visits that particular school and if any discrepancies found, carry out the rectification activities, within a maximum span of 30 days.

### **3.13 Capacity Building and Training**

- Nutritious Meal Organizers undergone Food Safety Training and Certification Training given by empanelled training partners registered under Food Safety and Standards Authority of India and were given certificates.
- To improve the knowledge and skill of the Frontline functionaries in delivering their services, Training programmes were conducted at all levels.
- Field Functionaries were sensitized to follow Standard Operating Procedures of COVID-19 during distribution of dry ration.

### **3.14 Awards for Frontline Workers**

- Cooking competition for Cooks and Cook Assistants is conducted in each district and the winners were awarded a cash prize of

Rs.5000/- along with a certificate by the District Collector.

- One best Nutritious Meal Organizer is selected in each district based on the given guidelines and awarded Rs.5000/- cash prize along with certificate by the District Collector.

### **3.15 Health checkup for Beneficiaries**

- Health camps are being organized in all schools by the Department of Health and Family Welfare.
- Apart from regular health checkup, tests are being done for anaemia, eye and dental checkup.
- Iron and folic acid tablets and deworming tablets are distributed to school children. Further, health cards are maintained for each beneficiary in convergent with Health Department.

### **3.16 Nutritious Meal Employees**

- Every Nutritious Meal Centre has three sanctioned posts of Nutritious Meal Organizer, Cook and Cook Assistant.
- In case, the Nutritious Meal Beneficiaries in a Centre exceed 500, an additional Cook can be appointed.
- In India, Tamil Nadu is the pioneer State in providing special time scale of pay for the welfare of Nutritious Meal Employees.

#### **Number of posts sanctioned with the Special Time Scale of Pay**

<b>Post</b>	<b>No. of Sanctioned Posts</b>	<b>Pay scale (Rs.)</b>
Organizer	42,423	7,700 – 24,200
Cook	42,852	4,100 – 12,500
Cook Assistant	42,855	3,000 – 9,000

The Nutritious Meal Employees are also provided with an annual increment along with Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance, Medical Allowance, Hill allowance and Winter allowance, etc.,

Lumpsum grant of Rs.1,00,000/- for Nutritious Meal Organizer and Rs.50,000/- for Cook and Cook Assistant is given on their retirement and a special pension of Rs.2,000/- per month is also given to the Nutritious Meal Employees after their retirement.

### **3.17 Activities during COVID-19**

Due to COVID-19, all schools were closed from March 2020. To maintain the health of the Nutritious Meal Beneficiaries, as per the Government of India instructions, dry ration [Rice, Dhal and Eggs] are being provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu duly following the Standard Operating Procedures.

### **3.18 Innovations in Nutritious Meal Programme (Fortified Rice)**

Government of Tamil Nadu under the Innovative Initiative has launched Fortified Rice with 9 Nutrient Contents (*Vitamin A, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B6, Vitamin B12, Folic Acid, Iron and Zinc*) and is being provided to all Nutritious Meal and Anganwadi Centres in five Districts namely, Dharmapuri, Madurai, Thanjavur, Thoothukkudi and the Nilgiris on pilot basis from November, 2019. A sum of Rs.529.25 lakh has been provided under this scheme.

Another pilot project of Fortified Rice with three nutrients (Iron, Folic and Vitamin B12) was initiated in Tiruchirapalli District since 01.10.2020 with the Government of India funds.

### **3.19 Setting up of School Nutrition Garden**

- The aim of setting up of Nutrition Garden is to help in addressing the issue of malnutrition and micro nutrient

deficiencies among children by providing freshly grown vegetables.

- To give children first-hand experience with nature and gardening.
- To enhance the knowledge of children regarding nutritional values of vegetables and harmful effects of junk food.

### **Budget Allocation**

**A sum of Rs.2078.70 Crore has been allotted in the Revised Budget Estimate of the year 2021-2022 for this scheme.**

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## **CHAPTER-4**

# **INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

### **4.1 Preface**

Tamil Nadu has a long history of providing organized child care services with emphasis on providing nutrition and improve the living standard of the children under institutionalized care.

Realizing the fact that "**Investment in children is investment in the welfare of the Nation in future**", Integrated Child Development Service Scheme (ICDS) 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 a Pan India Scheme launched in India in the year 1975 on the 106<sup>th</sup> 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 & lactating mothers across the life cycle. In Tamil Nadu the Scheme was launched in three projects namely Chennai (Urban), Nilakkottai (Rural) in Dindugal District and Thali (Hills) in Dharmapuri District on pilot basis and later extended to 116 ICDS project by 2003.

As a State initiative, 318 project under ***Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project (TINP)*** I & II in collaboration with World Bank aid was implemented from 1982 to 2003 and later merged and renamed as Integrated Child Development Services with 434 projects in all Blocks of Tamil Nadu. It is the most effective programme for breaking an inter generational cycle of gender disparity by intervening in the early stage itself to promote survival, growth and

development, protection and participation of the young child and adolescent girls.

## **4.2 Foresight of ICDS**

Integrated Child Development Services provides qualitative services with a protective, gender sensitive and child friendly environment so as to improve the nutritional outcomes of maternal and child health, to ensure overall physical, psychosocial, cognitive and emotional development of the child in a holistic manner.

## **4.3 Objectives of Integrated Child Development Services**

ICDS as a Pan India scheme envisages the following five main objectives:-

- To improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age group of 0 to 6 years.
- To lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child.

- To reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school drop outs.
- To achieve effective coordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development and
- To enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education.

#### **4.4 Goal**

To achieve “Malnutrition Free Tamil Nadu” and ensure building on the principle of “Leaving no one behind” as envisaged in Sustainable Development Goals.

## **4.5 Services provided to the beneficiaries under restructured pattern of ICDS**

### **1. Early Childhood Care Education and Development (ECCE)**

- ❖ Supplementary Nutrition
- ❖ Preschool Education

### **2. Care and Nutrition Counselling**

- ❖ Infant Young Child Feeding Practices (IYCF)
- ❖ Community based management of severely and moderately undernourished

### **3. Health Services**

- ❖ Health Check up, Ensuring Immunization Services
- ❖ Referrals

### **4. Community Mobilization, Awareness, Advocacy and IEC**

## **4.6 Approaches**

- Reaching the unreached through active involvement of stake holders and various line departments converging to establish positive behavioural and social changes with concerted effort and relevant targets.
- Creating awareness and dissemination of updated information using various channels of information, print and visual media.
- Capacity building and real time monitoring by adept use of technology.

## **4.7 Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services**

Integrated Child Development Services was restructured as Umbrella ICDS during the year 2017 by the Government of India with the under mentioned sub schemes:-

1. Anganwadi Services Scheme
2. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana  
(implemented by Health and Family Welfare Department since 2018-2019)
3. National Creche Scheme
4. Child Protection Scheme
5. POSHAN Abhiyaan-National Nutrition Mission
6. Scheme for Adolescent Girls

#### **4.8 Operational Status**

In Tamil Nadu, the Department of ICDS is operational with 54,439 Anganwadi Centres of which 49,499 are main centres and 4,940 are mini centres. The services reach children under 6 years, antenatal women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls in 385 rural projects, 47 urban projects and 2 tribal projects in the State.

Population norms have been revised for the operation of Anganwadi centres in rural and urban projects, as 400 to 800 population for main Anganwadi Centres and 150 to 400 for mini Anganwadi Centres. For Tribal projects, this varies from 300 to 800 for main Anganwadi centres and 150 to 300 for mini Anganwadi centres.

#### **4.9 Total Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022**

(Rs. in Crore)

<b>Gross Total Project cost</b>	<b>Total funds</b>	<b>GOI share</b>	<b>State share</b>	<b>Exclusive State share</b>	<b>Total State share</b>
2536.69	1512.79	812.66	700.13	1023.90	1724.03

The overall percentage of State share for the year 2021-2022 is 68 % and the Government of India share is 32 %.

## 4.10 Total Beneficiaries

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>
1.	Children (6m-1 yr)	
2.	Children (6m-1 yr) (SUW)	4,47,080
3	Children (1-2 yrs)	
4	Children (1-2 yrs) (SUW)	7,13,447
5.	Children (2 to 3 yrs)	
6.	Children ( 2to 3 yrs) (SUW)	7,68,185
7.	Children (3 to 6 yrs)	
8.	Children (3 to 6 yrs) (SUW)	7,62,496
<b>Total children</b>		<b>26,91,208</b>
9.	Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers	7,23,890
10.	Adolescent Girls (11-14 out of school)	237
<b>Total</b>		<b>34,15,335</b>

## **4.11 Supplementary Nutrition Programme**

Supplementary nutrition under ICDS is a major Social protection measure that reaffirms the state's commitment to improve the nutritional outcome of the children, Antenatal women Lactating mothers, and out of school Adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years.

In the lifespan of a child the first thousand days i.e. from the conception till the day of the child's second birthday, is the most important period. As children at this stage are at a fragile time in their physical development, lack of balanced nutrition and under nutrition during this time frame can have long term and irreversible effects. Right nutrition during this period will have a profound impact on a child's ability to grow, learn and will ensure holistic development.

Supplementary Nutrition Programme in ICDS focuses on improving nutritional intake of

beneficiaries by providing two type of services viz. Take Home Ration and Hot Cooked Meal, to the beneficiaries. The food provided under this programme is planned in accordance to the nutritive value recommended in Schedule II of National Food Security Act, 2013.

Nutritional norms mandated under National Food Security (NFS) Act, 2013 and approved cost norms of GOI are as follows:-

<b>Category</b>	<b>Nutritional norms per beneficiary per day</b>		<b>Financial Norms Per Beneficiary Per Day (Rs.)</b>
	<b>Protein (gms)</b>	<b>Energy (Kcal)</b>	
Children 6 months to 6 years	12-15	500	8.00
Children 6 months to 6 years who are sivilerly Under Weight	20-25	800	12.00
Ante Natal and Post Natal mothers	18-20	600	9.50

#### **4.12 Complementary Feeding (Sathumavu)**

Complementary feeding is the process to be commenced when breast milk alone is no longer sufficient to meet the nutritional requirement of infants and therefore other solid and liquid food are introduced to the child along with breast feeding. Hence, to ensure the right time of introduction of complementary feeding to children, 'Sathumavu' is being provided on completion of 6 months of age of a child. Provision of supplementary nutrition is continued till the age of 6 years of the child to support the optimal growth. The children who are enrolled in anganwadi centres are provided sathumavu as Take Home Ration for 300 days in a year.

The foetal growth is directly proportional to the maternal health and nutritional status. Hence, to ensure good maternal health, micro nutrient fortified sathumavu is given to antenatal women as soon as they get registered in the Anganwadi

Centre. Since, exclusive breast feeding for 6 months is recommended to assure the health benefits of a new born child, the lactating mother are provided with sathumavu during this period.

Sathumavu is provided to out of school adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years for 300 days in a year to aid in their growth spurt.

The Composition of Complementary Weaning Food (Sathumavu) provided to ICDS beneficiaries is detailed below:-

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Wheat flour	45.50
2.	Roasted Ragi Flour	6.00
3.	Fortified Palm Oil	5.00
4.	Malted Ragi Flour	5.00
5.	Full Fat Soya Flour	10.50
6.	Jaggery	27.00
7.	Vitamins & Minerals	1.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Sathumavu is procured from twenty five Weaning Food Manufacturing Women Industrial Cooperative Societies and two Private manufacturers in the ratio of 65:35. At present, 1,350 women members are enrolled in the 25 Co-operative Societies. Most of the members are widows, deserted, and destitutes. These societies are managed by an elected board of members and a Government Official in the cadre of Industrial Cooperative Officer who is appointed as an Executive Officer to the society.

#### **4.13 Provision of Hot Cooked Variety Meal to Children in the age group of 2 to 6 years attending Anganwadi Centres**

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State in providing nutritious noon meal to Anganwadi Children. Every child requires sufficient nutrition for proper development of physical and mental health. In order to improve the nutritional status of the children, in addition to hot cooked meal the children are provided with Black Bengal/ Green

Gram on Tuesday, Potato on Friday and Eggs on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The menu of Hot Cooked Meal has been designed considering the digestive capacity and special nature of the children. Hot cooked meal is provided to the children in Anganwadi Centres itself in the age group of 2 to 6 years attending pre-school education.

### **The Weekly Menu**

<b>Days</b>	<b>Menu</b>
Monday	Tomato Rice + Boiled Egg
Tuesday	Mixed Rice + Boiled Black Bengal gram / Green gram
Wednesday	Vegetable Pulav Rice + Boiled Egg
Thursday	Lemon Rice + Boiled Egg
Friday	Dhal Rice + Boiled Potato
Saturday	Mixed Rice
Sunday	Dry Ration as Take Home Ration (Rice and Dhal)

Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation is the nodal agency to supply Rice, Dhal, Black Bengal Gram, Green Gram and Fortified Oil. Double fortified salt is provided by Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation. Eggs are procured and supplied by floating Tender. All the above food items are supplied at the door steps of every Anganwadi centres. Further, to meet out the expenditure towards vegetables, condiments and fuel an amount of Rs.1.52 per child per day for 3 days (Tuesday, Friday and Saturday) when dhal is used for preparing hot cooked meal and Rs.1.81 per Child per day for 3 days (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) when dhal is not used is provided.

## **Weekly Food Schedule (Hot Cooked Meal and Complementary Weaning Food (Sathu Maavu)**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Mon day</b>	<b>Tues day</b>	<b>Wednes day</b>	<b>Thurs day</b>	<b>Fri day</b>	<b>Satur day</b>	<b>Sun day</b>
1	Children 6 months to 1 year	Sathumavu (SM)			Nil			
2	Children 1 year to 2 years	Sathumavu (SM) and One egg on Wednesday			Nil			
3	Children 2 years to 6 years	SM, Tomato Rice and boiled Egg	SM, Mixed Rice with dhal and boiled Black Bengal Gram or Green Gram	SM, Vegetable Pulav and boiled Egg	SM, Lemon Rice and boiled Egg	SM, Dhal Rice and Boiled potato	SM and Mixed Rice with dhal	Dry Ration (Rice and Dhal)
4	Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers	Sathumavu (SM)			Nil			
5	Out of School Adolescent Girls (11-14 years)	Sathumavu (SM)			Nil			

**The details of per day Nutritive value in Supplementary Nutrition (Sathumavu+ Hot Cooked Meal + Egg) provided to beneficiaries**

Sl. No.	Category	Per day Serving Size of SM+ Rice in Noon Meal (in grams) + Egg (weekly)	Nutritive value provided through Supplementary nutrition (SM+HCM +Egg) (per day)	
			Protein (in grams)	Energy (in K.Cal)
1.	Children (6m-1 yrs)	125	13.75	500
2.	Children (6m-1 yrs) (SUW)	200	22.00	800
3	Children (1-2 yrs)	125 + 1 egg per week	14.85	514.44
4	Children (1-2 yrs) (SUW)	200 + 1 egg per week	23.10	814.44
5.	Children (2 to 3 yrs)	100 + 80+ 3 Eggs per week	24.27	868.79

6.	Children ( 2to 3 yrs) (SUW)	165 + 80+ 3 Eggs per week	31.42	1128.79
7.	Children (3 to 6 yrs)	10 + 80 + 3 Eggs per week	14.37	508.79
8.	Children (3 to 6 yrs) (SUW)	100 + 80 + 3 Eggs per week	24.27	868.79
9.	Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers	165	18.15	660
10.	Adolescent Girls (11-14 out of school)	165	18.15	660

**The details of per day average cost of providing of Supplementary Nutrition (Weaning food + Hot Cooked Meal + Egg) to beneficiaries:**

Sl. No	Category	Financial norms (in Rs)	Per day Cost per Beneficiary (in Rs.)	GOI share (in Rs)	State share (in Rs)	State Additional contribution (in Rs)
1.	Children (6m-2 years)	8.00	7.86	3.93	3.93	NIL
2.	Children 6m-2 years (SUW)	12.00	12.58	6.00	6.00	0.58
3.	Children(2 to 3 years)	8.00	10.96	4.00	4.00	2.96
4.	Children (2to 3 years)(SUW)	12.00	15.05	6.00	6.00	3.05
5.	Children (3 to 6 years)	8.00	5.30	2.65	2.65	NIL
6.	Children (3 to 6 years) (SUW)	12.00	10.96	5.48	5.48	NIL
7.	Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls (11-14 out of school)	9.50	10.38	4.75	4.75	0.88

#### **4.14 Distribution of Dry Ration during COVID 19 Pandemic**

In order to ensure that the nutritional status of ICDS beneficiaries is not only maintained but also not to suffer a setback, Weaning Food (Sathu Mavu), Rice, Dhal and Eggs are provided at the door steps of the beneficiaries once in a fortnight since the closure of Anganwadi Centers due to COVID 19. Weaning Food is provided to children from 6 months upto 6 years, Out of School Adolescent Girls in the age group of 11 to 14 years, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers. In lieu of Hot cooked Meal (Mid Day Meal) children in the age group of 2 to 6 years are provided Rice, Dhal and 3 Egg in a week as dry ration.

#### **4.15 Usage of Fortified Food Ingredients**

Micro nutrients are the essential vitamins and minerals required for the stimulation of cellular growth & metabolism. Deficiencies of Iron, Iodine and Vitamin A are the most widespread form of micro nutrient malnutrition.

In order to combat the micronutrient deficiency among the children, Ante Natal Women, Pregnant Mothers and Adolescent Girls, the following fortified food ingredients are utilised in the supplementary nutrition provided through Integrated Child Development Services:-

1. The Iodised salt has been used in mid day meal preparation from the year 1991. In due course, the salt has been double fortified with Iron & Iodine.
2. The palmolein oil fortified with Vitamin A and Vitamin D is used for cooking nutritious noon meal.
3. The complementary weaning food (sathumavu) fortified with Vitamins and Minerals are provided to the Children, Pregnant Women, Lactating Mother and Adolescent Girls.

4. To address micro nutrient deficiency, under a pilot programme initiated by State Government, rice fortified with 9 nutrients (Vitamin A, B1, B2, B3, B6, B12, Folic acid, Iron and Zinc) is being used to prepare nutritious noon meal in 5 districts namely Dharmapuri, Madurai, Thoothukudi, Thanjavur and The Nilgiris from November 2019.
5. Under a pilot programme initiated by Union Government, rice fortified with three nutrients (iron, folic acid and Vitamin B12) is introduced to prepare nutritious noon meal in Tiruchirapalli district.

#### **4.16 Double Fortified Salt (Iron and Iodine) to anaemic ante natal women**

This scheme was implemented in Salem, Vellore and Villupuram Districts from August, 2020 to July, 2021 as pilot scheme to alleviate anaemia among pregnant women. Each

beneficiary has been provided with 1Kg of Double Fortified Salt (Iron and Iodine fortified) per month. At a total cost of Rs.9.40 lakhs, 10,120 anaemic ante natal women have been benefitted through this scheme. Based on the field reports to be received from the above mentioned 3 districts the expansion of the programme will be decided by the Government.

#### **4.17 Provision of Supplementary Nutrition as Sathu Mavu to infirm, abandoned Old Age Pensioners**

To promote health and wellness among infirm, abandoned Old Age Pensioners, 100 grams of Sathu Mavu at the cost of Rs.6.30 per day per beneficiary have been provided to 9,094 Old Age Pensioners as Take Home Ration once in a month from August 2020 to July 2021 as pilot programme in Ramanathapuram, Salem, Vellore and Villupuram districts at a Cost of Rs.209.12 lakhs. Based on the field reports to be received from the above mentioned 4 districts the

expansion of the programme will be decided by the Government.

#### **4.18 National Nutrition Mission (Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment - POSHAN Abhiyaan)**

In order to improve the Nutritional outcomes of the children from birth to 6 years, Adolescent girls, Pregnant women and Lactating mothers by focusing on "Jan Andolan" for behavioral change the Government of India has introduced the National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan) as a structured drive to combat nutritional challenge. The scheme was rolled-out in all the districts in a phased manner, with the funding pattern of 80:20 (GOI: State).

Setting up of State Project Management Unit at State level, District and Block helpdesk under POSHAN Abhiyaan throughout the State for effective roll out and monitoring activities have been carried out under National Nutrition Mission.

#### **4.19 Common Application Software (ICDS-CAS)**

Anganwadi workers and Lady Supervisors are provided with smartphones loaded with ICDS-CAS under ICT-RTM. Digitalization of Anganwadi services with the real time data replaced the 11 manual registers into 10 application modules under ICDS-CAS. All the field functionaries equipped with smartphone and power bank to enhance the quality of supervision at all levels. Handholding training was given to all Anganwadi workers and lady supervisors on ICDS-CAS. As part of POSHAN Abhiyaan programme, ICDS-CAS was successfully implemented by capturing the data of all beneficiaries with facilities to generate and derive required information for better monitoring and programme management.

Regular growth monitoring of target beneficiaries has been ensured under POSHAN

Abhiyaan. The set of Growth Monitoring devices namely Infantometer, Stadiometer, Infant weighing Scale and Adult Weighing Scale (Mother and Child) has been procured and supplied to all Anganwadi centres for effective Growth monitoring.

#### **4.20 The Impact of the Scheme**

Due to the laudable efforts of the State Government in addition to additional financial contribution to the nutrition component, effective implementation of the mandated nutritive norms as envisaged under National Food Security Act, 2013, rollout of POSHAN Abhiyaan, the nutritional indicators have shown an impressive and scalable outcomes which are denoted as follows:-

Indicator	Goal of POSHAN Abhiyaan	National Family Health Survey-4 (2016)		ICDS- CAS Feb'2020
		All India (%)	State (%)	State (%)
Stunting (%)	To reduce 2% per annum.	38.4	27.1	24.29
Wasting (%)	To reduce 2% per annum.	21.0	19.7	6.63
Underweight (%)	To reduce 2% per annum.	35.7	23.8	8.13
Children age 6-59 months who are Anaemic (%)	To reduce 3% per annum.	58.6	50.7	NA
Anaemia in Women (%)	To reduce 3% per annum.	50.3	44.4	15.14

#### **4.21 Incremental Learning Approach (ILA)**

To improve the counselling capacity of field functionaries and to instill the importance of the first 1000 golden days of a child, the Incremental

Learning Approach (ILA) has been planned by way of 21 modules.

Trainings were conducted in cascade model to reach the grass root level. State Resource Group (SRG), District Resource Group (DRG), Block Resource Group (BRG) and Sector level Resource Group (SLRG) formed to disseminate the ILA content from State level to sector level and to reach all stakeholders.

#### **4.22 Community Based Events (CBE)**

For the benefit of target beneficiaries viz., pregnant women, lactating mothers, children and the community, varied community based events are organized at Anganwadi centre level, twice a month.

The key messages covered during Community Based Events (CBE) are topics like Ante Natal Care (ANC)& checkup, usage of mother and child protection (MCP) card, as a learning tool

early initiation of exclusive breast feeding, cash benefits, Iron Folic Acid (IFA) & Calcium tablets, immunisation, care of weak newborn, healthy diet, deworming, complementary feeding, weight gain, iodized salt, hand washing and other public health related messages.

The key messages are covered under 5 major themes viz.,

- 1) Inviting women during 1st & 2nd Trimester of Pregnancy,
- 2) Timely introduction of complementary feeding,
- 3) Orienting Husbands on their role in maternal and child care,
- 4) Preparing the children for Pre School at Anganwadi Centre and
- 5) Messages related to public health for improvement of Nutrition and to reduce illness.

#### **4.23 People's Mass Movement (Jan Andolan)**

People's Mass Movement under National Nutrition Mission is an integrated approach to reach every household with the message of Poshan (Nutrition awareness) with inclusive

participation of public representatives of local bodies, Government departments of the State, social organizations and the public and private sector at large.

Necessary funds were released to districts to carry out the following activities under Jan Andolan component.

- Samudhaya Valaikappu
- Breast Feeding Week
- POSHAN Maah (during September) and POSHAN Pakhwada (during March) celebrations
- Promotion of Traditional Food Habits
- Hand Washing Day
- Anaemia Awareness Programme
- Exhibitions at State level, District level and Block levels

- Parambariya Unavu Thiruvizha (Traditional Food Festival) at all districts
- Health and Nutrition Education for Adolescent Girls

National Nutrition Month (Rashtriya POSHAN Maah) celebrated in September every year, with two major activities viz.

- a) Identification and tracking of children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)
- b) Plantation drive for promotion of Nutri Gardens.

#### **4.24 POSHAN 2.0**

POSHAN 2.0 has been launched by Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India with a goal to eradicate malnutrition and hunger among women, adolescent girls / boys and children between birth to 6 years, in order to provide access to good

nutrition, promoting nutritional awareness and good eating habits for sustainable health and well-being, with the funding pattern of 80:20 (Government of India: State).

**The Goals of National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN 2.0) are as follows:-**

	Baseline	2022	2025	2030	Annual Reduction (Until 2025)	Annual Reduction (from 2026 to 2030)
<b>% of children under 5yrs:</b>						
Under weight	35.70% (CNNS data 2016-18)	34%	28%	8%	2%	4%
Stunted	38.40% (CNNS data 2016-18)	36%	30%	10%	2%	4%
Wasted	21% (CNNS data 2016-18)	19%	13%	3%	2%	2%
<b>Pregnant women</b>						
Anaemic	65% (Anaemia Mukt Bharat Data: 2016-18)	62%	53%	23%	3%	6%

## **4.25 POSHAN Tracker**

POSHAN Tracker Mobile Phone Application has been newly launched by Government of India under POSHAN 2.0 during January 2021. This application enables Service deliveries of Anganwadi Workers and complete beneficiary management for pregnant women, lactating mothers and children through digitalized monitoring mechanism. As of now, all 54,439 Anganwadi centres have been registered under POSHAN Tracker Application in Tamil Nadu and data pertaining to all ICDS beneficiaries (i.e Birth to 6 years children – 30,75,373, Pregnant women – 3,78,414, Lactating mother - 3,51,244 & Adolescent girls – 406) have been uploaded and is functioning.

## **4.26 Convergence**

Convergence Action Plan Committees at State/ District/ Block Level have been formed to facilitate and coordinate convergence of various

nutrition and health related schemes across various departments. The Committee meetings at all levels are convened at regular interval for convergence with scheme programmes, leveraging AYUSH practices, expand Anganwadi Centre infrastructure facilities, etc.

#### **4.27 Provision of Medicine Kits and Hygiene Kits to all Anganwadi Centres**

Anganwadi Centres are provided with Medicine Kit to address minor ailments like, fever, diarrhoea, dressing of wound, skin infections etc., The Anganwadi workers are effectively trained on the administration of drugs by the Health and Family Welfare Department. Children who need further treatment are referred to the nearest Primary Health Centre or other available Government facility.

To promote effective hygienic practices among children and to keep them neat and tidy at the Anganwadi centres, Hygiene Kit consisting of

a Nail cutter, Comb, soaps and Hand Towels is being provided to all Anganwadi centres.

**A sum of Rs. 7.79 crore is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

#### **4.28 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)**

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) aims at the holistic development of a child's physical, cognitive, emotional and social needs in order to build a strong foundation for lifelong learning and well being.

Stimulation in the first six years of the life of the child is crucial since the development in these years is more rapid than any stage of development. The Government of India through the amended Article 45 of the Indian Constitutional Act, directs that 'State shall endeavour to provide ECCE for all children until they complete the age of six years'. Sustainable Development Goal No.4 also targets to ensure

that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education. **“Aadi Padi Vilaiyadu Pappa”**, a developmentally and age appropriate Annual Contextualized Curriculum has been prepared by our State based on the National Early Childhood Care and Education Policy, 2013 and implemented in all the Anganwadi Centres. This curriculum contains 11 child-friendly theme based activities for 11 months and 12<sup>th</sup> month is reserved for revision of syllabus.

43,880 Anganwadi Workers have been trained on ECCE at Sector Level in three stages in a cascade manner.

**A sum of Rs.27.22 crore has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

## **4.29 Virtual Learning**

Since last week of March 2020, Virtual Learning methods are followed in ECCE during the Pandemic period as an innovative and unique way in Anganwadi centres involving parents and caregivers at home for the all round development of children. The Anganwadi Workers created whatsapp groups for parents. The curriculum based activities were pre-recorded as videos and as voice messages and were shared with the parents and caregivers for varied stimulation activities and for teaching the children at home during the lockdown period.

NITI Aayog also tweeted on this as best practice. Department of ICDS has been awarded with SKOCH Gold award for its initiatives on Virtual Learning interventions pertaining to ECCE in the year 2021.

#### **4.30 Montessori education based LKG / UKG classes in Angawadi Centres co-located in Government middle school premises**

Montessori Education based LKG / UKG classes have been started in 2381 Anganwadi centres located within the Government Middle School premises as a pilot initiative in co-ordination with the School Education Department in all districts of Tamil Nadu.

This scheme aims to raise the enrolment of children and in improving their learning skills, reading and writing competencies in English language, facilitating good Primary Education and reduce the economic burden of parents. Teaching is done by the Teachers of School Education department.

The scheme is rolled out on pilot basis for a period of three years. The Children are provided with four sets of Uniforms and books as per syllabus in four subjects viz., Tamil, English, Mathematics and Environmental Science which

was prepared in convergence with School Education Department. Educational kits are also provided to the centres.

#### **4.31 Supply of two sets of colour uniform to Anganwadi children.**

To motivate the parents to send their children to Anganwadi centres and to increase the enrolment of children in Anganwadi Centres, the scheme of providing two sets of stitched ready made colour uniform to the children in the age group 2 to 6 years attending pre-school education in anganwadi centre was introduced in 5 Districts and extended to 25 integrated Districts in a phased manner. Two sets of stitched readymade colour uniform at the rate of Rs.262.50 per child is being provided out of State funds benefitting 9.15 lakh anganwadi children.

**A sum of Rs.24.80 crore is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

## **4.32 Infrastructure Development of Anganwadi Centres.**

### **(a) Construction of new Anganwadi buildings**

As per Government of India norms, Construction of new buildings to anganwadi centres are being done in convergence with MGNREGS by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj at an estimated cost of Rs.10.19 lakhs per anganwadi centre. (MGNREGS share Rs.5.00 lakhs, ICDS share Rs.2.00 lakhs (fund sharing pattern 60:40 Government of India:State) and Panchayat Union General fund Rs.3.19 lakhs). For the past 5 years, sanction has been accorded for the construction of 5303 anganwadi centres in convergence with MGNREGS, out of which 3276 buildings have been completed.

**A sum of Rs.20.00 crore towards ICDS share is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

### **(b) Baby Friendly Toilet**

Government of India provides Rs.12,000/- per anganwadi centre (fund sharing pattern 60:40 Government of India:State) for the construction of baby friendly toilets. The construction of baby friendly toilets to the anganwadi centres at an estimated cost of Rs.38,000/- per anganwadi centre is being done by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in convergence with MGNREGS by sharing the balance amount of Rs.26,000/- per anganwadi centre.

**A sum of Rs.1.08 crore towards ICDS share is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

### **(c) Upgradation of Anganwadi Centres**

The Anganwadi Centres functioning in Government owned buildings are being upgraded at a cost of Rs. 2.00 lakh per centre (fund sharing pattern 60:40 Government of India:State). The works like, Laying concrete roof in lieu of

Asbestos Sheet, Construction of Ramp, renovation of child friendly toilets, construction of compound wall etc., are being carried out under upgradation. The works are being done by the Department of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department.

**A sum of Rs.27.40 crore is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

**(d) Drinking water facility to Anganwadi Centre**

In order to ensure that drinking water facility is available at all Anganwadi Centres, Government of India sanction Rs.10000/- per anganwadi centre (fund sharing pattern 60:40 Government of India:State).

**A sum of Rs.1.03 crore is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

**(e) Modernisation of anganwadi centres by providing Gas connection and Pressure Cooker.**

To create smoke free environment in anganwadi centres and to save the cooking time, all anganwadi centres (except 5 anganwadi centres) have been modernized by providing with One Gas Connection, Gas Stove, and Pressure Cooker by utilizing the funds of State Government, MLACDS and MPLAD funds.

**(f) Annual Maintenance Grant to Anganwadi Centres.**

Government of India is providing funds for the past two years, to carry out minor repair works, for procurement of kitchen utensils etc., to the anganwadi centres functioning in Government owned building at the rate of Rs.3000/- (fund sharing pattern 60:40 Government of India:State) per anganwadi centre.

**A sum of Rs.12.33 crore is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

## **(g) Equipment and Furniture to Anganwadi Centres**

Government of India is providing funds for the past two years for provision of Equipment and furniture to 9900 main anganwadi centres at the rate of Rs.10000/- per main anganwadi centre and to 988 Mini angnwadi centres at the rate of Rs.7000/- per mini anganwadi centre per annum (fund sharing pattern 60:40 Government of India:State).

**A sum of Rs.10.59 crore is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

### **4.33 Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG)**

This is a special intervention Scheme for Adolescent girls which aims to facilitate, educate and empower them to become self reliant and self sustaining individuals. The scheme covers out of School Adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years. The scheme has Nutrition and Non - Nutrition components.

In the Nutrition component, out of school adolescent girl in the age group of 11 - 14 years registered in Anganwadi Centre are provided with 165 gm of Complementary food (Sathu mavu) in the form of Take Home Ration (THR) per day for 300 days in a year.

The scheme also gives thrust in motivating out of school girls in the age group of 11-14 years to go back to formal schooling or skill training aspects and providing supporting environment for self development.. The other services under the non-nutrition component of the scheme are provision of Iron and folic Acid (IFA) supplementation, Health check up and referral services, Nutrition, Health education, Life skill education and Guidance on accessing public services.

**A sum of Rs.30.0 lakh has been allocated in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for the non-nutrition component.**

#### **4.34 National Creche Scheme**

Creches play a vital role in safe guarding children of working mothers between the age group of 6 months to 6 years as well as to encourage the employed women to continue their job regularly. At present under the National Creche Scheme, 418 creches are being run by Non-Governmental Organizations with a fund sharing pattern of 60:30:10 (Government of India : State Government : NGO) as per the Government of India guidelines.

**A sum of Rs.6.49 crore is provided in Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

#### **4.35 Training**

The importance of Training and continuous capacity building of the ICDS functionaries for improving the quality of services delivery in ICDS has always been recognised as vital for the success of the programme in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu follows a decentralised pattern of training procedure and conducts residential training programmes for Job training of CDPOs, Instructress of Anganwadi Training Centres and Grade 2 Supervisors at State Training Institute, Taramani. The State Training Institute is equipped with Training Faculties, infrastructure, teaching learning materials and field experience support. The training institute is supported with hostel inside the campus.

Job training for the Anganwadi Workers and orientation training to Anganwadi helpers are conducted at the sector level in a unique cost effective method, by the Block Training Team which consists of CDPO, Grade-I Supervisors and Representatives from Health and School Education Departments.

Training to field functionaries on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices plays an

important role in developing the feeding of Infant and Young Children.

**A sum of Rs.5.52 crore has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate 2021-2022 for implementing the programme.**

#### **4.36 Information, Education and Communication (IEC)**

Information, Education and Communication activities of the ICDS aims to create awareness, motivates attitudinal change, and bring about positive behavior change and thereby contributing towards reduction of malnutrition in the community.

Varied IEC activities like conduction of Samudhaya Valaikaappu, Traditional food festivals, workshop for Panchayati Raj Institutional (PRI) members, street plays by village artists are being conducted towards creating awareness on ICDS scheme activities, mother and child development, health and nutrition among public care givers and other stakeholders.

Information and education is provided through print media by publishing related issues in the bimonthly News letter "***Chittukuruvi Seidhi Theriyuma***" published by the department to provide opportunity to strengthen the work environment and reflects the value of the scheme.

Video and Audio "**JINGLES**" about the varied mother and child care services rendered at the Anganwadi centres are prepared and aired throughout the State through various Mass media platforms like Television, You tube, Face book, etc.

Exhibitions are conducted at various levels throughout the State on the importance of sanitation health, nutrition of mother and child and other public health care massages.

#### **4.37 AADHAR Enrolment in ICDS**

Aadhaar enrolment of Children 0-6 years have been carried out through the Department of ICDS from December 2018. 434 Child Development Project Offices have been notified as Aadhaar enrolment centres. The Child Development Project Officers, Supervisors and Anganwadi workers who have cleared Aadhar Online examination are being associated with **UIDAI** (Unique Identification Authority of India) in enrolling Aadhar for children through the department of ICDS. At present 2321 Aadhaar enrolment Operators are in the field and enrolment of Aadhaar for children is being continued across the State.

## 4.38 Sustainable Development Goals related to Department of ICDS

Goal	Target No.	Target	State Indicator Frame-work	Achievement
1	1.3	Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.	1.3.2 Number of beneficiaries under ICDS	All enrolled beneficiaries are benefitted .
2	2.1	By 2030 end hunger and ensure access by all people including infants to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.	2.1.1 Percentage of children aged under 5 years who are under weight	Reduced from 23.8% to 8.13% (Source: ICDS CAS Feb' 2020)

3	2.2	<p>By 2030 end all forms of malnutrition including achieving by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under</p>	<p>2.2.1 Percentage of children under 5 years who are stunted</p>	<p>Reduced from 27.1% to 24.29% (Source: ICDS CASFeb'2020)</p>
		<p>5 years of age and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls pregnant and lactating women and older persons.</p>	<p>2.2.2 Percentage of children under 5 years who are wasted</p>	<p>Reduced from 19.7% to 6.63% (Source: ICDS CASFeb'2020)</p>

#### **4.39 Nutritional indicators and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) target by the department**

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>NFHS-4 (2016) %</b>		<b>ICDS CAS (Feb'2020) %</b>
	<b>State</b>	<b>All India</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Stunting (%)</b>	27.1	38.4	24.29
<b>Wasting (%)</b>	19.7	21.0	6.63
<b>Underweight (%)</b>	23.8	35.7	8.13

NFHS- National Family Health Survey

CAS – Common Application Software

#### **4.40 Welfare of Anganwadi Employees**

In accordance with the 7<sup>th</sup> pay commission recommendations, the Anganwadi employees working in 54,439 Anganwadi centres in Tamil Nadu are given with the special time scale of pay

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Special Time Scale in Rs.</b>	<b>Government of India share in Rs.</b>
1.	Anganwadi Worker	7,700 – 24,200	2,700
2.	Mini Anganwadi Worker	5,700 – 18,000	2,100
3.	Anganwadi Helper	4,100 – 12,500	1,350

- The Anganwadi Employees are also provided with an annual increment along with Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance, Medical Allowance, Hill allowance and Winter allowance.
- Lumpsum grant Rs.1,00,000/- for Anganwadi Worker and Rs.50,000/- for Anganwadi Helper is paid at the time of their retirement. Special Pension Rs.2,000/- per month is being provided to all retired Anganwadi employees.
- Two sets of uniform Sarees are provided every year to the anganwadi employees at a cost of Rs.400/- per Saree.

Integrated Child Development Services, is to set a positive impact on the health and nutrition of the vulnerable Children, Adolescent girls and Women and there by 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.

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## **CHAPTER - 5**

### **SOCIAL DEFENCE**

#### **Preamble**

The State of Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State in implementing the rights of the women and children as enshrined in the Constitution of India as well as in United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The children are the assets of a nation. The State of Tamil Nadu is committed to ensure that the children are protected from all forms of discrimination and abuse. The Government is taking utmost care and protection of the children by enacting and implementing various legislations and schemes. The Government is also taking all measures to a maximum extent for providing protective environment by establishing a strong child protection mechanism.

In order to build a prospective society, the Government of Tamil Nadu is investing its

resources for the well being of the children through its various progressive welfare oriented programmes.

During pre-Independence, the State had established the Reformatory schools, since 1887 under the Reformatory school Act, 1876. Subsequently, the State Government had enacted the Madras Children Act, 1920, the first in kind across the India and established the approved schools in the State.

**5.1** The Department of Social Defence is providing services for the protection and development of children found in difficult circumstances and the girls and women who are in moral danger requiring care, treatment and rehabilitation. The Department is also providing institutional and non-institutional services for the rehabilitation of the children entering the Juvenile Justice system, besides involving the Non-Governmental Organizations in all the

programmes to ensure protection of the rights of the children and their all-round development.

The institutions under the Department provide care, protection, education, treatment and vocational training for rehabilitation of the children who are in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law coming under the ambit of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The Department also provides residential care services for girls and women institutionalized under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.

Further, to fulfill statutory obligations of the above two acts, the Department of Social Defence is maintaining Children Homes, Open Shelters, Specialized Adoption Agencies, Observation Homes, Special Homes, Place of Safety and Vigilance/ Protective Homes. The Department also provides after care services to the boys, girls and women who are discharged from these institutions

through After Care organizations by the Government as well as Non-Governmental Organisations. This Department is also successfully implementing the Child Protection Services under “Mission Vatsalya” which constitutes a child protection system that protects the children efficiently and effectively.

Apart from the above two acts under which the Government run various institutions for institutional care, the Government also implements the two important legislations namely the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

### **5.1.1 Acts implemented by the Directorate of Social Defence**

- i. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
- ii. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012

- iii. The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005
- iv. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956

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

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 aims at ensuring proper care, protection, development, treatment and social reintegration of children in difficult circumstances by adopting a child-friendly approach keeping in mind the best interest of the child. The Act provides the legal framework to deal with children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. This Act also envisages the welfare of the above two categories of the children.

### **5.2.1 Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP)**

As per section 2(14) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act,2015, “child in need of care and protection” is a child who is found without any home or settled place or abode and without any ostensible means of subsistence, found working in contravention of Labour Laws, who is mentally ill or physically challenged, whose parent or guardian is found to be unfit or incapacitated, street children, begging children, who is in imminent risk of marriage before attaining the age of marriage, does not have a parent and no one is willing to take care of him / her or abused or whose parents have abandoned him / her or missing children or runaway children and whose parents could not be found after reasonable inquiry.

### **5.2.1.1 Child Welfare Committees**

The Child Welfare Committees are statutory bodies constituted under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, for exercising the powers and to discharge their duties conferred on them in relation to children in need of care and protection under this Act and Rules framed thereunder. 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. Each Child Welfare Committee consists of a chairperson and four members (including one woman member). They conduct the proceedings in a child-friendly manner in the best interest of children. The Government has constituted 34 Child Welfare Committees in 38 districts. 8,337 cases have been handled during the year 2020-2021.

**A sum of Rs.799.21 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

### **5.2.1.2 Children Homes**

The children who enter the Juvenile Justice System as children in need of care and protection through the Child Welfare Committees and require residential care and protection are placed in Children Homes for their short term as well as long term care, treatment, education, training, development and rehabilitation. Children Homes have been established in the State as per the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. As on date, there are 1,103 Children Homes functioning in the State which are registered and monitored by the Social Defence Department under the Act. 36 Children Homes are directly run by the Government and 149 Homes are functioning under Non-Governmental Organizations including 5 Homes for physically and mentally challenged

children with financial assistance from the Government. The maintenance grant of Rs.2,160/- per child per month is provided to the above grant receiving 149 Non-Governmental Organizations besides expenses towards rent, water, electricity, transportation and contingencies under Child Protection Services. The children in the Child Care Institutions are provided with food, cloth, shelter, medical assistance, education, vocational training, etc., for their overall development. Before COVID pandemic, 46,979 children were accommodated in these children homes and at present, 11,109 children are accommodated. The remaining children are temporarily sent back to their parents/guardian.

**A sum of Rs.14337.98 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

### **5.2.1.3 Open Shelters for children in need of care and protection in urban and semi urban areas**

Open Shelters in urban and semi-urban areas established to cater to all children in need of care and protection particularly begging children, street children, rag pickers, small vendors, street performers, orphaned, deserted, trafficked and run-away children, children of migrant population and any other vulnerable group of children. The scheme essentially targets the homeless and street children ensuring protection of their rights dignity and mainstreaming them in the society by creating accessibility of developmental services to them. At present, 17 open shelters are functioning in the State of which 11 Open Shelters are receiving grants from the Government. The maintenance grant of Rs.2,160 per child per month is provided to the Non-Governmental Organisations besides expenses towards rent, water, electricity,

transportation and contingencies under Child Protection Services. The sanctioned strength of these shelters are 436.

**A sum of Rs.234.68 lakh has been provided in Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

Apart from institutional arrangements, the Government of Tamil Nadu has initiated several innovative programmes to mainstream these children by organizing the following events:-

**(a) Conducting a State Level Annual Sports and Cultural Meet**

In order to encourage, develop and to bring out the talents of the children, the Government is conducting a State Level Annual Sports and Cultural Meet at a cost of Rs.10.00 lakh for the children of 36 Government Children Homes as well as Grants receiving Non-Governmental Organisation run Children Homes functioning under the Department of Social Defence every year, since 2017.

The Government is also providing financial assistance of Rs.2.75 lakh for procurement of sports articles which is useful for recreation and rehabilitation for children who are staying at Government Children Care Institutions.

**A sum of Rs.25.00 lakh has been provided in Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

**(b) Children Educational Tour Scheme**

The Department every year arranges the educational tour for the children living in 36 Government children homes to expose them and integrate them into the mainstream activities that are happening in the society.

**A sum of Rs.10.00 lakh has been provided in Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

**(c) Child Information System**

To strengthen the monitoring of the service provided to the children as well as for collecting and uploading the entire data of children who are dealt under the Juvenile Justice System, the

Government have issued orders for the Development of new portal namely "Child Information System" at a cost of Rs.65.00 lakh. Through the portal, applications are being developed for all the stake holders who will submit their reports and assessment of children. The system will ensure submission and receipt of reports in stipulated time, monitoring the quality of reports and continuous monitoring of the cases of the children and case management of all Individual Care Plan, Social Investigation Report, Health Report etc. are being developed to monitor the progress of the child. These will be maintained electronically for easy access and management and print as per requirement.

**(d) The Tamil Nadu Child Victim Compensation Fund under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012**

The Government have created the "Tamil Nadu Child Victim Compensation Fund" under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act,

2012 with an initial amount of Rs.2.00 crore for awarding interim compensation and final compensation to the victim children under the Act.

#### **(e) Multipurpose Resource Centres**

The Government have issued orders to establish the Multipurpose Resource Centre at a cost of Rs.9.00 lakh per centre in Reception units functioning under this department in 4 Districts namely Ranipet, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Tirunelveli at a total cost of Rs.36.00 lakh.

#### **(f) Precautionary measures taken by the Government for protection of Children from spread of Covid -19**

(1) Displaying Boards have been installed for creating awareness in all Child Care Institutions and public places for protection of children which contains Do's and Don't's to contain COVID- 19 through District Child Protection Units.

(2) The Government have sanctioned Rs.45.00 lakh under State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF) for Child Care Institutions (CCIs) to make Precautionary measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and to procure materials and equipments and the same was disbursed to all Government CCIs under the Department of Social Defence.

**(g) Financial assistance under Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund (CMPRF) and various welfares measures for the welfare of Children who had lost their parents due to Covid-19.**

The Government of Tamil Nadu is always having a greater concern over the care and protection of children and have implemented various novel schemes for the welfare and overall development for them. During this pandemic, the State has taken swift action for rehabilitating the children affected / infected by COVID 19 as well as children of COVID affected/infected parents.

The Government have constituted the District Level Task Force consisting of seven members including the District Collector of the concerned District as Chairperson for providing intervention programmes to care and protection of children affected and infected by COVID 19 as well as children of COVID affected / infected parents.

Further one registered child care institution in each district has been identified and designated as COVID care centre exclusively for children and necessary arrangement are also made in such institutions.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced various welfare measures for the children who have lost both the parent or single parent due to COVID-19. The following schemes are implemented by this department for orphaned children who had lost their parents due to Covid-19.

- (i) A sum of Rs.5.00 lakh shall be deposited in the name of the child who had lost both the parents due to COVID-19 from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund and shall be deposited in the Tami Nadu Power Finance Corporation in the name of the child. The Deposited amount shall be paid to the child with accrued interest when he/she completes 18 years of age.
- (ii) A sum of Rs.5.00 shall be deposited in the name of the child who had lost one of the parents earlier and other parent due to COVID-19 from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund and shall be deposited in the Tami Nadu Power Finance Corporation in the name of the child. The Deposited amount shall be paid to the child with accrued interest when he/she completes 18 years of age.

- (iii) Preference shall be given for admission in Government / Government aided Homes and Hostels for children who lost both the parents.
- (iv) All the expenditure including educational fees and hostel fees shall be borne by the Government up to their graduation for children who had lost both the parents.
- (v) A sum of Rs.3.00 lakh shall be given to the surviving father or mother of the child who had lost either father or mother due to COVID-19 from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund in the name of the child as immediate relief.
- (vi) A child who had lost both the parents and living with his relative / guardian without being admitted in any registered Child Care Institutions or Government Hostels shall be given a maintenance grant of Rs.3,000/-

per month till the child completes 18 years of age.

(vii) Priority shall be given in all the Government schemes, to all these children and as well as to the husband or wife who had lost their spouse due to COVID-19 and living with their children.

District Level Committees have been constituted to monitor the financial assistance provided to each child, their progress in education, care, protection and development.

So far, Rs.6.35 crore to 127 children who had lost both the parent and Rs.89.61 crore to 2,987 children who had lost one of the parents, totaling a sum of Rs. 95.96 crore for 3114 children have been sanctioned by the Government.

#### **5.2.1.4 Child Adoption**

“Adoption” means the process through which the adopted child is permanently separated from his biological parents and becomes the legitimate child of his adoptive parents with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities that are attached to the relationship. As such, orphan, abandoned and surrendered children who are without biological parents or legal guardian or whose legal guardian is not willing to take or capable of taking care of the child could be placed in adoption.

To promote alternative care and create a family for the abandoned / orphaned / surrendered child, the Government encourages adoption. A child is to be placed in institutional care as a step of last resort after reasonable inquiry.

The Adoption of Children is governed by Adoption Regulations, 2017 framed by Central

Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. The Adoption Regulations, 2017 have been framed to have transparency in the adoption programme. It insists on online registration, information on adoptable children and information on adoption agencies through web portal [www.cara.nic.in](http://www.cara.nic.in) of CARA and the procedure is uniform throughout the country.

The State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) is entrusted with the implementation of adoption programme under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Rules made thereunder in the State and it is functioning in the Directorate of Social Defence. A "Hand Book on Child Adoption" has been published by the SARA for easy understanding and display boards have been placed in all District Collectorates, District Child Protection Units,

Specialized Adoption Agencies, Civil Society Groups and Public Places to create greater awareness and dissemination of information among public. Awareness programmes are being conducted among various stakeholders including health professionals to prevent illegal adoption.

#### **5.2.1.5 Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs)**

In Tamil Nadu there are 22 Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) functioning to promote in-country and inter-country adoption. These SAAs are situated in Madurai-2, Kancheepuram-3, Salem-2 and one each in the districts of Ariyalur, Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Tiruchirappalli, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore and Kanyakumari.

The children placed in “adoption” from 1993 to March 2021 are given below:-

Sl. No.	Nature of Adoption	No. of Children Adopted		Total
		Male	Female	
1	In-Country	1572	4288	5860
2	Inter-Country	116	396	512
<b>Total</b>		<b>1688</b>	<b>4684</b>	<b>6372</b>

The children placed in “adoption” during the year 2020-2021 are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Nature of Adoption	No. of Children Adopted		Total
		Male	Female	
1	In-Country	138	216	354
2	Inter-Country	5	3	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>143</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>362</b>

### 5.2.1.6 Sponsorship

Sponsorship support is a financial assistance provided to a family to enable a child to remain in the family and continue his/her education and thus by prevent a child destitution from the family. It is an effort towards preventing children from becoming vulnerable, running away, forced

into child marriage, forced into child labour etc. Financial assistance of Rs.2,000/- per month is provided to a child for a period of 3 years. 1,330 children have benefitted under this scheme during 2020-2021. An expenditure of Rs.3.19 crore have been incurred for this programme.

### **5.3 Children in Conflict with Law**

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

#### **5.3.1 Juvenile Justice Boards**

The Juvenile Justice Boards are statutory bodies constituted under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, for exercising the powers and to discharge their duties conferred on them in relation to children in conflict with law under this Act and rules framed there under. Juvenile Justice Board consists of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a

Judicial Magistrate of the first class (Principal Magistrate) with two Social Worker Members (including one Woman Member). The Board conducts the proceedings in a child-friendly manner and not like a regular court proceedings. In Tamil Nadu, the State Government has constituted 32 Juvenile Justice Boards in 38 districts. 1,094 cases have been handled during the year 2020-2021.

**A sum of Rs.430.34 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

### **5.3.2 Observation Homes**

Observation Homes are meant for keeping the “children in conflict with law” temporarily who are facing the enquiry before the Juvenile Justice Boards. In Tamil Nadu, there are 9 Observation Homes run by the Government. The children residing in the Observation Homes are provided with basic amenities like shelter, food, clothing,

bedding and also several other services like education both formal and non-formal, vocational training, medical facility and counseling as a part of their short term rehabilitation. To ensure regular vigilance, the Government has provided surveillance and security equipments to all Observation Homes. At present, 154 children are housed in 9 Observation Homes.

**A sum of Rs.647.35 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

### **5.3.3 Special Homes**

Special Homes are meant for children in conflict with law placed by Juvenile Justice Boards who require long term rehabilitation and protection under institutional care. Children shall be placed in the special home for a maximum period of 3 years. In special homes, children have been provided services like education, vocational training, counseling and facilities for co-curricular

activities. There are two Government Special Homes, one at Chennai for girls and another at Chengalpattu for boys. At present, 28 children are housed in 2 Special Homes.

**A sum of Rs.331.68 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

#### **5.3.4 Place of Safety**

Place of safety is meant for a child in conflict with law, who is between the age of 16 to 18 years and is accused of or convicted for committing a heinous offence and a person above the age of 18 years who committed an offence before attaining the age of 18 years. These children/persons are placed in "Place of Safety" by the Juvenile Justice Board or the Children's Court till he attains the age of 21 years. In Tamil Nadu, Place of Safety is established at Vellore. These children/persons are provided with reformatory services including education counseling, behavior

modification etc during their stay in the place of safety. At present, 30 children are housed in place of safety.

**A sum of Rs.39.22 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

#### **5.4 The Juvenile Justice Fund**

The Government have created "The Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice Fund" with a corpus of Rs.25.00 lakh for undertaking welfare and rehabilitative activities for children as mandated under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The fund facilitates to implement activities which are of urgent need as well as programmes that are not covered under regular Government programmes. The funds have been applied to facilitate education, health, training, sports, raw material or capital requirement for income generating activities and also for other developmental activities of children.

7 children have been provided assistance to pursue maritime training course under this fund during the year 2020-2021.

### **5.5 Exclusive De-addiction Centre for children**

De-addiction Centre exclusively for children addresses the problem of addiction to drugs and substances among children especially those in conflict with law. The Government established a de-addiction centre exclusively for children through a Non-Governmental Organization at Chengalpattu. 82 children have benefitted under this programme during the year 2020-2021. Recently the Government have also established two de-addiction centres exclusively for children through NGO's in Madurai and Namakkal Districts and started functioning with effect from 15.07.2021 and 01.08.2021 respectively.

**A sum of Rs.41.51 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

## **5.6 Probation System**

In the Juvenile Justice System, the Probation is an effective tool for early rehabilitation and restoration with the participation of children at every stage. The Probation Officers are assigned with preparation of Social Investigation Reports to assist the Child Welfare Committees as well as Juvenile Justice Boards in arriving at proper disposition of cases brought before them. Follow-up of children in conflict with law in specific cases and after care of children who are discharged from children homes are regularly done by Probation Officers. The Department of Social Defence is having one Probation Officer each in 32 Districts. In Chennai, 3 Probation Officers are additionally appointed due to high volume of cases.

## **5.7 Special Initiatives taken by the Government for Children in conflict with law**

### **(a) Video Conferencing Facility**

The Government have installed video conferencing facilities to ensure safety and security of children who need to be produced before Juvenile Justice Board of their respective District. It will provide link between various homes of "children in conflict with law" and respective Juvenile Justice Board, and it facilitates production of children thorough video conferencing before Juvenile Justice Board without physical shifting/transportation of children. At present, video conferencing facilities have been installed in all Observation Homes, Special Homes and Place of Safety and linked with the respective Juvenile Justice Boards in the State.

### **(b) Psychological Counseling for Children**

A number of "children in conflict with law" who have entered the juvenile justice system

through juvenile justice board have emotional and psychological problems including withdrawal of addiction in some cases. In order to help them to overcome the psychological trauma, the Government has provided counseling services to the inmates of the Observation Homes, Special Homes and Place of Safety through counselors. This scheme has been extended to all the Government run children homes also.

**A sum of Rs.58.50 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

## **5.8 After Care Organizations**

After Care services have to be provided to any child without family or other support who leave institutional care after they attain 18 years of age to sustain themselves during the transition from institutional care to independent life. It will facilitate the child's re-integration into the main stream of society. The Government is running

After Care Organisation for Boys at Athur (Chengalpattu) with 24 beneficiaries and Madurai with 14 beneficiaries and for Girls at Vellore with 15 beneficiaries. Further, the Government is providing Rs 2000/- per month per child to the NGO's who are running after care services and at present there are 196 beneficiaries under this programme. A Non-Governmental Organisation in Mayiladuthurai District is supported under child protection services for maintaining mentally challenged young adults and 190 children are housed here.

**A sum of Rs.214.25 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

## **5.9 Educational and Vocational Training in Child Care Institutions**

In Government Child Care Institutions, schools are functioning within the campus to provide formal education recognized by the Department of School Education. In Child Care

Institutions, where schools are not available, children are sent to nearby schools. In Observation Homes and Reception Units children are provided with non-formal education and vocational training since, their stay in these homes are temporary.

In order to improve the skills of children, vocational training are imparted in tailoring, book binding, Screen printing, Basic Computer Training and Bakery as short term courses. 878 children have benefitted under this training.

Short term Skill Training programmes such as Sewing Machine Operator, Electrician Helper, Plumber Assistant, Air Condition Servicing and Two Wheeler Mechanism have been organized with the assistance of the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation. 291 children have benefitted under this training.

**A sum of Rs.26.48 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

### **5.10 Childline 1098**

**CHILDLINE (1098)** is a toll free phone outreach service for children in distress for 24 hours. Any person who comes across the children in crisis and need immediate help or these children they themselves can call 1098 for immediate rescue or guidance. The CHILDLINE services are being implemented by Non-Governmental organizations under the control of Childline India Foundation with financial assistance from Government of India. In Tamil Nadu 4,39,080 telephone calls were received under the service during the year 2020-2021.

### **5.11 Child Protection Services (CPS)**

The State of Tamil Nadu is pioneer in implementing the 'Child Protection Services' under the "Mission Vatsalya" by creating adequate

service delivery structures at the District and State Level.

The Child Protection Services is a scheme to implement the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. This scheme provides financial support to strengthen the prevention of child rights violation, enhance infrastructure for child protection. It increases the access of child protection services in a wider range and in a better quality. Through this scheme, the Government is investing in child protection mechanism and drawing attention continuously to promote the rights of children.

#### **5.11.11 Service Delivery Structures under Child Protection Services**

The Government have established the following structures for effective implementation of Child Protection Services:-

- State Child Protection Society (SCPS)
- District Child Protection Units (DCPUs)
- State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA)

An Outreach Programme, Training of stakeholders at various levels, integrated service provisions through an interface with various sector, including health, education, judiciary, police and labour and skill development departments among others have been done by these service delivery structures to cater to the multiple needs of child protection.

**A sum of Rs.2760.70 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

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

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 mandates the registration of all Child Care Institutions under the Act. The Child Care Institutions functioning without registration are liable for legal punishment. The registration of child care institutions regulates and monitors the

activities and ensure minimum standards in Child Care Institutions.

At present 1,103 institutions have been registered and functioning and 1,013 institutions are closed down during 2014 to March 2021, for not having the minimum standards / facilities to run the institutions. The registration to Child Care Institutions is accorded based on the fulfillment of minimum standards prescribed under the Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice Rules, 2017, such as space for dormitory, building stability, building license, fire safety, sanitation etc. Around 42,806 children are accommodated in the registered Child Care Institutions.

### **5.13 Inspection and Monitoring of Child Care Institution:**

#### **5.13.1 Inspection**

According to the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, the Government have constituted State

Level Inspection Committee (SLIC) and District level inspection Committees (DLICs), to effectively monitor the functioning of all Child care Institutions and to ensure prescribed standards of care and protection. In addition to the above existing inspection bodies, Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Welfare Committees are also inspecting the Child Care Institution under their purview. The State Level Inspection Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Director of Social Defence/ Secretary, State Child Protection Society. The District Level Inspection Committees have also been constituted under the Chairpersonship of District Collectors.

Safety and security of the children in the Child Care Institutions is a paramount consideration of the Government. In order to ensure safety and security of children, various steps have been taken under child protection services in all child care institutions in the State.

There are 1,103 number of institutions covered with CCTV cameras, the staff members working in the Child Care Institutions are subject to Police verification so as to ensure that they have no history of criminal background so far. 13,854 number of Police Verification Certificates of staff members have been obtained and 422 number staff have applied for Police Verification Certificate. In order to effectively tackle inadvertent situations like natural calamities, accident etc., 672 number of disaster management trainings have been conducted so far. As a measure of precaution to avoid contagious diseases, periodical water samples from child care institutions are sent for chemicals, micro-biological testing at authorized laboratories. Till date 1,039 number of such samples have been collected for examination. 3,213 number of children have been covered under Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS).

### **5.13.2 Track Child System**

The Government of India had set up a National Portal on Missing Child Tracking System ([www.trackthemissingchild.gov.in](http://www.trackthemissingchild.gov.in)) through National Informatics Centre to trace missing and found children. The child tracking system facilitates matching of missing and found children, and also enables follow up of the progress of tracking of children. Thus, proper monitoring and welfare of the children under the Scheme would also be ensured through the portal. Child Track System is linked with all the Police Stations, District Child Protection Units, Child Welfare Committees, Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Care Institutions in all parts of the State through this national portal.

### **5.13.3 Individual Care Plan**

The Individual Care plan is to be prepared for all the children time to time by the Child Care Institutions, in order to assess the progress,

design intervention strategies in institutions and to plan effectively for the rehabilitation, restoration with family and reintegration of children into society. Periodical training has been given to prepare quality Individual Care Plan to the staff of Child Care Institutions functioning in the State.

#### **5.13.4 Monitoring Bodies**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has formed new Child Protection Committees in rural as well as in urban areas to ensure the Child Protection and Child Protection Services.

##### **5.13.4.1 Child Protection Committees in rural areas**

1. Village Level Child Protection Committee
2. Block Level Child Protection Committee
3. District Level Child Protection Committee

#### **5.13.4.2 Child Protection Committees in urban areas**

1. Child Protection Committee at Town Panchayat level
2. Child Protection Committee at Municipal Level
3. Child Protection Committee at Zonal level in Municipal Corporation

These committees render child protection services by conferring and creating awareness about child marriage, child labour, migration for child labour, exploitation, illegal child adoption, child protection and prevent child from sexual offences, increase of child sex ratio by reducing female infanticide etc.

#### **5.14 Enrollment of Aadhaar, Opening Bank Account to Children in Child Care Institutions**

48,427 children have been provided with Aadhaar Cards and 299 children (upto march 2021) have been enrolled for Aadhaar Cards,

Bank accounts have been opened for 41,999 children out of 59,034 (march 2021) children in Child Care Institutions in the State.

### **5.15 The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956**

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 had been enacted to combat trafficking and sexual exploitation of women for commercial sexual purposes. The Act brings the traffickers, abusers and pimps before the court of law and empowers the courts to give directions to rehabilitate the victims of trafficking.

#### **5.15.1 Vigilance / Protective Homes**

Vigilance / Protective homes are meant for keeping the women victims who are in moral danger. Women victims are being admitted in these homes as per the orders issued by the courts under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. In these homes services like residential care, medical treatment, counseling, vocational

training are provided to inmates as a part of their rehabilitation. A financial assistance of Rs.10,000/- is provided to the victims under "Victim Relief Fund".

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

A video conferencing facility has been installed between the Government Vigilance Home, Mylapore and Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Saidapet at a cost of Rs.20.00 lakh to facilitate "virtual appearance in lieu of physical production to Court" for the victims of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 thereby maintaining their dignity and facilitates speedy trial by the court.

**A sum of Rs.476.37 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

### **5.15.2 Ujjawala Scheme**

Trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation is a crime against human rights. To ensure safety and proper rehabilitation of victims, Ujjawala Scheme is being implemented with Centre and State assistance. It is a comprehensive scheme for Prevention of Trafficking, Rescue, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. There are 5 Non-Governmental Organizations implementing this scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu. 243 women have benefitted under this scheme during the year 2020-2021.

**A sum of Rs.111.95 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

## **5.16 De-Addiction Programme**

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the centrally sponsored Drug Abuse Prevention Programme. The Integrated Rehabilitation Centers for addicts (IRCA) functioning under this Scheme is for the addicts of alcohol / drugs to provide 21 days free in-patient treatment. There are 27 IRCA functioning across the State through the Non-Governmental Organizations with financial support by Government of India. 4,836 alcohol/drugs addicts have been treated during 2020-2021.

Besides, The Government of India had launched a new scheme under the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) which aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy involving education, de-addiction and rehabilitation of affected individuals and their families. Government of Tamil Nadu under the

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) (2018-2023) has proposed to undertake programme for Preventive Education and Awareness Generation, Capacity Building and Specific Intervention Programme on Drug Demand Reduction.

So far, the Government of India had sanctioned a sum of Rs.4.34 crore to implement the scheme in the State.

### **5.17 The Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights**

The Tamil Nadu Government has constituted the Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights under section 17(1) of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005. The main function of this Commission is monitoring the implementation of child welfare related Acts in force. The Commission consists of one

Chairperson and 6 Members and is functioning from 18.01.2013.

**A sum of Rs.75.17 lakh has been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for the year 2021-2022.**

#### **5.18 Convergence with other Departments for Child Protection**

Social Defence Department is closely coordinating with other Government Departments and Non-Governmental Organisations to mainstream the children who are suffering from difficult circumstances and vulnerability.

It ensures the care and protection of all the children with the effective co-ordination with line Departments i.e. Social Welfare, Education Department, Labour Welfare, Revenue, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Welfare of Differently Abled Persons Department, Medical and Health, Integrated Child Development Services, Samakrashiksha Abhiyan,

National Child Labour Project, Railway Police, Child line, Police, Judicial.

At District Level, District Child Protection Committee meetings are conducted periodically under the Chairmanship of District Collector, in which all stakeholders including Judiciary participate.

Suitable rescue operation are planned by identifying cases of sexual abuse, child marriage, child trafficking, using the children for begging, physical and mental abuses and child labour. Conduct of awareness campaigns with the help of Government Departments and Institutions are also planned at District Level.

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## **CHAPTER - 6**

### **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

The World Nations together set the goals to be achieved for better and sustained future. It was adopted as 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by 193 Nations in UN General Assembly. It covers 17 goals and 169 targets.

In India, Niti Aayog, the central Nodal Agency monitors the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. In Tamil Nadu, State Planning and Development Initiative Department monitors the achievement of SDG through schemes and Acts implemented by various Government Departments. It acts as guidance agency by forming Working Groups, monitoring the State, District and Block level targets, functioning in close coordination with Government Departments and other institutions and conducting periodical review meetings in

order to reach the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department implements various Schemes and Acts, which acts as Nodal agency for SD Goal-5- "Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls".

**Indicator 5.1: To end all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere,** the Government of Tamil Nadu implements various schemes. The department implements Cradle Baby Scheme to prevent female infanticide, which is an indicator of discrimination against girl children. The Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme is implemented as a long term deposit scheme by direct investment by Government, aiming to protect girl children, ensure their rights and provide economic assistance. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme, a scheme with financial

assistance from Government of India, aims to address the uptrend of gender inequality and to ensure birth of girl children, her education and protection.

**Indicator 5.2: To eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation,** the department runs Child Helpline (1098) and Women Helpline (181).

The State implements “Sakhi”, one Stop Centres with Government of India fund in all districts.

The department implements various Social Legislations to ensure the safety and protection of women and their rights.

**Indicator 5.3: To eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation,** the

department in collaboration with UNICEF and State Planning Commission works for adolescent empowerment, prevention of teenage pregnancies by networking different stakeholders, to strengthen existing system and make it more accessible and accountable to the vulnerable communities.

**Indicator 5.4: Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection polices and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.**

The department runs Government Homes for women, children, senior citizens and Transgenders who need care and protection and implements various Social Security Pension Schemes through the Commissionerate of

Revenue Administration to protect the vulnerable section of the society.

**Indicator 5.5: To ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political economic and public life.**

Gender budgeting has been adopted at various stages of planning, implementation, evaluation, budgeting and review of policies to improve gender perspective and ensure gender equality. The department runs working women's hostels for economic empowerment of women and ensures reservation for women in local bodies and 30% reservation in employment for women.

**Indicator 5.6: Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the programme of action of the International Conference on Population and**

**development and the being platform for action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.**

In order to achieve above indicator, Government implement various programmes for women such as supply of Nutritious Health kit and continuous health checkups during pregnancy, Maternity Benefit scheme to compensate the wage loss, to develop a healthy future society.

The department also contributes to SDG - 1&2, which aims to eradicate poverty and hunger by implementing Nutritious Meal Programme to school children in the age of 5-15 years through 43,174 schools.

Integrated Child Development Services Scheme is being implemented to fulfill the nutritional needs of children upto 6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating mothers and also health needs and Pre-school educational needs for children.

The department strives hard to fulfill the objectives of SDG-5 and other related goals through convergence with line departments and by adopting different strategies to promote gender equality in the society.

Awareness is being created in all forums for the public to utilize the schemes and services of department so as to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, development, peace, prosperity and protection are ensured to all people, including vulnerable sections of the society.

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## **CHAPTER-7**

# **SOCIAL SECURITY PENSION SCHEMES**

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer state at the national level in the implementation of the Social Security Schemes. The Social Security Pension Schemes are extended to all the vulnerable sections of the society such as senior citizens, differently-abled persons, widows, agricultural labourers, poor farmers, deserted wives, unmarried women of the age of 50 years and above who are destitute and poor. Currently, the Government is granting Rs.1,000/- per month as pension uniformly under all pension schemes. In order to ensure very wide coverage of pension schemes, the Government of Tamil Nadu has relaxed the eligibility criteria, especially for the senior citizens and differently-abled. The allocation has been increased substantially upto Rs.4807.56 crore in 2021-22. As on 25.08.2021, 34,12,916 persons are

benefited under various schemes as detailed below:

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Name of the Schemes</b>	<b>No. of Beneficiaries</b>
1.	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme	14,63,750
2.	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme	63,127
3.	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme	5,84,221
4.	Differently Abled Pension Scheme	3,28,546
5.	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme	5,26,613
6.	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Paadhukaapu Thittam-Old Age Pension Scheme	2,97,327
7.	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme	1,19,941
8.	Unmarried Poor Women Pension Scheme	24,874
9.	Pension to Sri Lankan Refugees	4,517
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34,12,916</b>

## **Social Security Pension Schemes**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Name of the Scheme</b>	<b>Age Criteria</b>	<b>Government of India Contribution</b>	<b>State Government Contribution</b>
1.	Indira National Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	60 to 79 years	Rs.200/-	Rs.800/-
		80 years and above	Rs.500/-	Rs.500/-
2.	Indira National Pension (IGNDPS)	Gandhi Disability Scheme 18 to 79 years	Rs.300/-	Rs.700/-
3.	Indira National Pension (IGNWPS)	Gandhi Widow Scheme 40 to 79 years	Rs.300/-	Rs.700/-
4.	Differently Abled Pension (DAPS)	18 years and above	-	Rs.1000/-
5.	Destitute Pension (DWPS)	Widow Scheme 18 years and above	-	Rs.1000/-
6.	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Padhukappu Thittam (CMUPT) - Old Age Pension Scheme	60 years and above	-	Rs.1000/-
7	Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWPS)	30 years and above	-	Rs.1000/-
8	Pension to Poor Unmarried Women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	50 years and above	-	Rs.1000/-

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme	Age Criteria	Government of India Contribution	State Government Contribution
9	Pension to Srilankan Refugee (IGNOAPS) (DAPS) (DWPS) (DDWPS)	Age Criteria as stipulated for the pension scheme under which pension is sanctioned.	Funding pattern as stipulated for the pension scheme under which pension is sanctioned.	

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

Sl. No.	Scheme	Eligibility Criteria
1	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	Eligibility: Destitute, belonging to Below poverty line Age: 60 years and above.
2	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)	Disability level: 80% and above, belonging to Below poverty line Age: 18 years to 79 years.
3	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	Eligibility: Destitute Widow, belonging to Below poverty line Age: 40 years to 79 years.

The eligibility criteria for Social Security Pension Schemes fully funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu are as detailed below:

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>
1	Differently Abled Pension Scheme (DAPS)	If private / self-employed, the annual income of the beneficiary should not exceed Rs.3 Lakh. Age: 18 years and above. Disability level: 40% and above
2	Destitute Widow Pension Scheme (DWPS)	Destitute Widow. Age: 18 years and above, Fixed assets: Not exceeding Rs.1,00,000/- (Free house assigned by the Government should not be taken into account for the value of fixed assets)
3	Chief Minister's Uzhavar Padhukaapu Thittam (CMUPT) - Old Age Pension Scheme	Destitute. Age: 60 years and above. Landless agricultural labourers Fixed assets: Not exceeding Rs.1,00,000/- (Free house assigned by the Government should not be taken into account for the value of fixed assets)

Sl. No.	Scheme	Eligibility Criteria
4	Destitute Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (DDWPS)	<p>Destitute.</p> <p>Age: 30 years and above.</p> <p>Must be legally divorced or deserted for not less than 5 years (or) obtained legal separation certificate from a competent Court of Law.</p> <p>Fixed assets: Not exceeding Rs.1,00,000/-</p> <p>(Free house assigned by the Government should not be taken into account for the value of fixed assets)</p>
5	Pension to Poor Unmarried Women of age 50 years and above (UWP)	<p>Destitute and Unmarried women.</p> <p>Age: 50 years and above.</p> <p>Fixed assets: Not exceeding Rs.1,00,000/-</p> <p>(Free house assigned by the Government should not be taken into account for the value of fixed assets)</p>

### **Other Benefits to the pensioners.**

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 34.13 lakh Social Security Scheme Pensioners.

## **Distribution of Rice to beneficiaries**

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

- (i) 4 Kg of fine variety rice per month for those who do not take meals at the Anganwadi Centres.
- (ii) 2 Kg of the fine variety rice per month for those who take meals at the Anganwadi Centres.

## **Online Web Application for applying Social Security Scheme Pension**

From March 2020, Revenue Department has implemented a simple one-page format that can be submitted online or through the Common Service Centre / e-sevai Centre for those who seek pension under social security schemes. The application will be forwarded to the concerned Revenue Authorities by the system itself for verification like issuance of

Income Certificate, Residential Certificate etc., by Village Administrative Officer, who then will forward the same to the higher Authorities for scrutiny and sanction of pension. Pension is sanctioned by the Special Tahsildar (SSS) for the eligible petitioner. This system ensures effective accountability, transparency and monitoring of pending applications by higher officials, which leads to improved Governance.

**P. GEETHA JEEVAN**  
**MINISTER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE**  
**- WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

## **ANNEXURE – 1**

### **Details of Important Days observed by Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department**

1. 24th January      National Day for the Girl Child
2. 24th February      State Girl Child Protection Day
3. 8th March      International Day for the Women
4. 15th April      Transgender Day
5. 12th June      Anti Child Labour Day
6. 15th June      World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
7. 1st October      International Day of Older Persons
8. 14th November      Children's Day
9. 20th November      Universal Child Rights Day
10. 26th November      Dowry Prohibition Day

**ANNEXURE – 2**  
**REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATE – 2021-2022**  
**DEMAND No.45**  
**SOCIAL WELFARE AND WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT DEPARTMENT**

**TOTAL REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 2021-2022**  
**Rs.5,77,149.24 Lakh**

<b>REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 2021-2022</b>		
<b>HEAD OF ACCOUNT</b>		<b>(Rs. in lakh)</b>
<b>REVENUE SECTION</b>		<b>Allocation</b>
2059	Public Works	262.56
2225	Directorate of Social Welfare	12.72
2235	Directorate of Social Defence	18,587.96
2235	Directorate of Social Welfare	1,13,627.77
2235	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	14,881.39
2236	Secretariat	24.48
2236	Directorate of Social Welfare	1,87,874.32

2236	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	2,33,919.37
2251	Secretariat	607.73
2551	Directorate of Social Welfare	----
<b>REVENUE SECTION TOTAL</b>		<b>5,69,798.30</b>
<b>CAPITAL SECTION</b>		
4235	Directorate of Social Welfare	717.01
4235	Directorate of Social Defence	1,760.90
4236	Directorate of Social Welfare	0.02
4236	Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme	4,848.00
<b>CAPITAL SECTION TOTAL</b>		<b>7,325.93</b>
<b>LOAN SECTION</b>		
7610	Loans to Government Servants etc.,	25.01
<b>LOAN SECTION TOTAL</b>		25.01
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>5,77,149.24</b>

## **GROSS TOTAL**

**Revenue Section : Rs. 5,69,798.30 Lakh**

**Capital Section : Rs.7,325.93 Lakh**

**Loan Section : Rs.25.01 Lakh**

**TOTAL : Rs.5,77,149.24 Lakh**

**(or)**

**Rs. 5,771.49 Crore**

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A sum of Rs.4807.56 Crore has also been provided in the Revised Budget Estimate for 2021-2022 under the Demand No. 41 Revenue Department for the implementation of Social Security Pension Schemes.

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**Child Helpline**

**1098**

**Women Helpline**

**181**

**Senior Citizen Helpline**

**14567**



**The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Consultative Meeting with NGO Representatives  
regarding Covid-19 Relief Measures on 19.05.2021**



**The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Review for the Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment on 28.07.2021**



**Distribution of Marriage Assistance with Gold Coin by the Hon'ble Chief Minister  
on 11.06.2021**



**On 16.06.2021 the Hon'ble Chief Minister has inaugurated the scheme of providing Financial Assistance of Rs.5.00 Lakh as Fixed Deposit to the Guardian of the Children who lost their parents due to Covid-19.**



**Children who lost one of the parent due to Covid-19 are being provided with Financial Assistance of Rs. 3.00 Lakh by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 16.06.2021**



**Children who lost their parents due to Covid-19 are being provided with Financial Assistance and Consoled by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 16.06.2021**



**Issue of Identity Card and Covid-19 Relief Fund Rs.2000/- (First Phase) to  
Transgenders on 24.06.2021.**



**Children who lost their parents due to Covid-19 are being provided with Cash Assistance of Rs.5.00 Lakh by the Hon'ble Member of Parliament and Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment at Tuticorin District**



**Distribution of Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme Maturity Deposit Amount by the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment at Salem District on 05.07.2021**



**Free Sewing Machine given to the beneficiaries under “Ungal Thoguthiyil Muthalamaichar” Programme by the Hon’ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment at Kancheepuram, on 11.06.2021**



**Inauguration of One Stop Centre Building by the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment at Dharmapuri District on 06.07.2021**



**The Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Conducting Zonal Review Meeting at Tuticorin on 17.07.2021**