



**HOME, PROHIBITION AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT**  
**TAMIL NADU FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES**

**POLICY NOTE**  
**ON**  
**DEMAND No.23**  
**2013 – 2014**

**Selvi J JAYALALITHAA**  
**CHIEF MINISTER**

©  
**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU**  
**2013**

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**I. Introduction**

Energy is the prime mover of life. And solar energy is the basic source for all other forms of energy such as gas based energy, electrical energy, energy from fossil fuels such as coal, etc. Today, with increased urbanisation and growing industrialisation there is a great dependence on these various forms of energy. The use of these forms of energy is safe, as long as the necessary safeguards and precautions are taken without fail. Sometimes, owing to negligence or inadequate supervision major outbreaks of fire take place at industrial and residential sites, causing loss of life and property. Hence, the need for ensuring proper fire protection measures has become all the more important. From a department, that was called upon to put out small outbreaks of fire arising from carelessly thrown cigarettes and accidents owing to kitchen stoves being handled without care,

the demands on the personnel in the Fire and Rescue Services Department arising from the proliferation of high rise buildings and large industrial installations have led them to equip themselves better and rise to the occasion to save valuable lives and property.

## **II. History**

The Government issued instructions to form the “Madras Fire Brigade” in the year 1908, under the control of the Commissioner of Police, Madras, by grouping together 8 Fire Engines, then under the control of the Municipality and some other Fire Engines available with other private Organisations. A booklet containing the instructions meant for “Fire Parties for use in the Madras City”, was prepared by the Commissioner of Police and these were recorded by the Government as rules for the Department vide G.O.No.550, dated 8.4.1908. The Department gradually grew to a strength of 55 Fire Stations in the year 1945. The Fire Services Department was created by separating it from the Police Department in 1967 and in 2001 the Department

was renamed as the 'Fire and Rescue Services Department'. The gender bias against women fire fighters was removed in 2001 and by a Government Order vide G.O.Ms.No.1023, Home Department, dated 12.10.2001, orders were issued to induct women as fire fighters. It was thus during my tenure, that Tamil Nadu became the first State in the country to induct women as Fire fighters. Again my Government constituted the "Fire and Rescue Services Commission" for the first time in the country in 2002 to go into the conditions of service, duties and responsibilities, and other requirements etc., of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services. At present, the Department has grown to a strength of 302 Fire and Rescue Services Stations and 2 Rescue Stations.

### **III. Objectives**

"We Serve to Save" is the motto of the Department. The primary role of the Department is to protect life and property from damage and destruction caused by fire. The other functions of the Department are to provide emergency relief and rescue measures to

victims of natural as well as other calamities such as road accidents, collapse of buildings etc. Its services are also extended to assist the Police Department during elections, riots, fairs and festivals and for VIP bandobust duties. The ambulance services available with the Department are used to move the sick and injured to hospitals for medical aid during emergencies.

On the regulatory side, the Fire and Rescue Services Department serves as an advisory body to the various licensing authorities on fire protection measures for high rise buildings, factories having substantial fire potential and places of public assembly. Permission for public fairs and exhibitions is given only after a No Objection Certificate is issued by the Fire and Rescue Services Department to ensure that they conform to the regulations for fire prevention contained in the Acts and Rules.

The Fire and Rescue Services Department also undertakes the task of organising propaganda campaigns for better fire prevention. The Department has been sanctioned thirteen fire prevention wings for

this purpose. Fire safety related propaganda material including short films are used in these campaigns. In addition, the Department also organises street plays and fire safety puppet shows and mock drills for the benefit of various sections of Society such as school children, house wives, rural women, industrial workers and people visiting commercial complexes, high rise buildings and office complexes.

#### **IV. Organisational and Administrative Structure**

The Organizational charts as provided in Tables – I and II depict the organizational structure of the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services Department.

The Director of Fire and Rescue Services is an IPS Officer in the rank of Director General of Police. Under him, the Department is divided into five Regions namely, Northern Region, North Western Region, Central Region, Western Region and Southern Region with headquarters at Chennai, Vellore, Trichy, Coimbatore and Madurai respectively. Each Region is headed by a Deputy Director. The Regions are divided

into 33 Divisions and each Division is headed by a Divisional Officer. At the next rising of the hierarchy come the Fire and Rescue Service Stations. The Fire and Rescue Service Stations function under the Divisional Officer. There are 302 Fire and Rescue Services Stations in all, apart from 2 exclusive Rescue Stations at Hogenekkal and Kothagiri each headed by a Station Officer.

A State Training Centre, located at Tambaram, functions under the control of a Joint Director (Training & Rescue Operation). A Dog Squad with 6 sniffer dogs is available under the control of the State Training Centre for locating persons caught under the debris of collapsed buildings. The Department has a workshop at Chennai under the supervision of the Joint Director (Training & Rescue Operation) to undertake repairs and maintenance of vehicles of the Department.

## **V. Operational Functioning**

The basic unit of the Department is the Fire and Rescue Services Station. Every Station is headed by a Station Officer and has two Leading Firemen,

one Driver Mechanic, two Firemen Drivers and 11 Firemen. A Water Tender duly provided with a fire fighting pump and various accessories and equipment is also provided for each Station. The cost of providing a Water Tender along with other accessories works out to Rs.35 lakhs. The recurring cost in the form of salaries paid to the personnel manning the Station works out to Rs.40 lakhs. The cost of hiring a rented building to accommodate the Station till a permanent building is constructed, works out to 3 lakhs per year. Thus, the opening of a new Fire and Rescue Services Station involves a cost of about Rs.78 lakhs. The Government, despite its financial constraints, has been sanctioning new Fire and Rescue Services Stations in the State by adopting the following criteria:-

- (i) No other Station should be available within a radius of 25 kms.
- (ii) A Station should serve a population of at least 50,000 and
- (iii) The likelihood of fire hazards causing loss of property to the extent of Rs. 50,000/- should be there.

## **VI. Manpower**

The Department has an executive strength of 6,801 personnel. The sanctioned strength of the various categories is as follows:-

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>No. of Posts</b>
1.	Director	1
2.	Joint Director	3
3.	Deputy Director	4
4.	Divisional Officer	34
5.	Assistant Divisional Officer	45
6.	Station Officer	340
7.	Station Officer (Transport)	170
8.	Assistant Station Officer	16
9.	Leading Fireman	787
10.	Driver Mechanic	108
11.	Fireman Driver	1104
12.	Fireman	4189
<b>Total</b>		<b>6801</b>

The Tamil Nadu Uniformed Services Recruitment Board recruited 791 candidates for appointment to the posts of Fireman in October, 2012. The requirement of the Department in the form of fresh recruitment of firemen has been worked out as 1005 for 2013. The recruitment process will begin shortly and be completed before the end of the year.

In order to overcome the problem of shortage of Drivers for the fire fighting vehicles of the Department, the Government in G.O.(Ms) No.352, Home (Pol.XVII) Department, dated 14.5.2012 has upgraded 165 posts of Driver Mechanic to the level of Station Officer (Transport). It has also been ordered that all newly recruited Firemen will henceforth be trained in driving before declaration of probation.

## **VII. Vehicles and Equipment**

To equip the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services Department to effectively perform its function of fire-fighting and rescue operations, the Department has 351 Water Tenders, 82 Ambulances, 14 Small Foam Tenders, 20 Emergency Rescue Tenders,

1 Hydraulic Platform, 1 Turn Table Ladder, 2 Hydraulic Platform-cum-Turn Table Ladders (Sky Lifts) of 37 Meters and 42 Meters respectively, 2 Aerial Ladder Platforms (Sky Lifts) of 54 Meters, 1 Hose Laying Tender and 55 Water Lorries, 1 Wrecker, 2 Mobile Repair Vans, 228 High Range Portable pumps and 93 Floto Pumps. Further, the Department has also been provided with support vehicles such as Jeeps, Cars, Mini buses, Big Buses and Motor Cycles for quick mobility of officers and men to the scene of accident.

In addition 9 Advanced Water Tenders and 8 Mini Water Tenders, (based on watermist technology) have been fabricated and put into use.

The Department has 8 Mechanized Fibre Boats and 69 inflatable boats with life buoys and life jackets to save marooned people in times of floods, Poisonous Gas Detectors, Generators, Hydraulically operated Cutters, Spreaders and Combi-tools are other equipment which have been provided in adequate measure.

To undertake fire-fighting and rescue works effectively, the Department is endowed with a Thermal Imaging Camera, 3 Life Detectors, 3 Victim Location Units, 2 Multi-gas Monitors, 49 Inflatable Emergency Lighting Systems, 75 Power Saws with Generators, 41 Portable type 5 HP Petrol Driven Power Saws, 18 Concrete cutters, 17 Smoke Extractors, 17 Reciprocating Saws, 17 Portable Electrically Operated Circular Saws, 17 Portable Electric Drills and 51 Telescopic Ladders, 81 Fire-Entry Suits, 111 Chemical Protective Suits, 222 pairs of heat resistant gloves and 175 sets of Personal Protective Equipment.

Thirty five sets of Portable Watermist cum compressed Air Foam systems mounted on Motor bikes on both sides were supplied at a cost of Rs.235.64 lakhs in 2011–12. These systems are extremely useful for fire fighting in narrow lanes and congested areas. Further, 5 Mini Water Tenders of 600 litres capacity operating on watermist technology have also been provided at a cost of Rs.53 lakhs. These vehicles are stationed at Chennai, Coimbatore, Trichy, Vellore and

Madurai. In order to tackle fires and to undertake rescue works effectively in Multi-storied buildings, the purchase of a Skylift has been sanctioned for Chennai City at a cost of Rs.596.60 lakhs vide G.O.(Ms) No.492, Home (Police-XVII) Department, dated 29.6.2012. Further, in order to afford complete protection to all fire fighters, Personal Protective Equipment has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.28 crores vide G.O.(Ms) No.491, Home (Police-XVII) Department, dated 29.6.2012.

### **VIII. Communications**

Speedy response is the most important requirement in firefighting operations. Quick communication and mobility are needed to ensure timely service. Each Station is provided with a telephone through which fire and rescue calls can be received and responded to. A modern fire control room with toll free telephone Nos.101 & 102 is functioning in Chennai City. The movement of Fire Service vehicles to accident spots is also monitored by the GPRS facility provided at the Control Room. The Toll free telephone

facility '101' is also available in all District Headquarters and large towns. On receipt of the information through the toll free telephone facility, the appropriate Fire and Rescue Services Station is alerted and the personnel are ordered to proceed to the accident spot by the Station Officer / Leading Fireman. Cell phone facilities have also been provided to all officers of the rank of Station Officer and above. The Fire and Rescue Services Stations in Chennai City, Thiruvallur District and Kancheepuram District have been provided with wireless sets for quick communication and prompt despatch of the fire fighting force to the scene of the accident.

Response time is the time taken by the first Fire Unit to reach the spot of a fire accident. In spite of traffic congestion, the Department is trying its best to reduce the response time to the minimum. In Chennai City the targeted response time to reach the accident spot is approximately 6 minutes and in the mofussil areas, it is less than 10 minutes. All efforts are being taken to reduce the response time, further.

A website for the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services with the address <http://www/tnfrs.tn.nic.in> is maintained by the National Informatics Centre. The website provides information about fire-safety, and the mandated safeguards prescribed in the building rules and licence conditions.

### **IX. Training Facilities**

The Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services Department runs a State Training Centre at Tambaram. This State-of-the-art Training Centre is equipped with all modern teaching aids and imparts quality training to departmental personnel at all levels, enabling them to keep abreast with the modern developments in the field of Fire-fighting techniques. Considering its capabilities, the Ministry of Home Affairs has designated the State Training Centre as one of the accredited Regional Training Centres of the National Fire Service College in Nagpur.

The State Training Centre also trains fire fighters from other States, Public Sector Undertakings, Government institutions and even the public at large.

Basic firefighting training is given to private individuals at all Divisional Headquarters for a period of one week on payment of a fee of Rs.1000/- per person. 1,294 private individuals have thus been given training in basic fire fighting practices in 2012. Under the Central Government Scheme of “Strengthening of Fire and Emergency Services in the Country” our State Training Centre at Tambaram is one of the chosen Centres for organising training for Fire Service Personnel from various States in Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) and Medical First Responder (MFR) techniques. 177 persons have been trained in these techniques in the last two years.

## **X. Buildings and Infrastructure**

Out of the 304 Stations in the Department, 212 Stations are now functioning in their own Government buildings, while 92 Stations are housed in rented buildings.

The extent of land required for the construction of a Fire and Rescue Services Station building is about 45 cents. In 20 Districts land has been identified for

constructing buildings for 42 Stations and construction work will be taken up in phases. The approximate cost of construction of a Fire and Rescue Services Station building which has a built up area of 2300 sq.ft. is about Rs.50 lakhs.

To bring about better synergy between the Police Department and the Fire and Rescue Services Department in undertaking construction works, my Government has issued orders vide G.O.Ms.No.479, Home Department, dated 30.8.2011, that buildings of Fire and Rescue Stations and Offices will be constructed by the Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation Limited.

## **XI. Initiatives taken for Preventing Fire**

### **i) Fire Prevention**

To sensitize people about fire-safety and fire prevention, fire prevention techniques are demonstrated in schools, industries, offices and congested residential localities. Such a programme was conducted in 16,464 places throughout the State in 2012.

It is mandatory for Schools to obtain a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the jurisdictional Station Officer who is to satisfy himself about the adequacy of fire fighting equipment installed in the school. In 2012, Station Officers have inspected 9,326 Schools for issue of NOC. Mock Drills and demonstrations have also been conducted in 8,894 Educational Institutions in the year 2012.

In order to educate school children about escape routes and rescue methods in case of an emergency arising from the outbreak of fire, evacuation drills were conducted in one School in every District, on 21.1.2013.

In order to ensure fire safety in Hospitals, the Government has formed teams in Chennai City under the jurisdictional Deputy Commissioner of Police along with the Divisional Officer of the Fire and Rescue Services Department and officials from the Revenue Department, Corporation of Chennai, Electricity Board, and Directorate of Medical Education to conduct safety audit in 128 hospitals in Chennai City. Likewise, in the Districts, a team headed by the Divisional Officer,

Fire and Rescue Services Department, and consisting of officials from the Revenue Department, Commissionerate of Municipalities, Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Electricity Board, Police Department and Health Department of the concerned District has been formed to conduct safety audit.

**ii) Fire Safety Volunteers:**

To involve the common public and students as a support mechanism for the Fire and Rescue Services Department, Fire Safety Volunteers are being enrolled in all Fire and Rescue Services Stations in the State. So far 19,422 persons through out the State have registered their names as Fire Safety Volunteers.

**iii) Prevention of Fire in Cinema Halls:**

The following important preventive measures are verified, before granting licences to cinema theatres.

1. Provision of adequate fire extinguishers and a First Aid box in the operator's room is compulsory;

2. Provision of sprinklers and smoke detectors in Multiplex Cinema Theatres is compulsory.
3. Provision of adequate fire buckets with sand and water;
4. Provision of adequate water storage for continuous fire fighting;
5. False ceiling and wall decoratives should be constructed with fire proof materials;
6. Provision of adequate emergency exits;
7. Attendants and staff should be trained in the use of all fire fighting equipment maintained in the premises.

To inspect the Cinema theatres in the State every year, a Multi-Departmental Committee under the Chairmanship of the District Fire Officer in each District has been constituted. In order to check the readiness of the buildings to fight fire the officers of the Department have inspected 38,510 buildings including cinema halls, factories, shopping complexes etc.

#### **iv) Fires during Summer Season**

A system of mobile patrolling is followed during the four summer months of April, May, June & July every year to attend to fires in congested vulnerable areas immediately, without any loss of time.

#### **v) Fire Service Day**

Fire Service Day is observed by the Department for a week commencing from 14th of April, every year. To create fire safety awareness among the public, the theme followed throughout the Country for publicity this year is "Fire is Fire. Friend or Foe, We decide". During the Fire Service Week, propaganda campaigns, lectures and essay competitions are organized by the Fire and Rescue Services Stations all over the State. Propaganda campaigns are also conducted through newspapers, television and radio periodically.

### **XII. Fire and Rescue calls**

During 2012, the Department responded to 32,273 Fire Calls and saved 137 lives. The estimated valued of

property saved from destruction by fire through out the State works out to Rs.338 crores. 3,656 lives were saved by promptly attending to 12,935 Rescue Calls in times of heavy rain and floods.

### **XIII. Welfare Measures**

#### **i) Fire and Rescue Services Benevolent Fund**

The Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services Benevolent Fund was created in 1962 for providing financial support to members of the Fire & Rescue Services Department and their families, in times of distress and for promoting their welfare. Financial assistance is granted from the Fund for the following purposes:-

- (i) To purchase nutritious food for firemen and for their dependents, diagnosed as suffering from diseases such as Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Cancer etc.
- (ii) To meet the cost of higher education of the children of fire personnel.

(iii) to provide monetary assistance to the families of members of the Department, who die in harness.

and

(iv) To meet the funeral expenses of the members and their dependants.

The number of persons registered with the Fund is 5,428. The assistance granted to the registered members and their families from the Fund was Rs.42.86 lakhs in 2012–13. The breakup is as follows:–

To meet the cost of higher education.	Rs.13.35 lakhs
Award of prizes for 10 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Students who secured 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> positions among the children of the personnel and also consolation Prizes for those who secured 85% and above.	Rs.2.35 lakhs

Token grant for the personnel at the time of retirement.	Rs.9.44 lakhs
Monetary assistance to the families of deceased members.	Rs.17.72 lakhs
<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs.42.86 lakhs</b>

The Government provides a grant of Rs.12 lakhs to the Fund every year.

### ii) **Family Benefit Fund Scheme**

When a member of the Department dies in harness an amount of Rs.1,50,000/- is sanctioned to the family from the Family Benefit Fund.

### iii) **Ex-gratia Payment**

Ex-gratia grant is sanctioned in cases of accidents suffered by Fire & Rescue Services Department Personnel when performing their duties. The levels of assistance being sanctioned are as follows:-

(i)	In cases of death	Rs.5,00,000/-
(ii)	For those who suffer permanent disability, while on duty	Rs.1,00,000/-

(iii)	For those who are seriously injured while on duty	Rs.20,000/-
(iv)	For those who suffer Minor injuries while on duty	Rs.10,000/-

#### **iv) Group Insurance Scheme**

A Group Insurance Scheme is being implemented covering all categories of fire fighting personnel. Under this scheme relief is granted to the family of the deceased personnel who die while on duty. The level of assistance has been enhanced to Rs.2 lakhs from Rs.1 lakh from the year 2012-13, under this scheme.

#### **v) Food Subsidy Scheme**

Through the Public Distribution System outlets, rice is supplied free of cost and wheat, sugar, maida, and dal are supplied at 50% of the normal selling price to all the Personnel of the Department from the rank of Assistant Divisional Officer down to Firemen. Annually Rs.53.27 lakhs is spent under this scheme.

**vi) Dietary charges for personnel**

Fire and Rescue Services Personnel below the rank of Station Officer are paid dietary charges of Rs.100/- per day in Chennai City and Rs.75/- per day in the Mofussil areas.

**vii) Upgradation of Driver Mechanic posts into that of Station Officers (Transport) to create more promotional avenues**

As Driver Mechanics were stagnating without promotion, 165 Driver Mechanic posts were upgraded to that of Station Officer (Transport) during the year 2012-13 involving a recurring cost of Rs.52.87 lakhs per annum.

**viii) Canteen facility for purchase of commodities at subsidised rates**

For the first time in the country, canteens which supply essential requirements for day to day living were set up, in Tamil Nadu in 2012-13. These canteens are located at Avadi, Madurai and Trichy and a sum of Rs.1 crore was given as the initial sanction. Families of serving, retired and deceased Police Personnel and personnel belonging to the Fire and

Rescue Services Department and Prisons Department are eligible to avail of the facilities in the canteens. The items being supplied are exempted from VAT and hence are available at much lower prices than in the open market.

**ix) “Own Your House” scheme**

On 3.5.2012, I announced the unique scheme of constructing **36000** Houses under “Own Your House” scheme in the Legislative Assembly. This is the first such major initiative in the country. The scheme was launched by me on 26.10.2012 for the construction of **2673** houses at Melakottaiyur at a cost of **Rs. 455.55 crores** for Police, Fire Service & Prison Department Personnel. **47.60** acres of land at Melakottaiyur village have been handed over to the Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation for this purpose. The Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation is finalising the tender for the construction work to be commenced shortly.

#### **x) Construction of quarters**

The Fire and Rescue Services Personnel are working round the clock and rendering service to the public very effectively during emergencies. In order to maintain operational efficiency and for quick mobilization during emergencies, it is absolutely necessary to provide quarters for the Fire and Rescue Services Personnel near their place of work. All the executive officers and men of this Department are eligible for rent-free quarters as per their service conditions. At present 1,027 quarters are available in the State at different places and construction of 269 quarters by the Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation is in various stages in 16 places. Quarters will be provided in other places in a phased manner.

#### **XIV. Incentives and Awards**

To recognize the acts of gallantry and valour exhibited by the Fire and Rescue Services Personnel while performing their duties, and to motivate them to perform their duties more efficiently, the following

Medals and Awards are being awarded by the Government :-

**(i) The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fire Service Medal (Anna Medal)**

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fire Service Medal (Anna Medal) is awarded on the occasion of Perarignar Anna's Birthday, every year.

The recipients of this medal for meritorious service are eligible for a lump sum grant ranging from Rs.4000/- to Rs.10,000/- according to their rank. Gallantry Medal recipients are eligible for a monthly monetary allowance of Rs.500 per month. 10 Meritorious Service Medals and 5 Gallantry Medals were awarded to the Fire and Rescue Services Personnel during 2012.

**(ii) The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fire Service Medal:**

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fire Service Medal is awarded on Pongal Day, every year, to recognise the services of subordinate personnel

(below the rank of Station Officers) who enjoy a clean record of service for more than 10 years. On the occasion of Pongal festival, 2013, the Medal was awarded to 120 Fire and Rescue Services Personnel in the categories of Leading Fireman / Driver-Mechanic / Fireman Driver / Fireman. All these recipients are entitled to receive a cash allowance of Rs.200/- per month.

**(iii) The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fire Service Medal for Excellence.**

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fire Service Medal for Excellence was instituted by my Government in July' 2001 as a recognition of excellence in performance of duty by the Fire and Rescue Services Personnel. Medals not exceeding three are awarded every year, one each to a Station Officer, Leading Fireman and Fireman and equivalent ranks on the occasion of Fire Service Day i.e. April 14<sup>th</sup>. Each award winner receives a Gold Medal weighing 8 grams and a lump sum grant ranging from Rs.2000/- to Rs.3000/-.

#### **(iv) Anna Bravery Medal**

The “Anna Bravery Medal” is awarded to Government Servants / Civilians for acts of exemplary bravery. The Medal is awarded on the occasion of the Republic Day Celebrations every year. In 2013, the Station Officer and 5 Fire Service Personnel of Thenkanikottai Fire and Rescue Services Station (Krishnagiri Division) who exhibited exemplary bravery by saving a 3 year old child on 30.9.2012 who had fallen into an abandoned bore well, with a depth of 520 feet, were given the “Anna Bravery Medal”. The award carries a Gold Medal worth Rs.5000/- along with a Certificate and a prize amount of Rs.1,00,000/- to be shared among the Medal winners.

In addition, the (i) President’s Fire Service Medal for Distinguished / Meritorious Service on the occasion of Independence Day and Republic Day and the (ii) President’s Fire Service Medal for Gallantry on the occasion of Independence Day and Republic Day are awarded by the Government of India based on the recommendations of the State Government. In 2012-13, eleven persons received the medal for Meritorious Service and ten persons received the medal for Gallantry.

## **XV. Initiatives**

The important initiatives taken in the last 2 financial years to equip the Department better are given below:-

- ❖ New Fire and Rescue Services Stations have been established at Chinna Salem in Villupuram District, T. Kallupatti in Madurai District and Alangulam in Tirunelveli District at a total cost of Rs.2.33 crores.
- ❖ A new Division with headquarters at Sivagangai was formed on 17.2.2012 by bifurcating the Ramnad-Sivagangai Division at a cost of Rs.42 lakhs.
- ❖ Fabrication of 4 Small Foam Tenders, 9 Advanced Water Tenders and mounting of 8 Mini Water Tenders on Quick Response Vehicles with High pressure pumps and provision of 22 numbers of Combi-tools sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.4.16 crores have enabled the Department to enhance its fire fighting capacity considerably.

- ❖ The feeding charges have been enhanced for the personnel in Chennai City from Rs.80/- to Rs.100/- per day and in Mofussil areas from Rs.55/- to Rs.75/- per day at a recurring cost of Rs.60.51 lakhs.
- ❖ The feeding charges for Dogs in the Sniffer Dog Squad have been enhanced from Rs.54/- to Rs.100/- per day.
- ❖ Under the mega scheme of “Own Your House” Scheme towards construction of 36,000 quarters for the uniformed personnel, Government have included Fire and Rescue Services Personnel also along with Police and Prison Department Personnel.
- ❖ The procurement of one Skylift of 54 mts. for use in Chennai City at a cost of Rs.596.60 lakhs has been sanctioned.
- ❖ To provide complete protection to all fire fighters, Government has sanctioned the procurement of 1,980 sets of Personal Protective Equipment at a total cost of Rs.28 crores.

- ❖ The Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.5.99 crores for construction of a new building for the State Headquarters of the Department.
- ❖ To ensure the availability of adequate Drivers to answer the call of duty, 165 posts of Driver Mechanic have been upgraded to the level of Station Officer (Transport) at a recurring cost of Rs.52.87 lakhs.
- ❖ 791 candidates have been recruited to fill up the vacancies at the level of Fireman.
- ❖ For the first time in the Country, Fire and Rescue Services Personnel have been given the canteen facility on par with Police Department Personnel.
- ❖ Group Insurance coverage for officers up to the level of Deputy Director was enhanced from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.2 lakhs.

## **XVI. Conclusion**

It can be seen from the above mentioned paragraphs that this Government has taken necessary steps to keep the Personnel of the Fire and Rescue Services Department well staffed, adequately provided for and fully motivated.

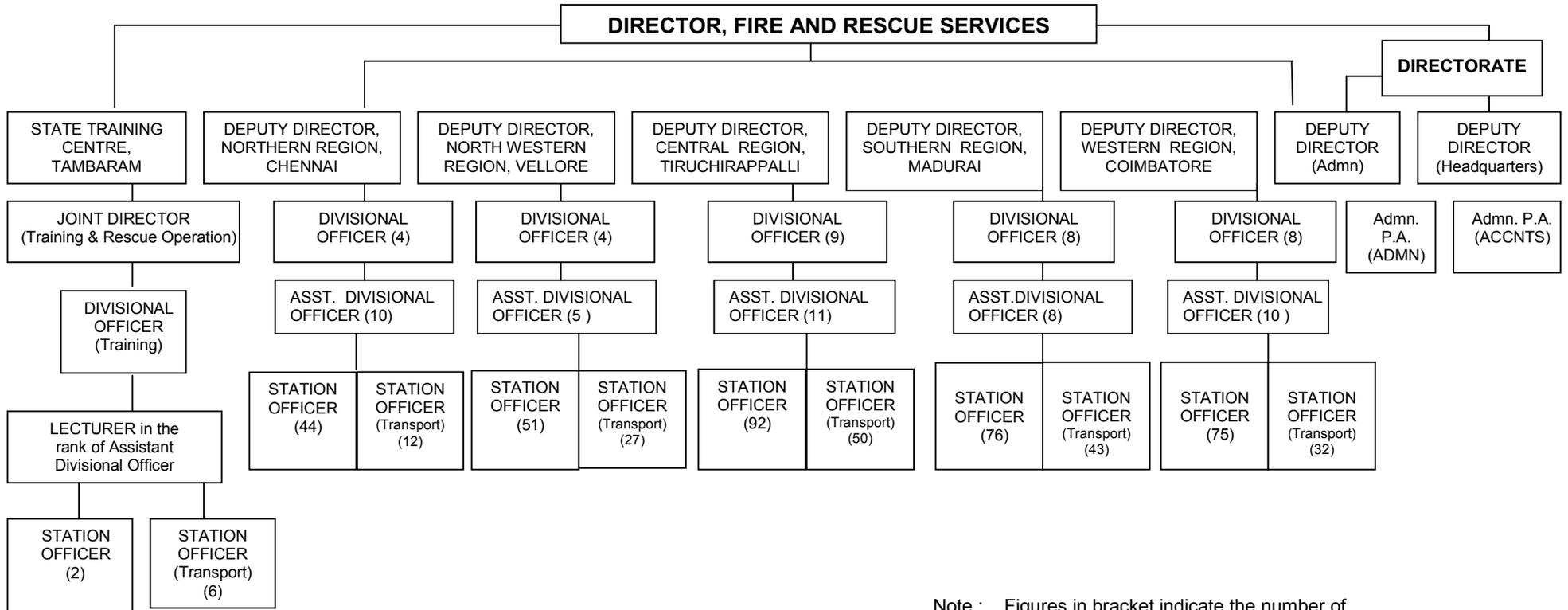
The Department of Fire and Rescue Services in Tamil Nadu enjoys a number of historic firsts in the country. Its capabilities to put out fires, thus saving valuable lives and property, are time tested and praiseworthy.

The Fire Fighting Force is fully geared up to face any eventuality and meet oncoming challenges with alacrity and confidence. The measures being taken by my Government have consistently been aimed at making the Fire and Rescue Services Department the best in the country. I am sure that in the times to come, the Personnel of this Department will be the pioneers in adopting fire fighting practices that are comparable with the best in the world.

**J JAYALALITHAA**  
**CHIEF MINISTER**

**TABLE – I**

**DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES  
ORGANISATIONAL CHART**



Note : Figures in bracket indicate the number of officers in that cadre.

**TABLE – II**

**STATION AND OTHER UNITS FUNCTIONING UNDER THE REGIONS**

Northern Region				North-Western Region			Central Region			Southern Region			Western Region		
RSS	FPW	OTH		FRSS	FPW		FRSS	FPW		FRSS	FPW		FRSS	FPW	
1. Chennai North	9	1	1*	1. Vellore	16	1	1. Thiruchirappalli	8	1	1. Madurai	10	--	1. Coimbatore Kothagiri	10	1
2. Chennai South	9	1	1*	2. Tiruvanna malai	12	--	2. Pudukottai	12	1	2. Tirunelveli	14	--	2. Erode	9	1
3. Chennai Central	7	--	--	3. Kancheepuram	10	1	3. Thanjavur	9	--	3. Kanniyakumari	7	--	3. Tiruppur	7	1
4. Chennai Sub urban	8	--	--	4. Thiruvallur	9	--	4. Nagapattinam	11	--	4. Tuticorin	9	--	4. Salem	11	1
5. Northern Region	--	--	2**	<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>2</b>	5. Cuddalore	15	--	5. Virudhunagar	8	1	5. Dharmapuri Hogenekkal	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4**</b>				6. Villupuram	12	--	6. Ramanathapuram	--	--	6. Krishnagiri	7	--
							7. Karur	4	--	7. Sivagangai	6	--	7. Dindigul	9	1
							8. Perambalur	6	--	8. Theni	8	--	8. Namakkal	4	--
							9. Tiruvarur	11	--	<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>61+2@6</b>	
							<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2</b>						

**Total Number of Fire and Rescue Services Station in the State : 302+2 @**

**Other Institutions:**

State Training Centre - 1  
 State Workshop - 1  
 Rescue Station - 2 @  
 Dog Squad - 1  
 Band Party - 1

Note: FRSS – Fire and Rescue Services Station  
 FPW: Fire Prevention Wing  
 OTH: \* Photographic Section  
 \*\* Fire Control Room & Wireless Section

**TABLE – III****District Wise Fire and Rescue Services Stations**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>No. of Stations</b>
1.	Ariyalur	3
2.	Chennai	33
3.	Coimbatore	7
4.	Cuddalore	15
5.	Dindigul	9
6.	Dharmapuri (including one Rescue Station at Hogenekkal)	5
7.	Erode	9
8.	Karur	3
9.	Kancheepuram	10
10.	Kanniyakumari	7
11.	Krishnagiri	7
12.	Madurai	10
13.	Nagapattinam	11
14.	Namakkal	4
15.	Nilgiris (including one Rescue Station at Kothagiri)	4
16.	Pudukkottai	12
17.	Perambalur	2
18.	Ramanathapuram	11
19.	Salem	11
20.	Sivagangai	6
21.	Thanjavur	9
22.	Theni	8
23.	Tiruvannamalai	12
24.	Tiruchirappalli	10
25.	Tiruvarur	11
26.	Tiruvallur	9
27.	Thoothukudi	9
28.	Tiruppur	7
29.	Tirunelveli	14
30.	Vellore	16
31.	Villupuram	12
32.	Virudhunagar	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>304</b>