



Home, Prohibition & Excise Department

DEMAND NO.3

Administration of Justice

POLICY NOTE

2013 – 2014

K. P. MUNUSAMY

**Minister for Municipal Administration,
Rural Development, Law, Courts and Prisons**

©

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

2013

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**HOME, PROHIBITION AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT
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Introduction

**“ஓர்ந்துகண் ணோடாது இறைபுரிந்து யார்மாட்டும்
தோந்துசெய் வஃதே முறை” – குறள் 541**

The meaning of the above ‘Thirukural’ is “to examine the offences, to show no favour to any one, to desire to act impartially, and to give such punishments as may be wisely decided, constitute rectitude”.

The Constitution of India is the foundation of our democratic polity. This foundation rests securely on the three pillars of our State – the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary. The doctrine of separation of powers ensures that each pillar functions not in isolation but in a conscious and constant interplay. The interplay ensures that the constitutional promise of justice, liberty and equality reaches all the citizens of our country.

It is the desire of the **Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi J Jayalalithaa** that delivery of justice should be in line with the expectations of the people, particularly the poor, the marginalized and the vulnerable. The goal is to ensure the speedy trial of cases making litigation affordable to the poor and providing sufficient legal fora to finalize and resolve disputes.

Powers under the Union and the State Lists of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution are conferred to legislate with regard to the administration of justice in the Courts. In fact, a predominant role is envisaged for the State Legislature, particularly with regard to the subordinate judiciary. The State Government has also the responsibility for provision of judicial infrastructure, staff and other resources to make the judicial system trustworthy, transparent and timely.

2. Organizational hierarchy of the Judiciary

The Supreme Court of India in New Delhi is the Apex Court of the Country. It has control over all the High Courts functioning in the States. The hierarchy of

Judiciary in the State level is given in Annexure-I.

3. Strength of the Courts

3.1. There are 910 Courts functioning in the State. Out of these, 113 Courts are functioning in Chennai City and 797 Courts are functioning in other Districts. The details are as below:-

Courts

- (i) City Civil Courts – 33
- (ii) Court of Small Causes – 17
- (iii) District and Additional District Courts – 82
- (iv) Sub Courts – 120
- (v) District Munsif Courts – 176
- (vi) Chennai Metropolitan Magistrate Courts – 27
- (vii) Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts – 29
- (viii) Judicial Magistrate Courts – 192
- (ix) District Munsif – cum – Judicial Magistrate Courts – 63
- (x) Labour Courts -12
- (xi) Family Courts-7
- (xii) Special Courts for trial of Economic Offence cases -3
- (xiii) Special Courts for trial of cases under Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and

- Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 - 4.
- (xiv) Designated Courts for Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (prevention) Act cases- 4
 - (xv) Special Courts for trial of Essential Commodities Act cases – 6
 - (xvi) Special Courts for trial of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act cases – 4
 - (xvii) Special Courts for exclusive trial of Central Bureau of Investigation cases – 8
 - (xviii) Special Courts for exclusive trial of Bomb Blast cases- 2
 - (xix) Special Court for trial of cases on communal clashes – 1
 - (xx) Mahila Courts (Magalir Neethimandram) in the cadre of District Judge -10
 - (xxi) Additional Mahila Courts in the cadre of Judicial Magistrate – 4
 - (xxii) Fast Track Courts in the cadre of Judicial Magistrate – 36
 - (xxiii) Special Courts for Tamil Nadu Protection of Interests of Depositors (In Financial Establishments) Act, 1997 cases -3
 - (xxiv) Special Courts for exclusive trial of Land Acquisition cases - 5
 - (xxv) Special Courts for exclusive trial of Land Grabbing cases -14
 - (xxvi) Special Court for trial of Forest Offence cases - 1

- (xxvii) Evening Courts – 56
- (xxviii) Special Judicial Magistrate Court for trial of Sandal Wood Offence cases -1
- (xxix) Special Courts for Prevention of Corruption Act cases in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge - 4
- (xxx) Industrial Tribunal, Chennai -1
- (xxxi) Special Courts for trial of MCOP cases – 13
- (xxxii) Motor Accident Claims Tribunal - 1
- (xxxiii) Tax Appellate Tribunal / Commercial Tax Appellate Tribunal -14
- (xxxiv) Mobile Courts – 12

Offices

- (xxxv) Official Assignee, High Court, Chennai.
- (xxxvi) Administrator General and Official Trustee, Chennai
- (xxxvii) Deputy Administrator General and Official Trustee, Chennai

4. Districtwise distribution of Courts

The details showing the number of Courts / Tribunals functioning in the City of Chennai and the details showing the number of Courts / Tribunals functioning in the other Districts are given in the Annexure-2 and 3 respectively.

5. Classification of Expenditure

The expenditure of Judiciary is separated and classified as “Charged” and “Voted”. The expenditure of Principal Seat of Madras High Court and the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court is classified as "CHARGED" head and the expenditure for the remaining part of the Judiciary is classified as "VOTED" items.

6. High Court, Madras

6.1. The High Court is the highest Court of Justice in the State. The sanctioned strength of the Judges of the Principal Seat of Madras High Court and the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court is 60.

6.2. The High Court exercises Writ jurisdiction and Original jurisdiction in civil matters. It has appellate jurisdiction both in civil and criminal matters.

On the original side in civil matters this Court tries suits above the value of Rs.25 lakh arising within the City of Chennai.

6.3. The High Court is also exercising jurisdiction over the Courts functioning in Puducherry. The expenditure on the Officers and the staff attending to Puducherry matters in the High Court is initially incurred by the Government of Tamil Nadu and is reimbursed subsequently by the Government of Puducherry.

6.4. The Registrar General is the Administrative head of the High Court of Madras. He is assisted by the Registrars, Additional Registrar, Registrar-cum-Private Secretary to the Hon'ble The Chief Justice, Officer on Special Duty to the Secretariat of the Hon'ble The Chief Justice, Official Assignee, Joint Registrars and Special Officer (Liaisoning). The Registrars are assisted by the Master, Deputy Registrars, Deputy Official Assignee, Assistant Registrars, Chief Accounts Officer and Sub-Assistant Registrars.

7. The Madurai Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai

7.1. The Madurai Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai was inaugurated and started functioning with effect from 24.7.2004 for the welfare of the litigants of the southern districts. The Madurai Bench of Madras High Court is now functioning with the strength of 12 Judges. Except the Original Jurisdiction, the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court exercises jurisdiction as in the case of the Principal Seat of Madras High Court. It exercises its jurisdiction over the 13 Southern districts of Madurai, Dindigul, Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Karur, Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari and Theni.

7.2. The Registrar (Administration) is the administrative head of the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and he is assisted by the Registrar (Judicial). These Registrars are assisted by the Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars, Accounts Officer and Sub-Assistant Registrars.

8. Details of Pending Cases

The details showing the institution, disposal and pendency of civil and criminal cases in the Principal Seat of High Court of Madras, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and the Subordinate Courts in the State from the year 2008 to 2012 are given in the Annexure-7, 8 and 9 respectively.

9. Civil Courts

9.1. Chennai City

(a) City Civil Court, Chennai

In the City Civil Courts, Chennai, there are 33 Judicial Officers. Out of them 14 in the cadre of District Judges, 18 in the cadre of Senior Civil Judges and a Registrar in the cadre of Civil Judge, who is in-charge of Administration. The territorial jurisdiction of the City Civil Court extends over the whole of the City of Chennai. The pecuniary jurisdiction of the Assistant Judge is upto Rs.10 lakh and the Principal Judge is exceeding Rs.10 lakh but not exceeding Rs.25 lakh. If the value of the case is in excess of Rs.25.00 lakh, the suit has to be instituted in the High Court of Madras.

The City Civil Court is also functioning as the Sessions Court for the Chennai Sessions Division. An Additional City Civil Court is functioning for the exclusive trial of cases of corruption, etc., under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

(b) Court of Small Causes, Chennai

The Court of Small Causes are exercising powers under the Presidency Small Causes Courts Act, 1882. There are 17 Judges in the Courts of Small Causes. The Court of Small Causes is presided over by the Chief Judge in the cadre of District Judge. Besides the Chief Judge, there are 8 Judges in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge and 8 Judges in the cadre of Civil Judge.

The Chief Judge and the Judges II, III and IV have also been empowered to try cases under the Motor Vehicles Act. The V and VI Courts are exclusively functioning as Tribunals for the trial of cases under the Motor Vehicles Act. The Judges of X to XVI are also functioning as Rent Controllers for the City of Chennai. The Chief Judge and the Judges II, III, IV, VII and VIII are empowered to hear rent control appeals.

9.2. Mofussil

(a) District and Additional District Courts

There are 82 District Courts in the State which includes 31 District Courts including the District Court at Tiruppur, which has been newly constituted and started functioning from 14.7.2012 and 51 Additional District Courts.

The District Judges are also the Sessions Judges of the respective divisions. The District Judges are having pecuniary jurisdiction wherein the amount of value of subject matter exceeds Rs.10 lakh without any limitation. They are exercising Civil Appellate Jurisdiction over the district. Further they are inspecting the Subordinate Courts in their respective Divisions.

The District Courts are also functioning as Special Tribunals under certain special enactments such as the Employees State Insurance Act, the Estate Abolition Act and the Motor Vehicles Act.

The Government through its order dated 26.8.2011, have made the existing 49 Fast Track Courts (including 5 Courts in Chennai) as permanent

courts and they are functioning from out of the State funds from 1.4.2011 and these Courts have been re-designated as Additional District Courts. The details of these courts are given in Annexure-6.

(b) Sub Courts

The jurisdiction of the Sub Courts are defined under the Civil Courts Act, 1892. The pecuniary jurisdiction of the Sub Courts in all civil proceedings exceeds Rupees one lakh, but does not exceed Rupees ten lakh. They also exercise appellate powers in respect of appeals arising from the decisions of the District Munsif Courts. These Courts are also functioning as Assistant Sessions Courts and Motor Accident Claims Tribunals.

120 Sub Courts are now functioning in the State. It includes the Sub Court at Vedasandur in Dindigul district sanctioned during the last year.

(c) District Munsif Courts

The District Munsif Courts are exercising pecuniary jurisdiction upto Rs.1.00 lakh and also exercising Small Causes jurisdiction up to Rs.20,000/-. The District Munsifs are functioning as Rent Controllers of their respective territorial jurisdictions.

176 District Munsif Courts are functioning in the State. It includes the Additional District Munsif Court at Tirupattur in Vellore district sanctioned during the last year.

(d) District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts

These Courts are trying both civil and criminal cases. There are 63 District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts functioning in Tamil Nadu. It includes, the District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts at Boothapandy in Kanniyakumari district sanctioned in the year 2011-12. Further, the Government has also sanctioned for constitution of District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Court at Peraiyoor in Madurai district during the year 2012-13.

10. Criminal Courts

10.1. Chennai City

27 Metropolitan Magistrate Courts are functioning under the Administrative control of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court in Chennai City. 7 Metropolitan Magistrates are in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge and 20 Metropolitan Magistrates are in the

cadre of Civil Judge. The Metropolitan Magistrate Courts are exercising their jurisdiction within the specified Police Station limits in Chennai City.

10.2. Mofussil

(a) Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts

The Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts have administrative control over the courts of Judicial Magistrate in the Districts. In certain category of cases the powers of Assistant Sessions Judge are conferred on the Chief Judicial Magistrate. Now, 29 Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts are functioning in this State.

(b) Judicial Magistrate Courts

A Judicial Magistrate Court is a criminal court functioning at the lowest level of court in the judicial hierarchy. This court is competent to try the case if the offence is punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or with fine not exceeding Rs.5,000 or with both. These courts are functioning almost in all taluks in this State. There are 192 Judicial Magistrate Courts functioning in this State.

11. Special Courts

(i) Labour Courts

The Labour Courts are the Special Courts in the cadre of District Judge to deal with labour disputes referred to them by the Government and also the claim petitions filed by the parties. The Presiding Officers of the Labour Courts and the Industrial Tribunal are touring officers and they hold Camp Courts for adjudication of labour disputes and claim petitions filed in their respective jurisdiction. Now, there are 12 Labour Courts functioning in this State, i.e., four in Chennai, two in Vellore and one each at Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Cuddalore and Tirunelveli. Besides, an Industrial Tribunal is also functioning in Chennai having statewide jurisdiction.

ii) Special Courts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 cases

For conducting exclusive trial of cases registered under Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, four Special Courts in the

cadre of District Judge were constituted one each at Madurai, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli having jurisdiction over 8 districts and 3 Police Commissionerates. The details of above Courts and their jurisdiction are given below:-

Sl. No	Name of the Place	Jurisdiction
1.	Tiruchirappalli	i. Tiruchirappalli Commissionerate ii. Tiruchirappalli
2.	Thanjavur	i. Thanjavur ii. Nagapattinam iii. Tiruvarur
3.	Tirunelveli	i. Tirunelveli Commissionerate ii. Tirunelveli iii. Thoothukudi iv. Kanniyakumari
4.	Madurai	i. Madurai Commissionerate ii. Madurai

In the remaining districts, the Principal District and Sessions Courts were conferred power for the trial of the cases under the above said Acts.

(iii) Special Courts to try Economic Offences

Three Special Courts were constituted i.e., two at Chennai, viz. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (E.O.-I & E.O.-II) which are in the cadre of District Judge and one Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Court at Madurai, in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge to try the economic offences relating to violation of Central Acts.

(iv) Family Courts

Family Courts are the Special courts exclusively to deal with Matrimonial cases, Maintenance etc. There are seven Family Courts functioning in this State, of which four are at Chennai and one each at Madurai, Coimbatore and Salem. In addition to the above, four Holiday Family Courts are also functioning in Chennai. The Government has also sanctioned a sum of Rs.1.36 crore for constitution of an Additional Family Court at Coimbatore.

(v) Special Courts for Tamil Nadu Protection of Interests of Depositors (in Financial Establishments) Act, 1997

The Special Courts under the Tamil Nadu Protection of Interests of Depositors (in Financial Establishments) Act, 1997 were constituted to deal with the defaulting financial institutions who failed to return the deposits/interests and to conduct the speedy trial for attachment and sale of properties and to distribute the money to the depositors. Three Special Courts were constituted and functioning at Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore for the trial of cases under the said Act.

(vi) Special Courts for trial of Central Bureau of Investigation Cases

For exclusive trial of cases registered by Central Bureau of Investigation under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (Central Act 49 of 1988), eight Special Courts were constituted i.e., Six at Chennai and one each at Madurai and Coimbatore and functioning in the State.

(vii) Special Courts for Prevention of Corruption Act cases

For exclusive trial of cases registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (Central Act 49/1988) four Special Courts were constituted and functioning at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli. In addition to the above, the Government have sanctioned constitution of four more Special Courts at Villupuram, Salem, Sivangangai and Tirunelveli.

(viii) Special Courts for Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 cases

Four Special Courts to deal with cases registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 were constituted and functioning (i.e) two courts each at Chennai and Madurai.

(ix) Special Courts to try Essential Commodities Act, 1955 cases

For exclusive trial of cases registered under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 six Special Courts were constituted and functioning in the cadre of District and Sessions Judge, at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Pudukkottai, Salem and Thanjavur.

(x) Special Court for sandalwood offences

For exclusive trial of cases registered in connection with sandalwood offences, a Special Judicial Magistrate Court was constituted and functioning at Tirupattur in Vellore district.

(xi) Railway Courts

For exclusive trial of cases of offences committed in the premises of Railway Stations and Trains under Indian Railway Act, Railway Magistrate Courts were constituted and functioning in the districts of Vellore, Cuddalore, Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and in Egmore, Chennai and Chennai Central Railway Stations. The expenditure of the said courts are borne by the State Government and the fines collected by the said courts are credited to the receipts of the State Government.

(xii) Mobile Courts

The Mobile Courts are the Special Courts constituted in the cadre of Judicial Magistrate to deal with petty cases registered under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988) and cases registered under other Enactments. Twelve Mobile Courts i.e., two

at Chennai and one each at Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Namakkal, Salem, Erode, Dindigul and Tirunelveli were constituted and started functioning in this State which resulted in expeditious disposal of petty cases.

(xiii) Designated Courts under Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987

For trial of cases registered under the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987(since repealed), four courts are functioning (i.e) two at Chennai, I Additional Judge and V Additional Judge of City Civil Court and Principal District Judges of Tirunelveli and Tiruchirappalli were appointed as Judge of Designated Court under the said Act.

(xiv) Additional Sessions Courts for the trial of Bomb Blast cases

Two Special Courts in the cadre of Additional Sessions Judge were constituted for trial of Bomb Blast cases registered under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 (Central Act 15 of 2002), one each at Chennai and Coimbatore. The Special Court functioning at Poonamallee in Chennai is also trying cases arising out of the offences under the said Act.

(xv) Sessions Court for the trial of communal clash cases

A Sessions Court is functioning at Madurai for the trial of communal clash cases arising in the Southern Districts.

(xvi) Magalir Neethimandram (Mahila Courts)

Mahila courts also known as Magalir Neethimandram are the courts in the cadre of District and Sessions Judge to try the offences against women such as outraging the modesty of women, rape etc., and cases under other social Laws enacted by the Central and State Government for the protection of women. There are ten Mahila Courts functioning at Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Salem, Perambalur, Cuddalore, Chengalpattu and Pudukottai. In the above places Government also sanctioned and notified ten Additional Mahila Courts in the cadre of Judicial Magistrate. Out of these ten additional Mahila courts, four courts have started functioning at Coimbatore, Salem Perambalur and Tirunelveli. Further, Twenty two Fast Track Mahila Courts in the cadre of District

Judge have been sanctioned as per G.O.(Ms) No.217, Home (Courts-II) Department, dated 2.4.2013 to function at Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Nagercoil, Karur, Krishnagiri, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, the Nilgiris, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Theni, Thoothukudi, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur, Vellore, Villupuram, Srivilliputhur, Ariyalur and Tiruppur.

(xvii) Courts for CCB and CBCID Metro cases

For exclusive trial of Central Crime Branch cases (relating to cheating cases in Chennai) and Crime Branch Criminal Investigation Department metro cases in Chennai, the Government sanctioned constitution of a new court in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge in Chennai.

(xviii) Evening Courts

Evening Courts try petty cases so as to clear the backlog of the cases pending before the regular courts and to reduce work load and to save Judicial time. In the State, 56 Evening Courts are functioning and the details are given in Annexure-IV. Further the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.3.92 crore

for constitution of 90 Evening Courts i.e., one Evening Court each in the cadre of District Judge/ Sub Judge/Judicial Magistrate in each District for 30 Districts (3 courts for each district). These Evening Courts may utilize the services of regular Judicial Officers on payment of flat rate of honorarium or the retired officers on payment of honorarium.

(xix) Fast Track Courts (Magisterial level)

The Government sanctioned 50 Fast Track Courts at Magisterial Level to clear the pendency of criminal cases in the Judicial Magistrate Courts in this State. Of these, one Fast Track Court at Ottanchatram was converted as Judicial Magistrate Court. Of the remaining 49 Courts, 39 courts were notified and 36 Fast Track Courts were constituted and started functioning. Further, 10 Fast Track Courts were diverted to the places where the Mahila Courts in the cadre of District Judge exists and these courts were re-designated as Additional Mahila Courts and the said courts were notified by the Government. Out of the 10 Additional Mahila Courts, 4 Courts one each at Coimbatore, Salem, Perambalur and Tirunelveli have started functioning.

(xx) Special Courts to deal with MCOP and LAOP cases

For exclusive trial of cases relating to Motor Accident Claims Original Petition(MCOP)/Land Acquisition Original Petition(LAOP) cases 29 Special Courts were sanctioned by the Government of which 8 Special Courts to deal with MCOP cases (in the cadre of District Judge), 4 Special Courts to deal with LAOP cases (in the cadre of Sub Judge) and 17 Special Courts to deal with MCOP cases (in the cadre of Sub Judge). Among these, 16 Special Courts were notified by the Government in the cadre of Sub Judge to deal with MCOP cases and 10 Courts have started functioning at Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Krishnagiri, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli and 2 Courts each at Salem and Chennai. Four Special Courts to deal with MCOP cases in the cadre of District Judge were notified and three courts started functioning at Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Krishnagiri. Four Special Courts in the cadre of Sub Judge to deal with LAOP cases were notified and three Special Courts started functioning at Vellore, Arakkonam, Cuddalore were constituted and started functioning. In addition to the

above, Motor Accident Claims Tribunal in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge at Tirupattur in Vellore District was constituted and started functioning.

(xxi) Special Courts for Land Grabbing Cases

Consequent to the formation of 36 Anti land grabbing special cells in all the cities and districts of the State, a large number of complaints have been registered in the cells. The piling of the land grabbing Complaints in the anti land grabbing special cells constituted all over the State for that purpose has made it imperative to try these cases before a special court to give a speedy disposal. The Government sanctioned and notified constitution of twenty five Special Courts in the cadre of Civil Judge in the State including two Special Courts at Chennai City. The details of Courts are given in Annexure-V. Among these, the Special Courts at Coimbatore, Erode, The Nilgiris, Ramanathapuram, Theni, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Tiruppur, Tiruvallur, Krishnagiri, Thanjavur, Namakkal and the two courts at Chennai have been constituted.

(xxii) Additional Master Courts

10 Additional Master Courts i.e., 4 Courts for Madras High Court, 4 Courts for City Civil Court, Chennai and 2 Courts for Court of Small Causes, Chennai are functioning in the State. These Courts are functioning only for summoning the litigant and recording the evidence.

(xxiii) The Administrator General and Official Trustee, Chennai

The Administrator General and Official Trustee, Chennai is an Officer in the cadre of District Judge. He is assisted by the Deputy Administrator General and Official Trustee in the cadre of Civil Judge. These two Officers are in-charge of Trust properties and of Minors and Estates of deceased persons. They are performing duties assigned to them in accordance with the provisions contained in the Administrator General and Official Trustees Act.

12. Tamil Law Journal

The publication of bi-monthly Law Journal "Theerpu Thirattu" (Tamil), which brings out the

important Judgements made by the Hon'ble High Court of Madras is available for the use of the Advocates and the Public.

13. Schemes under 13th Finance Commission Grants-in-aid

13.1. For improvement in Justice Delivery, the 13th Finance Commission has recommended a grant of Rs.252.44 Crore to Tamil Nadu. The component wise allocation for the period from 2010-2011 to 2014-2015 is as detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Grants recommended by the 13th Finance Commission (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Morning and Evening Courts	123.54
2.	Lok Adalat and Legal Aid	14.83
3.	Training of Judicial Officers	12.35
4.	Training of Public Prosecutors	7.41
5.	Heritage Court Buildings	22.24
6.	State Judicial Academy	15.00
7.	ADR Centres	40.76
8.	Court Managers	16.30
	Total	252.44

13.2. As per the guidelines issued by the Government of India, a High Level Monitoring Committee has been constituted in this State under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government to approve and monitor the schemes to be implemented under the 13th Finance Commission Grant. The Government of India had released a sum of Rs.50.486 Crore for the year 2010-2011. In anticipation of the grants to be released from Government of India for the period from 2011-12 to 2014-15, this Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.141.33 Crore so far for expeditious implementation of the scheme. The Government of India has been requested to release the grants for the period 2011-12 and 2012-13.

13.3. Financial sanction accorded under the 13th Finance Commission Grants-in-aid

- ❖ A sum of Rs.49.21 crore sanctioned for constitution of 29 Special Courts in the cadre of District /Subordinate Judge to deal with MCOP/LAOP cases.

- ❖ A sum of Rs.3.92 crore sanctioned for constitution of 90 Evening Courts in the cadre of District /Subordinate Judge /

Judicial Magistrate in 30 districts (3 courts in each districts).

- ❖ A sum of Rs.1.53 crore sanctioned for constitution of separate Motor Accident Claims Tribunal at Tirupattur in Vellore district in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.1.36 crore sanctioned for constitution of an Additional Family Court at Coimbatore in the cadre of District Judge.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.25.71 lakh sanctioned towards payment of Honorarium to the Judicial Officers and Staff of four Holiday Family Courts at Chennai.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.17.00 crore sanctioned for construction of Regional Centres of State Judicial Academy at Coimbatore and Madurai.
- ❖ A total sum of Rs.4.94 crore was sanctioned for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13 at the rate of Rs.2.47 crore per year to the State Judicial Academy for giving training to the Judicial Officers.

- ❖ 35 post of Court Managers in the cadre of Assistant Registrars were sanctioned to enhance the efficiency of Court Management.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.4.20 crore sanctioned for construction of Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre within the premises of High Court, Chennai and a sum of Rs.29 crore sanctioned for construction of Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres in 29 Judicial districts at a cost of Rupees one crore for each district.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.5.93 crore sanctioned for conducting Legal Literacy Camps, Lok Adalats and Mega Lok Adalats for the year 2011-12 and 2012-13.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.2.79 crore sanctioned towards imparting training to Mediators, Judicial Officers and Advocates in Mediation.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.78.87 lakh sanctioned for giving residential inservice training to the 645

Prosecutors at Anna Institute of Management, Chennai.

- ❖ A sum of Rs.4.83 lakh sanctioned for provision of Mobile Phone Law Software comprising 71 Acts to all the Public Prosecutors of the State.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.8.95 lakh sanctioned for provision of Law books for the use of the Prosecuting Officers.

14. Centrally Sponsored Scheme

14.1. The Department of Justice is implementing a “Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary” to augment the resources of the State Governments / UT administrations. The scheme covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodation of Judges and Judicial Officers, covering both the High Court and the Subordinate Courts, to facilitate better delivery of justice. Under this scheme, the ratio of 50:50 of the expenditure shared between the Centre and the State Governments has been revised as 75:25 from the year 2012-13 onwards.

14.2. The details of amount sanctioned under the scheme for the years 2006-2007 to 2012-2013 are tabulated as below:-

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Year	Central Share	State Share	Sanctioned amount
1.	2006-07	245.00	251.420	496.420
2.	2007-08	248.00	250.852	498.852
3.	2008-09	846.00	761.210	1607.210
4.	2009-10	356.00	286.260	642.260
5.	2012-13	1953.00	631.090	2584.090

14.3. An amount of Rs.3.37 crore for the year 2010-11 and Rs.14.97 crore for the year 2011-12 which have tentatively been allocated by the Government of India under this scheme, has not been released by them so far. The Government of India, has released a sum of Rs.1953 lakh for the year 2012-13 as Central Share to this State under this Scheme. From out of this amount, this Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.2584.09 lakh along with its matching share of Rs.631.09 lakh for construction of Combined Court Buildings and quarters for Judicial Officers at Mayiladuthurai in Nagapattinam district, Tittagudi in Cuddalore district, Mudhukulathur in

Ramanathapuram district, for construction of Quarters for Judicial Officers at Krishnagiri and for construction of building for accommodating the Advocate's Society Canteen and Law Chambers for Advocates in the premises of High Court, Chennai.

15. Usage of Tamil language in the proceedings of the High Court of Madras

Article 348(2) of the Constitution of India read with section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 clearly envisages the usage of the State Official Language in judgments, decrees and the proceedings of the High Courts with prior concurrence of the President of India. This practice is already being adopted in four States. However, our repeated requests to authorise the use of Tamil in the High Court of Madras have not been responded to favourably. A recent communication received in January, 2013, from the Department of Official Languages, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, has indicated that the request of the State was considered by the Full Court of the Supreme Court of India in the meeting held on:11.10.2012 and that the Full Court, after due deliberations, re-iterated its earlier Resolutions adopted

on 7.5.1997 and 15.10.1999 not to approve the proposal. If we are to take the administration of justice genuinely closer to the people, then it is absolutely imperative that the local language is used in the High Court, as is already being done in the State Government and in the State Legislature. This issue was also highlighted in the Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts held at New Delhi on 7th, April, 2013.

16. Appointment of Civil Judges

16.1. Many posts of Civil Judges fell vacant during the period 2009-2011. With a view to fill up the vacancies, 172 candidates were appointed as Civil Judges through direct recruitment at a recurring expenditure of Rs.14.10 Crores per annum.

16.2. They are divided into two batches and imparted training for two and half months in Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy. They are also given training in District Courts for three months. This training includes practical training by field visits to Forensic Science Laboratory, Central Prison, Government General Hospital, Police Crime Records Bureau, Institute of

Mental Health, Railway Protection Force. On completion of training they have been posted as Judges in Subordinate Courts.

17. Judicial Academy

17.1. The Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy was established on 23.4.2001. The new building of Judicial Academy was constructed at an expenditure of Rs.4.50 crore and was inaugurated on 25.7.2004. The Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned Rs.15.00 lakh as annual grant to the Judicial Academy every year from 2006. The Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy is under the administrative control of High Court of Madras. The object of the Academy is to impart effective training to the Judicial Officers such as District Judge, Senior Civil Judge, Civil Judge and staff of the Judiciary and induction training to the newly recruits so as to keep them in pace with the emerging legal, social and technological trends.

17.2. It is necessary to support the State Judicial Academy to enable them to operate the training programmes throughout the year to promptly provide training to the Judicial Officers. Therefore, the

Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.17.00 crore for construction of Regional Centres of State Judicial Academy at Coimbatore and Madurai and the construction works are in progress.

17.3. The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.4.94 crore for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13 to the Judicial Academy for giving training to the Judicial Officers.

18. Court Managers

With a view to enhancing the efficiency of court management and to support the Judges to perform their administrative duties and devote more time to the judicial function, the 13th Finance Commission has recommended for creation of the post of Court Managers and allotted a total sum of Rs.16.30 crore for this component. Accordingly, 35 posts of Court Manager in the cadre of Assistant Registrar were sanctioned i.e., two posts for the High Court of Madras and one post for the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and 32 posts to the District Courts in the State. At present, all the 35 posts of Court Manager have been filled up. Further, the Government have decided to

create 73 posts of supporting staff to assist the Court Managers i.e., one post of Section Officer, one post of Assistant and one post of Typist to each of the two Court Managers in the High Court of Madras, one post of Section Officer, one post of Assistant and one post of Typist to one Court Manager in the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and one post of Assistant and one post of Typist to each of the 32 Court Managers in the District Courts. The Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice has been addressed seeking approval for utilizing the 13th Finance Commission grant in aid for creating the above post of supporting staff to the Court Managers. The reply from Government of India is still awaited.

19. Computerization in Courts

19.1. During the year 2005, the Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice in association with the National Informatics Centre formulated a programme to computerize all the district and subordinate courts in the country. The National Informatics Centre, New Delhi released a sum of Rs.4.18 crore in three installments under this scheme. On completion of site preparation

work for Computer server room and Judicial Service Centres in all the District Headquarters, the Computers, Servers, UPS, Printers and other IT peripherals supplied by the NIC, New Delhi have been installed in the District Courts.

19.2. Under the e-Courts mission mode project, 799 courts have been provided with hardware items such as Computers, Servers, UPS, Printers and other IT peripherals. The State Government has also sanctioned a total sum of Rs.53.84 lakh in the year 2012-13 for the maintenance of software being used in the High Court of Madras. Under this scheme, though the initial expenditure regarding the purchase of equipments and the appointment of staff on contract basis were sanctioned by the Government of India, this Government is implementing this scheme effectively by meeting the recurring expenditure.

19.3. Under this Scheme, the work of site preparation towards Local Area Net Work installation, additional requirement etc., which was already completed by the e-Courts program will not be entertained for the second time by the Government of

India. Hence, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.6.89 lakh for provision of Local Area Net Work facilities to the newly constructed Combined Court Buildings in the District head quarters of Erode, Karur, Namakkal and Tiruvarur. In addition to that the Government have also sanctioned Rs.9.15 lakh towards Annual Maintenance Contract for Laptops and Printers provided to the 695 Judicial Officers.

19.4. The pending and disposed cases of the High Court of Madras is available in the website of High Court of Madras to enable the Judges of the lower courts, Advocates and the litigant public to know the status of the cases. The IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System) provides Advocates / Litigants Public to know the status of the cases through the telephone by dialing the number 044-25340418 or 044-25340420.

20. Construction of court buildings, quarters for Judicial Officers and other Infrastructure facilities

A sum of Rs.162.13 crore has been sanctioned in the past two years for construction of court buildings, residential quarters and other infrastructure facilities for

judicial officers. In Tamil Nadu out of the 857 Subordinate Courts functioning nearly 87.28% are located in their own buildings and only 12.72% are located in the rented buildings. Construction of the following court buildings and quarters for the Judicial Officers have been sanctioned for the year 2012-2013.

- ❖ A sum of Rs.155 lakh sanctioned for construction of new building for District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Court at Vilathikulam in Thoothukudi district.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.178 lakh sanctioned for construction of District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Court buildings and quarters for Judicial Officers at Denkanikottai in Krishnagiri district.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.1731.69 lakh sanctioned for construction of Combined Court Buildings and quarters for Judicial Officers at Tindivanam in Villupuram district.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.1041.60 lakh sanctioned for construction of Combined Court Buildings and quarters for Judicial Officers at Mayiladuthurai in Nagapattinam district.

- ❖ A sum of Rs.483.50 lakh sanctioned for construction of Combined Court Buildings and quarters for Judicial Officers at Tittagudi in Cuddalore district.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.497.31 lakh sanctioned for construction of Combined Court Buildings and quarters for Judicial Officers at Mudukulathur in Ramanathapuram district.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.141.68 lakh sanctioned for construction of quarters for Judicial Officers at Krishnagiri.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.87.82 lakh sanctioned for construction of 26 Law Chambers in the District Court Campus in Pudukottai.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.71.83 lakh sanctioned for construction of compound wall around the District Court and Judicial Officers' quarters at Srivilliputhur in Virudhunagar district.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.13.65 lakh sanctioned for Landscaping and development of garden in the premises of High Court of Madras.

21. Sanction of new Courts during the years 2011-12 and 2012-13

This Government sanctioned for constitution of 105 new Courts during the years 2011-12 and 2012-13. The details are as follows:-

Special Courts:

- ❖ Special Courts for Land Grabbing Cases. : 25
- ❖ Special Courts for Motor Accident Claim Original Petition (MCOP) Cases in the cadre of District Judge at Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruvallur, Madurai, Villupuram, Krishnagiri, Erode and Thanjavur. : 8
- ❖ Special Courts for Motor Accident Claim Original Petition (MCOP) Cases in the cadre of Sub Judges two Courts each at Chennai, Villupuram and Salem and one Court each at Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Erode, Tirunelveli, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruvallur, Madurai, Krishnagiri and Thanjavur. : 17
- ❖ Special Courts for Land Acquisition Original Petition (LAOP) Cases in the cadre of Sub Judges at Vellore, : 4

- Arakkonam, Tiruvallur and Cuddalore.
- ❖ Special Court for exclusive trial of Central Crime Branch cases (relating to cheating cases in Chennai) and Crime Branch Criminal Investigation Department metro cases in Chennai. : 1
 - ❖ Special Courts for the cases of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 at Villupuram, Salem, Sivagangai and Tirunelveli : 4
 - ❖ Motor Accident Claim Tribunal at Tirupattur in Vellore district : 1
 - ❖ Additional Family Court at Coimbatore : 1
 - ❖ Additional Mahila Courts in the cadre of Judicial Magistrate at Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Salem, Cuddalore, Perambalur, Chengalpet and Pudukottai : 10
 - ❖ Fast Track Mahila Courts in the cadre of District Judge for exclusive trial of crimes against women cases at Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Nagercoil, Karur, Krishnagiri, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, the Nilgiris, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, : 22

Thanjavur, Theni, Thoothukudi,
Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur,
Vellore, Villupuram, Srivilliputhur,
Ariyalur and Tiruppur

Other Courts

❖ Sub Court at Vedasandur in Dindigul district.	:	1
❖ District Munsif Courts at Cheyyar in Tiruvannamalai district and Tiruchendur in Thoothukudi district.	:	2
❖ Additional District Munsif Courts at Tirupattur in Vellore district.	:	1
❖ Judicial Magistrate Courts at Pudukottai in Pudukottai district, Pandalur in the Nilgiris district, Tiruchendur in Thoothukudi district, Nanguneri in Tirunelveli district, Lalgudi in Tiruchirappalli district and Ulundurpet in Villupuram district.	:	6
❖ District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts at Boothapandy in Kanniyakumari district and Peraiyoor in Madurai district.	:	2
Total	:	105

22. Other facilities

- ❖ A sum of Rs.50.63 lakh sanctioned for fixing of additional features i.e., RADF facilities to the 280 photo copiers which were earlier sanctioned for the use in the Subordinate Courts in the State.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.5.30 lakh sanctioned for purchase of furniture for the High Court Guest House.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.9.66 lakh sanctioned for purchase of two printers for the use of High Court of Madras, Chennai and Madurai Bench.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.40 lakh sanctioned towards the inaugural function of the Sesquicentennial Celebrations of High Court of Madras.
- ❖ A sum Rs.2.07 lakh sanctioned for purchase of two computers for the office of Government Pleader in High Court of Madras and for purchase of Remotely Managed Franking Machine for the use of High Court of Madras.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.3.16 lakh sanctioned for purchase of Photocopier machines to the Principal District Court, Chengalpattu in Kancheepuram district, Sub Court, Kallakurichi

in Villupuram district and Sub Court, Ranipet in Vellore district.

- ❖ A sum of Rs.3.97 lakh sanctioned for purchase of furniture to the Chief Judicial Magistrate Court and Judicial Magistrate Courts II & III at Erode, the Fast Track Court-IV at Bhavani in Erode district and the District Court at Ramanathapuram.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.43.32 lakh sanctioned for purchase of furniture for Subordinate Courts in the State.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.2.00 crore sanctioned to meet the expenditure relating to the valedictory function to mark the Sesquicentennial Celebrations of High Court of Madras.
- ❖ A sum of Rs.25.71 lakh sanctioned for paying the Honorarium to the Judicial Officers and Staff of Holiday Family Courts in Chennai.
- ❖ Sanction accorded for increasing the Honorarium from Rs.5000/- to Rs.7500/- to the Clerks of Hon'ble Judges in High Court of Madras and Madurai Bench.

- ❖ Sanction accorded for a sum of Rs.20 lakh as grant to the Tamil Nadu Women Federation for conducting the All India Women Advocates National Conference in Chennai.
- ❖ Sanction accorded for a sum of Rs.1 crore as a special grant for conducting 11th All India meet of State Legal Services Authority held at Chennai on 20th and 21st April, 2013.

23. Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority

Objectives

23.1. The Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted in the year 1987 to give free legal services to the weaker section of the society, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to the economically deprived people and people with disabilities, to educate SC, ST, BC and other poorer sections of the society on their rights and to enable them to get the privileges and benefits given to them by various Social Welfare Legislations and Administrative orders. This Act was amended in the year 1994. To discharge the above functions, the Act contemplates constitution of State Legal Services Authority, District Legal Services Authorities, Taluk Legal Services

Committees and High Court Legal Services Committees. Now, 29 District Legal Services Authorities, 149 Taluk Legal Services Committees and 2 High Court Legal Services Committees are functioning in Tamil Nadu. The function of the State, District and Legal Services Committee is to give effect to the policy and directions of the National Legal Services Authority, to give Legal Services to the persons, to conduct Lok Adalats and to undertake the Legal Aid programmes. The main function of the High Court Legal Services Committee is to give legal services to pursue the cases before the High Court and to perform other functions fixed by the State Legal Services Authority.

Eligibility Criteria

23.2. The following is the eligibility criteria for every person who has to file and defend the cases under section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987: -

- (i) a member of Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;
- (ii) a Woman or a Child

- (iii) a victim of Trafficking in Human beings or Beggar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution.
- (iv) a specially challenged person
- (v) a person under circumstances of underserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster; or
- (vi) an Industrial Workman
- (vii) persons in custody, Juvenile Home, Protective home and in a Psychiatric hospital
- (viii) In receipt of annual income less than one lakh specified in rule 17 of the Tamil Nadu Legal Services Authority Rules, 1997.

23.3. The affected persons will give their applications for legal services either in writing or orally without any fee.

Counselling and Mediation Centres

23.4. Counselling Centres are attached to each District Legal Services Authority and the High Court

Legal Services Committee. The Lawyers give legal assistance on all working days. This Centre functions as an instrumentality for pre-litigative cases. The Lawyer recommends to take unresolved cases to the Courts.

23.5. The Mediation Centres are functioning in the villages where the Courts are not functioning, to settle the cases and problems. Mediation Centres are functioning mostly in the Panchayat Union Offices on holidays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres

23.6. Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres set up in each district will function as a hub for all mediation activities. It includes Lok Adalats and other alternative dispute mechanisms. A sum of Rs.4.20 Crore has been sanctioned for construction of Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre in Chennai High Court Campus. The Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs.29 crore for construction of Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres in the remaining 29 Judicial Districts.

Centre for women

23.7. The Centre for women is functioning for solving the matrimonial disputes, property disputes and other problems of women in the State.

Legal Assistance

23.8. The Legal Services Authority assist the accused to get free legal assistance from the time of arrest. The Legal Services Authority is also giving assistance to get the benefits given through the public welfare schemes, free legal assistance to the destitute widows, women deserted by their husbands, old age pensioners and to the victims of motor accidents to get compensation.

Lok Adalat

23.9. The Lok Adalats have the same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Civil Procedure Code, 1908. The first Lok Adalat was held in January 1986 at Chennai. Lok Adalats have the jurisdiction to determine and to arrive at compromise or settlement between the parties of the disputes or any matter which is falling within the jurisdiction of any court but has not been brought before the Court. The cases pending

before the various special courts relating to motor vehicle accident claims, land acquisitions, bank loans, pension related cases and cases pending in the family courts are taken up and settled in Lok Adalats.

During the year 2012, 78,291 cases have been settled by the Lok Adalats. A sum of Rs.701.34 Crores have been awarded to the affected parties. Also on a single day (i.e., on 15.4.2013) the Mega Lok Adalat has disposed of 10,565 cheque bouncing cases and a sum of Rs.77,63,53,763/- has been settled.

Legal Aid camps and Legal literacy promotion camps

23.10. Legal Aid camps and legal literacy promotion camps are held periodically in villages. The officials from the departments of Revenue, Police etc. are invited to attend the camps. The panel lawyers visit the camps and enlighten them on the various rights of the people and also receive petitions. If necessary, the petitions are sent to the concerned Legal Services Authority. The concerned local revenue authorities, Police and other department officials assist the petitioners who attend the camps and settle the cases on the spot thereby ensuring speedy disposal.

23.11. The Government sanctioned a sum of Rs.296.60 lakh in the financial year 2012-13 towards conducting legal Literacy camps.

Prison Adalat and Legal Aid Cell in Central Prison

23.12. The Prison Adalat and Legal Aid Cell are functioning in the Central Prisons at Chennai, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Vellore, Cuddalore, Salem, Tirunelveli, and Coimbatore. The Special Legal Aid Cell has also been established in the Special Prison for Women at Vellore and Special Prison for women at Puzhal. In Central Prison, Puzhal a legal aid clinic has been opened for the convicted prisoners. One Staff from District Legal Services Authority and two lawyers are deputed to work through out the day in the prisons. The Prison Adalats are functioning on every Friday. In the prison legal aid cell, the petitions from the prisoners are being registered and appropriate action is taken on the petitions.

Legal Aid Counsel Scheme

23.13. Under the Legal Aid Counsel Scheme Legal Aid counsel are deputed to all courts by the Legal Services Authorities and Committees to provide legal

assistance to the under trials produced for remand before the Judicial Magistrate Court for those who are unable to engage counsel. The scheme ensures to give legal assistance at three stages to the prisoners in custody viz., for getting release on bail and for opposing remand applications, Legal assistance during trial for defence and Legal assistance for preferring appeals or revision in case of adverse orders.

Legal Aid Help Line

23.14. Free Legal assistance and opinion are being given through the Legal Aid Help Line Centre in Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority. The Help Line No. is 044-25342441. The advocates are deputed to attend the calls and to give opinion both morning and evening by turns.

23.15. The exemplary functioning of the Lok Adalat in this State under the Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority has been a driving force for having chosen Chennai as the venue for the 11th All India Conference of the State Legal Services Authorities held on 20th and 21st April, 2013 and a sum of Rs.1 Crore

has been sanctioned towards the expenditure for the above meet.

24. The Department of Government Litigations

24.1. The Department of Government Litigations was constituted in the year 1997 under the overall administrative control of the Advocate General of Tamil Nadu. This Department is constituted with the Law Officers of the High Court of Madras and its bench at Madurai and they comprise of the Advocate General, 4 Additional Advocate Generals, 1 Government Pleader, 1 Public Prosecutor, 23 Special Government Pleaders, 12 Additional Public Prosecutors, 33 Additional Government Pleaders, 14 Government Advocates (Criminal Side) and 56 Government Advocates (Civil Side) totalling to a unit of 146 Law Officers. Two Additional Advocate Generals have been appointed to appear in the Supreme Court of India on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

24.2. The main function of the Law Officers of the Department of Government Litigations is to appear on behalf of the State before the Hon'ble High Court at Madras and its Bench at Madurai. They also offer legal opinions to various departments,

settle legal papers like affidavits, counter affidavits, agreements etc.

24.3. To assist the law officers, the Government have sanctioned 264 ministerial staff in various categories.

25. Directorate of Prosecution

25.1. The Directorate of Prosecution has been established in the State during 1995 to have an overall control and supervision of the Prosecuting Officers working in the courts.

Organisational Setup

25.2. The Directorate of Prosecution is situated at Chennai with the Director of Prosecution as its administrative head. One post of Joint Director (Administration) has been sanctioned to assist the Director. One post of Associate Editor (Publication) in the rank of Assistant Director of Prosecution has been sanctioned to attend to the work relating to publication of Tamil Nadu Prosecutors Journal, every month for the benefit of all the Prosecuting Officers. Other than this 11 posts of Deputy Directors of Prosecution, 14 posts of Assistant Directors of Prosecution, 29 posts of

Additional Public Prosecutors, 91 posts of Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-I and 193 posts of Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-II have been sanctioned for the Department. The Additional Public Prosecutors, Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-I and Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-II are conducting criminal cases in the Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts / District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts / Judicial Magistrate Courts respectively. 323 Ministerial staff add to the strength of the department.

Direct Recruitment

25.3. 83 candidates for the post of Assistant Public Prosecutor Grade-II were selected by the TNPSC for the year 2009-2010 and 76 of them have been appointed. Further the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission has also notified 47 vacancies for the year 2010-2011 and 88 vacancies for the year 2011-2012 in the post of Assistant Public Prosecutor Grade-II to be filled up by direct recruitment.

Promotion

25.4. Fifty three Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-II have been promoted as Assistant Public

Prosecutors Grade-I. Twenty eight Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-I have been promoted as Additional Public Prosecutors and Assistant Directors of Prosecution.

Training

25.5. Government have ordered imparting in-service training to all Public Prosecutors in the State. This in-service training is imparted to all 645 regular cadre and tenure based Public Prosecutors in 21 batches (30 persons per batch) through Anna Institute of Management, Chennai. The duration of this training is 10 working days. The newly appointed Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-II were imparted induction training of two weeks indoor training and one week practical training in the courts at a cost of Rs.3,26,600/-.

25.6. Government have ordered for provision of Mobile Phone Law Software comprising 71 Acts to all Public Prosecutors at a cost of Rs.4,83,750/- and also ordered for purchase of Law books to all Prosecuting Officers of this Department at a cost of Rs.8,95,670/-

26. Sesquicentennial Celebrations of the High Court of Madras

26.1. The High Court of Judicature at Madras came into existence on the 15th August, 1862 and the High Court of Madras completed its 150th year on 15th August, 2012. The inaugural function was celebrated in a grand manner and a sum Rs.40 lakh was sanctioned by the Government for this purpose. The Valedictory function in connection with the Sesquicentennial Celebration was held on the 8th September, 2012 and many eminent dignitaries like His Excellency the President of India, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India and the Hon'ble Chief Minister graced the function. A sum of Rs.2 crore was sanctioned for incurring the expenditure in connection with the above Celebration.

26.2. On the occasion of the completion of the 150th Year of the High Court of Madras, this Government has also sanctioned the following, based on the announcement made at the valedictory function by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

- (i) A cash award equivalent to one increment as a one time measure was sanctioned to all Officers and Staff of the High Court, Chennai.

- (ii) A sum of Rs.10 crore was sanctioned towards construction of Auditorium and Museum in the premises of the High Court of Madras.
- (iii) The financial assistance given to the legal heir / nominee of the deceased Advocates was enhanced from Rs.2 lakh to Rs.5.25 lakh.
- (iv) A grant of Rs.4 crore per annum to the Tamil Nadu Advocates Welfare Fund was also sanctioned to keep the fund sustainable.

27. Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts

The Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts was held in New Delhi on the 7th April 2013. The following points were discussed at the Conference:-

(i) Additional funds for construction of Buildings for Subordinate Courts

Out of the 857 Subordinate Courts functioning in the State nearly 87.28% are located in their own buildings and only 12.72% are located in rented

premises. A sum of Rs.222.44 crore is required for completing the construction of the remaining court buildings. This fact was brought to the notice of the Government of India at the conference.

(ii) Usage of Tamil Language in the proceedings of the High Court of Madras

Article 348(2) of the Constitution read with Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963, clearly envisages the usage of the State official language in judgments, decrees and proceedings of the High Court with the prior concurrence of the President. This practice is already being adopted in four States. However, our repeated requests to authorize the use of Tamil in the High Court of Madras have not been responded to favourably. A recent communication received from the Department of Official Languages, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, has indicated that the request of the State was considered by the Full Court of the Supreme Court of India in the meeting held on 11.10.2012 and that the Full Court, after due deliberations, reiterated its earlier Resolutions adopted on 7.5.1997 and 15.10.1999 not to approve the proposal. If we are to take the administration of

justice genuinely closer to the people, then it is absolutely imperative that the local language is used in the High Court, as is already being done in the State Government and in the State Legislature. At the above conference the Government of India and the Supreme Court were requested to reconsider their stand in this matter and fulfill the long standing aspiration and demand of the State to authorize the use of Tamil in the High Court of Madras.

(iii) Holiday Family Courts

Three Holiday Family Courts, the first of their kind in the Country were inaugurated at the Madras High Court premises. Holiday Family Courts were set up to reduce the pendency of family dispute cases including divorce. The employed litigants who were unable to attend the courts on working days were greatly benefited. Subsequently, one more Holiday Family Court also started functioning in the premises of the High Court of Madras. The Government periodically sanction Honorarium to the Judges and staff of the Holiday Family Courts. The functioning of the Holiday Family Courts were greatly hailed at the Conference.

(iv) Juvenile Justice Board

During 2012, this Government has set up a Juvenile Justice Board under Section 4 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 in every District of the State. In addition, District Child Protection Societies have been formed in all the Districts of the State under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) and 1507 child care institutions have been registered under Section 34 of the Act. This Government has also constituted the Tamil Nadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights. The effective functioning of the above Institutions have also been highly commended at the conference.

28. Special initiatives for the year 2012-13

Tamil Nadu State Litigation Policy – 2012

28.1. A separate Litigation Policy has been formulated for the State. The Policy reflects the resolve of the State Government to bring about a visible and enduring qualitative and quantitative improvement in the manner in which litigation is perceived, managed and conducted in the State. The Policy provides for

- i. Reviewing the existing cases and withdrawing cases identified as frivolous and vexatious;
- ii. Formulating norms for defending cases as well as for filing appeals and
- iii. Setting up of Empowered Committees to eliminate unnecessary litigation.

It is proposed to implement the policy through a three-tier system comprising of

- i. A State Level Implementation Committee (SLIC)
- ii. A Department Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) and
- iii. A District Level Implementation Committee (Dt.LIC)

The main function of these Committees is to identify the major causes of litigation and to make recommendations for changes in the procedures and to monitor and review the cases at all stages.

A Grievance Redressal System has also been recommended in the State Litigation Policy to look into

the grievances of the employees and parties. By resorting to the system, Departments shall pre-empt a lot of unnecessary litigation through Department or District Level Implementation Committees. It has also been emphasized that every Department of State Government and Head of Department shall have one Senior Administrative Officer with a legal background designated as Legal Nodal Officer to monitor the proceedings of Court Cases and ensure that there is no delay in the conduct of cases.

Filing of Appeals

- i. The final view as to whether to prefer an appeal lies with the SLIC, DLIC or Dt.LIC.
- ii. 15 days time is fixed for the Law Officers to tender their Legal opinions to the departments.
- iii. Appeals shall be drafted with particular reference to synopsis and list of dates which will state the fact in dispute and issues involved.

- iv. The Heads of Departments to maintain a record of cases dismissed on grounds of delay and the Nodal Officers to submit a report annually, bi-monthly or quarterly on every case to the HOD explaining the reasons for delay.
- v. The responsibility for delays shall be fixed on the erring officials.

Construction of new buildings in the High Court Campus

28.2. In commemoration of the 150th year of completion of High Court of Madras, the Government sanctioned a sum of Rs.10 crore for construction of an Auditorium and Museum at a total plinth area of around 47,000 sq.ft. in the premises of the High Court of Madras. The Government sanctioned a sum of Rs.11.17 crore for construction of multi-storey building at a total plinth area of around 75,000 sq.ft. for housing the record section and translation department in the premises of the High Court of Madras. A sum of Rs.4.20 crore was sanctioned for construction of new building for the advocate society canteen and law chambers in the premises of High Court of Madras.

Totally, a sum of Rs.25.37 crore was sanctioned during the year 2012-13 for construction of new buildings in the premises of High Court of Madras.

Provision of vehicles for the Hon'ble Judges

28.3. The Government sanctioned a sum of Rs.309.19 lakh for purchase of Air-conditioned cars to the 32 Principal District Judges / District Judges in the State and for purchase of cars to the Chief Judicial Magistrates of Virudhunagar, Dindigul and Karur districts.

Tamil Nadu Advocate Welfare Fund

28.4. The Bar Council of Tamil Nadu have passed the resolution to request the Government to enhance the financial assistance given to the legal heirs / nominees of the deceased Advocates since several death claims were pending settlement by the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and sent proposals to Government. For the Welfare of Advocates, the Government have enhanced the financial assistance given to the legal heirs / nominees of the deceased Advocates to be paid from the Tamil Nadu Advocates Welfare Fund from Rs. 2.00 lakh to Rs.5.25 lakh.

The Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs.4.00 crore per annum as a Government grant to the Tamil Nadu Advocates Welfare Fund to enable the fund to be sustainable.

Fast Track Mahila Courts

28.5. Eventhough the offences committed against women are comparatively less in this State, in order to enable the victim to get immediate justice the Government ordered constitution of 22 Fast Track Mahila Courts in the cadre of District Judge to deal exclusively with the cases relating to crimes against women in 22 districts at a cost of Rs.16.60 crore, one each at Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Nagercoil, Karur, Krishnagiri, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, The Nilgiris, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Theni, Thoothukudi, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur, Vellore, Villupuram, Srivilliputhur, Ariyalur and Tiruppur apart from the 10 Mahila courts and 10 Additional Mahila Courts already existing in the 10 districts.

Special Courts for the Prevention of Corruption Act cases

28.6. Four Special Courts one each at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli are functioning

for the trial of cases under Prevention of Corruption Act,1988 in the State. In addition to the above Courts, the Government have sanctioned for constitution of 4 Special Courts in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge at Villupuram, Salem, Sivagangai and Tirunelveli with staff and other infrastructure facilities at an expenditure of Rs.1.40 crore for trial of cases under the said Act.

29. Part-II Schemes for the year 2013-2014

The following schemes will be taken up under Part-II Schemes for the year 2013-2014:-

Sl. No	Name of the Work	Estimated amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Construction of compound wall around the District Munsif Court at Thirumangalam in Madurai district.	7.80
2.	Construction of compound wall around the quarters of Judicial Magistrate at Dharapuram in Tiruppur district.	2.31
	Total	10.11

30. Conclusion

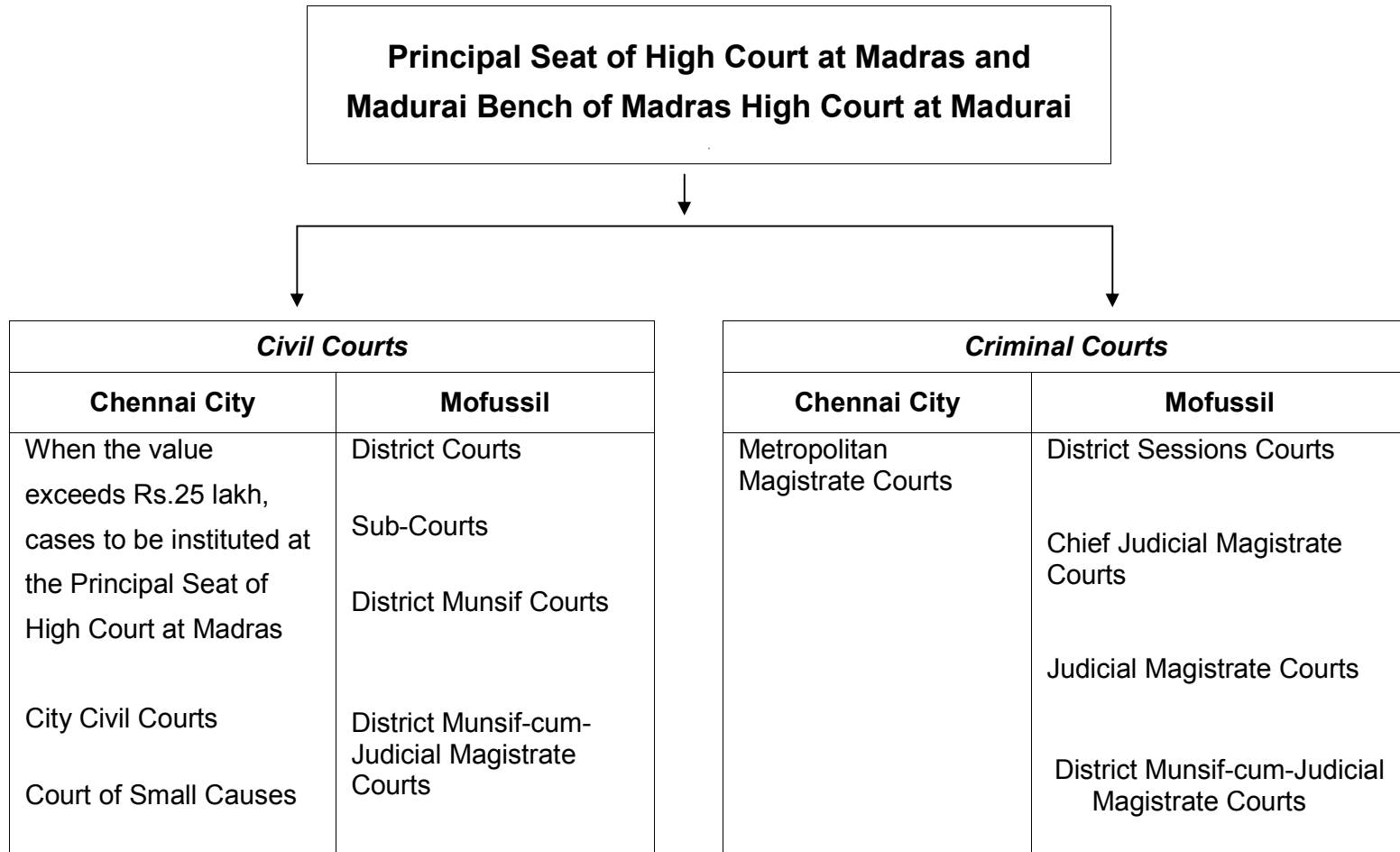
“No civilization would ever have been possible without a framework of stability. Foremost among the stabilizing factors, more enduring than customs, manners and traditions, are the legal systems that regulate our life in the world and our daily affairs with each other”. Economic growth can be inclusive only if it is tempered by equity and social justice. Equity and social justice can be brought about only by the Rule of Law and speedy administration of Justice. I am sure that efforts of the State Government in collaboration with the High Court and Subordinate Courts for providing adequate judicial infrastructure and necessary administrative arrangements through financial support and assistance will enable us to give Justice, liberty and equality to all our citizens as guaranteed to them by the Constitution of India.

K.P.MUNUSAMY
Minister for Municipal Administration,
Rural Development, Law,
Courts and Prisons

ANNEXURE – I

(see para -2)

ORGANISATIONAL HIERARCHY OF THE JUDICIARY IN TAMIL NADU



ANNEXURE – II

(see para – 4)

DETAILS SHOWING THE NUMBER OF COURTS / TRIBUNALS FUNCTIONING IN THE CITY OF CHENNAI

Sl. No.	Name of Courts / Tribunals	District Judge		Senior Civil Judge		Civil Judge
		District Courts	CBI Courts	C.M.M.	Others	
1.	City Civil Courts	14	6	--	18	1
2.	Court of Small Causes	1	--	--	8	8
3.	Metropolitan Magistrate Courts	2	-	1	6	21*
4.	Labour Courts	4	--	--	--	--
5.	Industrial Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
6.	Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal	1	--	--	1	--
7.	State Transport Appellate Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
8.	Special Court under Essential Commodities Act	1	--	--	--	--
9.	Administrator General and Official Trustee	1	--	--	--	--
10.	Deputy Administrator General and Official Trustee	--	--	--	--	1
11.	Family Courts	4	--	--	--	--
12.	Mahalir Neethimandram	1	--	--	--	--
13.	Special Court under TNPID (in Financial Estt.,) Act, 1997	1	--	--	--	--
14.	Additional Special Courts under N.D.P.S. Act	2	--	--	--	--
15.	Sessions Court for trial of Bomb Blast Cases	1	--	--	--	--
16.	Corporation of Chennai, Chennai Taxation Appeals Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
17.	Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Chennai	--	--	--	1	--
18.	Special Court under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988	--	--	--	1	--
19.	Special Courts for MCOP cases	--	--	--	2	--
20.	Special Courts for Land grabbing cases	--	--	--	--	2
	Total	36	6	1	37	33
Total Number of Courts – 113 [District Judges - 42] [Senior Civil Judges - 38] [Civil Judges - 33] * including four Fast Track Courts (Magisterial level)						

Annexure – III

(See para - 4)

DETAILS SHOWING NUMBER OF COURTS/TRIBUNALS FUNCTIONING IN THE DISTRICTS OF TAMIL NADU

Sl.No.	Districts	District Judge								Senior Civil Judge							Civil Judge						
		District Courts	PCR Courts	Bomb Blast /Communal Clashes Cases	Labour Courts	E.C. Act/N.D.P.S. Act Cases	Special Courts CBI Cases / TNPID Act Cases	Family Courts	Mahalir Neethi Mandram	Special Courts for MCOP Cases	Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts	Sub Courts	Special Courts for MCOP Cases	Special Courts for LAOP Cases	Prevention of corruption Act Cases	District Legal Services Authority	TAT / STAT	District Munsif Courts	Judicial Magistrate Courts	Fast Track Courts	Special Courts Land Grabbing Cases	Mobile Courts	District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1.	Ariyalur	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	--	1	--	2	--	--	--	3	2	--	--	--	--
2.	Coimbatore	5	--	1	1	1	2 [#]	1	1	-	1	5	1	--	1	1	2	5	10	3 [#]	1	1	2
3.	Cuddalore	4	--	--	1	--	--	--	1	-	1	8	1	1	-	--	--	9	9	-	-	-	4
4.	Dharmapuri	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	2	-	--	--	--	--	3	4	1	-	-	2
5.	Dindigul	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	4	1	--	--	1	--	5	6	1	-	1	3
6.	Erode	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	7	-	--	--	--	1	8	7	2	1	1	2
7.	Kancheepuram	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	-	1	5	-	--	--	--	--	7	7	1	-	1	3
8.	Kanniyakumari	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	6	-	--	-	--	--	9	6	2	-	-	2
9.	Karur	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	3	-	--	--	--	--	3	4	1	-	-	-
10.	Krishnagiri	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	3	1	--	--	--	--	1	3	1	1	-	4
11.	Madurai	5	1	1 ^{**}	1	3 [*]	2 [#]	1	1	-	1	6	-	--	1	1	2	5	10	2	-	1	2
12.	Nagapattinam	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	3	-	--	--	--	--	4	5	2	-	-	1

Continuation of Annexure-III

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
13.	Namakkal	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	3	-	--	--	--	--	5	4	1	1	1	1	
14.	The Nilgiris	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	--	1	-	--	--	--	--	3	2	1	1	-	2	
15.	Perambalur	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	-	1	1	-	--	--	--	--	1	1	1 [#]	-	-	-	
16.	Pudukottai	2	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	-	1	1	-	--	--	--	--	2	3	-	-	-	2	
17.	Ramanathapuram	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	2	-	--	--	--	--	3	4	-	1	-	3	
18.	Salem	4	--	--	1	1	--	1	1	1	1	6	2	--	--	1	1	6	12	2 [#]	-	1	1	
19.	Sivagangai	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	2	-	--	--	--	--	4	3	1	-	-	4	
20.	Thanjavur	3	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	-	1	6	-	--	--	1	--	5	6	1	1	-	3	
21.	Theni	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	3	-	--	--	--	--	3	3	2	1	-	2	
22.	Thoothukudi	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	2	-	--	--	1	1	6	7	2	1	-	1	
23.	Tiruchirappalli	3	1	--	1	--	--	--	1	1	1	4	1	--	1	1	1	8	9	-	-	1	1	
24.	Tirunelveli	4	1	--	1	--	--	--	1	-	1	7	1	--	--	1	1	12	9	1 [#]	1	1	4	
25.	Tiruppur	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	6	8	1	1	-	-	
26.	Tiruvallur	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	4	-	--	--	--	--	8	9	2	1	-	1	
27.	Tiruvannamalai	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	4	-	--	--	--	--	8	5	1	-	-	2	
28.	Tiruvarur	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	2	-	--	--	--	--	3	4	1	-	-	3	
29.	Vellore	4	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	-	1	5	***1	2	--	1	1	11	14	1	-	-	4	
30.	Villupuram	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	7	-	--	--	--	--	16	9	1	-	1	2	
31.	Virudhunagar	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	4	-	--	--	--	--	4	7	1	-	-	2	
	Total	82	4	2	8	7	4	3	9	3	29	120	9	5	3	9	11	176	192	36	12	10	63	
		District Judges - 122									Senior Civil Judges - 186						Civil Judges - 489							
		TOTAL NUMBER OF COURTS - 797																						
		<p>* including two special courts under N.D.P.S. Act Cases # including one Additional Mahalir Neethimandram (Magisterial level) ** Special Court for Communal Clashes ## including one Special Court for TNPID Act Cases *** Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal</p>																						

ANNEXURE – IV

(see para-11(xviii))

DETAILS OF EVENING COURTS

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of Courts
1.	Chennai	5
2.	Coimbatore	4
3.	Cuddalore	2
4.	Dindigul	1
5.	Erode	3
6.	Kancheepuram	4
7.	Kanniyakumari	4
8.	Karur	1
9.	Krishnagiri	2
10.	Madurai	1
11.	Nagapattinam	3
12.	Namakkal	1
13.	Perambalur	1
14.	Pudukottai	1
15.	Ramanathapuram	1

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of Courts
16.	Salem	2
17.	Sivagangai	1
18.	Thanjavur	1
19.	Theni	1
20.	Thoothukudi	1
21.	Tiruchirappalli	2
22.	Tirunelveli	6
23.	Tiruvallur	2
24.	Tiruvannamalai	1
25.	Tiruvarur	1
26.	Tiruppur	1
27.	Vellore	1
28.	Villupuram	1
29.	Virudhunagar	1
	Total	56

ANNEUXRE – V*(see para- 11(xxi))***DETAILS OF SPECIAL COURTS FOR LAND GRABBING CASES**

Sl.No.	Name of the District	Name of the place	No. of Courts	Sl.No.	Name of the District	Name of the place	No. of Courts
1.	Chennai	Chennai City	2	13.	Ramanathapuram	Ramanathapuram	1
2.	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	1	14.	Salem	Salem City	1
3.	Cuddalore	Cuddalore	1	15.	Thanjavur	Thanjavur	1
4.	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	1	16.	The Nilgiris	Udhagamandalam	1
5.	Erode	Erode	1	17.	Theni	Theni	1
6.	Kancheepuram	Kancheepuram	1	18.	Tiruchirappalli	Trichy City	1
7.	Karur	Karur	1	19.	Thoothukudi	Thoothukudi	1
8.	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri	1	20.	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli City	1
9.	Madurai	Madurai City	1	21.	Tiruppur	Tiruppur	1
10.	Namakkal	Namakkal	1	22.	Tiruvallur	Tiruvallur	1
11.	Perambalur	Perambalur	1	23.	Villupuram	Villupuram	1
12.	Pudukottai	Pudukottai	1	24.	Virudhunagar	Virudhunagar	1
						Total	25

ANNEUXRE – VI

(see para-9.2. (a))

DETAILS OF ADDITIONAL DISTRICT COURTS (FORMERLY FAST TRACK COURTS) FUNCTIONING IN THE STATE

Sl.No.	Name of the District	Name of the place	No. of Courts
1.	Ariyalur	Ariyalur	1
2.	Chennai	Chennai	5
3.	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	3
4.	Cuddalore	Cuddalore	1
		Chidambaram	1
		Virudhachalam	1
5.	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	1
6.	Dindigul	Dindigul	1
7.	Erode	Erode	1
		Bhavani	1
		Gopichettipalayam	1
		Dharapuram	1
8.	Kancheepuram	Chengalpattu	1
9.	Madurai	Madurai	3
10.	Namakkal	Namakkal	1
11.	Pudukottai	Pudukottai	1
12.	Ramanathapuram	Ramanathapuram	1

Sl.No.	Name of the District	Name of the place	No. of Courts
13.	Salem	Salem	2
14.	Thanjavur	Thanjavur	1
		Pattukottai	1
15.	Theni	Periyakulam	1
16.	Thoothukudi	Thoothukudi	2
17.	Tiruchirappalli	Tiruchirappalli	2
18.	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli	2
19.	Tiruppur	Tiruppur	2
20.	Tiruvallur	Tiruvallur	1
		Poonamallee	2
		Ponneri	1
21.	Vellore	Vellore	1
		Tirupattur	1
		Ranipettai	1
22.	Villupuram	Kallakurichi	1
		Tindivanam	2
23.	Virudhunagar	Virudhunagar	1
Total			49

ANNEXURE - VII

(see para -8.)

**STATEMENT SHOWING INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CIVIL & CRIMINAL CASES OF
HIGH COURT OF MADRAS**

Sl. No.	Year	<i>Civil Cases</i>				<i>Criminal Cases</i>				Total Pendency of Civil & Criminal Cases
		Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	
1.	01-01-2008 to 31-12-2008	336084	126767	119358	343493	29412	47764	44065	33111	376604
2.	01-01-2009 to 31-12-2009	343493	124860	151822	316531	33111	52350	56643	28818	345349
3.	01-01-2010 to 31-12-2010	316531	134681	132061	319151	28818	48998	43593	34223	353374
4.	01-01-2011 to 31-12-2011	319151	128799	124709	323241	34223	51626	44015	41834	365075
5.	01-01-2012 to 31-12-2012	323241	131320	123939	330622	41834	51228	48646	44416	375038

ANNEXURE - VIII*(see para-8.)***STATEMENT SHOWING INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CIVIL & CRIMINAL CASES
IN MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT**

Sl. No.	Year	Civil Cases				Criminal Cases				Total Pendency of Civil & Criminal Cases
		Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	
1.	01-01-2008 to 31-12-2008	56740	54633	43491	67882	6596	15435	15021	7010	74892
2.	01-01-2009 to 31-12-2009	*65049	50996	38068	77977	*9843	22011	23790	8064	86041
3.	01-01-2010 to 31-12-2010	77977	53047	48798	82226	8064	28216	23712	12568	94794
4.	01-01-2011 to 31-12-2011	82226	56602	46233	92595	12568	29308	25810	16066	108661
5.	01-01-2012 to 31-12-2012	92595	58905	45053	106447	16066	31385	28562	18889	125336

* The difference between the cases pending as on 31-12-2008 and the opening balance as on 1-1-2009 is due to the transfer of 2833 Criminal Miscellaneous cases from the civil cases to criminal cases by the Madras High Court

ANNEXURE - IX

(see para-8.)

**STATEMENT SHOWING INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CIVIL & CRIMINAL CASES OF
SUBORDINATE COURTS IN THE STATE**

Sl. No.	Year	<i>Civil Cases</i>				<i>Criminal Cases</i>				Total Pendency of Civil & Criminal Cases
		Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	
1.	01-01-2008 to 31-12-2008	499018	814711	737663	576066	429028	761808	750304	440532	1016598
2.	01-01-2009 to 31-12-2009	576066	857059	789015	644110	440532	698114	687859	450787	1094897
3.	01-01-2010 to 31-12-2010	644110	1042385	936249	750246	450787	797317	756980	491124	1241370
4.	01-01-2011 to 31-12-2011	750246	929156	963700	715702	491124	669013	692590	467547	1183249
5.	01-01-2012 to 31-12-2012	715702	921450	858516	778636	467547	627654	641368	453833	1232469