

# **SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

## **POLICY NOTE 2020-21**

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## **1.INTRODUCTION**

**"My aim is to make Tamil Nadu the numero uno State in all spheres of development and administration."**

**-Hon'ble Former Chief Minister  
Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Avargal**

Education contributes to the wellbeing of the individuals as well as the overall development of the society. It is not only an instrument for enhancing efficiency but is also an effective tool for widening and augmenting democratic participation. Considering this, the Government of Tamil Nadu has taken several initiatives to provide high quality education to the children in the State with an unprecedented budgetary support for School Education. The Government in the budget has provided the highest allocation of Rs. 34,181.73 crore for the year 2020-21 for School Education.

Sustainable Development Goals are a collection of goals formulated and adopted by the United Nations at global level designed to be a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. Goal-4 aims to ensure inclusive and

equitable quality education for all and promote lifelong learning. Tamil Nadu is performing well in terms of both primary and secondary education. It is one of the few Indian States to achieve almost 100% Net Enrolment Ratio (NER) in primary education. Further, the State has been performing well with regard to other indicators such as enrolment ratio of children with disabilities, gender parity indices, literacy rate of youth, Pupil Teacher Ratio, proportion of schools with access to electricity, basic drinking water, basic sanitation facilities etc. A working group of various stake holders has been constituted by the State to plan and work towards achievement of this goal. Various welfare schemes are being implemented by the Government towards Goal-4 to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education to all.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has provided access to schools to all the children of the State by managing 37,459 Government schools and 8,357 Government aided schools. Wherever opening of schools is not feasible, like places in remote forest and hilly areas, transport and escort facilities have been provided. Thus, this

Government has achieved near 100 % access and stands at first place in terms of providing access to schools as per the Performance Grading Index published by Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Government of India. LKG and UKG classes based on Montessori System of education have been started as a pilot initiative in 2381 Anganwadi centres to provide quality kinder garten education. 120 Government higher secondary schools have been transformed as model schools so that these schools function as composite schools having classes from LKG to standard 12 with the State of Art infrastructure facilities to improve teaching and learning environment. These schools act as demonstration schools for the schools in the neighbourhood.

This Government is keen on creating an environment which not only assures learning, but also pays special attention to the mental and physical well-being of the students in schools. Necessary infrastructure facilities like required number of classrooms, laboratories, compound wall, toilets, clean drinking water, ramps with rails for Children with Special Needs, etc. are being

provided in schools at a cost of Rs.167.96 crore during 2019-20. An amount of Rs.277.88 crore has been sanctioned in 2019-20 and a provision of Rs.258.82 crore has been made for 2020-21 to create such facilities through NABARD assistance to have a conducive learning atmosphere in schools.

The Government of Tamil Nadu recognizes the role of digital initiatives in education which has now become inevitable in the fast changing learning environment to enhance teaching and to improve learning outcomes. Tamil Nadu stands at the forefront in introducing various digital initiatives in the education sector by maintaining a centralized database with information about every student, teacher and school across the State of Tamil Nadu on real time basis through Education Management Information System (EMIS), providing ICT enabled smart classrooms, Hi- tech Labs in all Government high and higher secondary schools, introducing "energized" textbooks embedded with QR codes, bio metric attendance for teachers etc. An educational channel catering to the need of students has been telecasting educational programmes through Tamil Nadu

Arasu Cable TV Corporation Limited (TACTTV) network under the banner of “Kalvi Tholaikaatchi”.

The curriculum and syllabi have been revised on par with other boards of education and modern concepts have been incorporated in the text books to keep the students updated. To enhance the competency of students, High Order Thinking Skills(HOTS) have been introduced in text books which not only assess the knowledge of the students but also sharpen their application skills so as to produce better learning outcomes. With the revised curriculum, students have been encouraged to access additional digital contents in the “energized” textbooks with QR codes linked to audio visual contents by using latest technology. Special focus has been given for skill development by providing Vocational Education in schools to improve employability of students.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing myriad of innovative cost-free welfare schemes for the benefit of children such as providing nutritious noon meal, textbooks, notebooks, laptop, uniform, footwear, school bag, crayons, colour pencils, geometry box, atlas,

woollen sweaters, rain coats, boots, socks, bus pass and bicycles. Financial assistance for students who lose their bread winning parents, student accident relief scheme and special cash incentive to students studying in standards 10 to 12 to reduce dropouts at secondary level are the other schemes implemented for the welfare of the students. Monitoring of schemes is being done for effective implementation and to ensure that the students are fully benefitted. A sum of Rs.2,174.10 crore has been allocated for continuing the welfare schemes for students during 2020-21. The Government has appointed sufficient number of teachers in Government schools to ensure a comfortable Pupil Teacher Ratio in Government schools.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has not only taken all possible steps to provide quality education but has also taken steps to assess the learning skills in terms of reading, writing both in Tamil and English and arithmetic skills by regular periodical assessments and monitor the achievement level of children. This also helps to make judicious assessments of performance of teachers and to cater capacity building needs of

teachers. The Government gives utmost priority to capacity building of teachers and imparted training to teachers with an expenditure of Rs.61.63 crore during 2019-20.

This Government is taking all possible measures for bringing holistic development in the children of Tamil Nadu and to achieve excellence in education so that they contribute to the development of the Nation in future.



## **2. ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**

### **2.1. Introduction**

Elementary Education is the period of formal education between pre-school and high school. It usually encompasses standards 1 to 8 and students acquire basic skills in areas such as reading, writing and arithmetic during this period. Elementary education promotes rapid development of fine and gross motor skills in children as they perform numerous activities. Elementary education motivates children to develop their reasoning ability and creative thinking. The Government has taken all initiatives to achieve universalization of elementary education. To ensure availability of quality elementary education to each and every child in the age group of 6 to 14 years, various welfare measures are being implemented by the Government.

## **2.2. Objective**

- Providing access to quality education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years
- Ensuring 100% enrolment and retention of all children
- Implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 in its true spirit
- Opening of new primary schools to ensure 100% access to schools
- Upgrading of primary schools to middle schools
- Ensuring minimum standards in schooling provisions and basic facilities in schools
- Opening of need based residential schools in sparsely populated areas
- Providing transport / escort facilities to children in habitations situated in areas of dense forests, hilly regions, etc., where opening of new schools is not feasible
- Providing an inclusive environment in schools for Children with Special Needs

(CWSN) and children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups

- Improving the listening, speaking, reading, writing and arithmetic skills of children
- Enriching the knowledge of children in scholastic and co-scholastic areas

### **2.3. Access to Schools**

Ensuring school access to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years as envisaged in the Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011 is one of the main objectives of the Government. To ensure access to schools in all the habitations in the State, both at primary and upper primary levels, a scientific tool - GIS Mapping has been developed based on the norms envisaged in the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and the Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011. Access to universal elementary education is provided by:

- Opening of new primary schools

- Upgrading of existing primary schools into middle schools
- Opening of need based residential schools in sparsely populated areas
- Providing transport/escort facilities to children in un-served habitations where opening of new schools is not viable

### ***2.3.1.Geographical Information System (GIS) Database (2019-20)***

The State has been maintaining the GIS based database since 2012-13. This has been made web-centric and user friendly for both departmental and public usage. 58,734 schools catering to 92,234 habitations in our State have been duly mapped on GIS.

Every year school mapping exercise is undertaken at elementary level to devise a suitable strategy to the children in un-served habitations to have safe access to school in the context of the Tamil Nadu RTE rules, 2011. In Tamil Nadu, out of 92,234 habitations, 89,995 habitations are served by the Government and Government aided primary schools. At upper primary level, 91,040 habitations are served by

the Government and Government aided schools. The children in un-served habitations are provided either with transport/escort facility or residential schooling facility.

### ***2.3.2. Transport and Escort Facilities***

Transport and escort facilities are provided to the children from the un-served habitations, where opening of a new school is not viable due to sparse population/non-availability of land for construction of a new school. Further, these habitations are located in remote, hilly and forest areas which lack public transport facilities or proper road connectivity. In the year 2019-20, 21,392 children have been provided with transport and escort facilities in these areas at a cost of Rs.1,148.96 lakh.

### ***2.3.3. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidhyalaya (KGBV)***

KGBVs have been established to provide access and quality education exclusively for girls by setting up of residential schools and hostels for students studying in standards upto 12 to ensure smooth transition of girls from elementary to higher secondary education.

In Tamilnadu, 61 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidhyalaya residential schools have been established in 44 Educationally Backward Blocks in 14 districts. Out of the 61 KGBVs, 54 KGBVs belong to Type –I category (standards 6 to 8), 3 KGBVs belong to Type –II category (standards 6 to 10) and 4 KGBVs belong to Type –III category (standards 6 to 12). KGBVs provide education with boarding and lodging facilities for girls in the age group of 10 to 18 years with stipend. The stipend amount has been enhanced from Rs.150 to Rs.200 per child per month from the year 2019-20. Group Insurance coverage has also been made for the girls during their stay in residential schools. During 2019-20, 4635 children have been benefitted by utilizing an amount of Rs.3591.60 lakh.

#### ***2.3.4. Residential Schools***

To ensure enrolment of all children in schools, the Government established 11 residential schools in sparsely populated, hilly and forest terrains as well as in urban areas for the benefit of deprived children, street children and children without adult protection. In the year 2019-20, 2 new residential schools have been

opened with a capacity of 50 students each in Alathur taluk, Perambalur district and in Valliyoor taluk in Tirunelveli District for increasing the enrolment of downtrodden children, at a cost of Rs.284.00 lakh. A large number of children belonging to Narikurava community have been benefitted. A sum of Rs.865.02 lakh was utilized for 13 residential schools in 9 districts during the year 2019-20. 1,104 children have been benefitted through these residential schools.

### ***2.3.5. Special training interventions to enrol Out of School Children (OoSC)***

As a result of the special interventions taken by the Government to enrol Out-of-School Children(OoSC), the number of out of school children which stood at 63,178 in 2011-12 has reduced to 30,104 in 2019-20. Out of this 30,104 OoSC, 29,740 were enrolled in age appropriate classes in schools. Special training has been provided to these children in the special training centres. After the special training the performance level of these children was assessed and they were mainstreamed in regular schools. All the cost free educational items provided by the Government are given to the children in special

training centres also. Scholarship is being provided to the main streamed children by the Government for their retention. 5,848 students completed standards 8, 10 and 12 during 2019-20. An amount of Rs.997.18 lakh was utilized, for the special training interventions during 2019-20.

### ***2.3.6. Education to the children of migrant labourers***

4062 children of migrant labourers (inter and intra State) were identified during 2019-20 and 3,975 have been enrolled in age appropriate classes. 85 educational volunteers in Telugu, Hindi, Bengali and Odiya languages have been appointed to cater to the needs of 1714 inter-State migrant children. Textbooks have been provided in their mother-tongue. Proper bilingual Transfer Certificates are issued to the students so that they can continue their studies without any hindrance, wherever they go. An amount of Rs.63.93 lakh was utilized for the benefit of children of migrant labourer during 2019-20.



### **2.3.7. Inclusive Education for Children With Special Needs**

The Children with Special Needs (CWSN) who attend schools are provided with assistive devices and other facilities to encourage them to continue their education. 1,24,194 CWSN were enrolled in nearby schools and 8,120 CWSN were offered home based education in the year 2019-20. A sum of Rs.6601.61 lakh has been utilized for CWSN in the year 2019-20.

#### **Important facilities for Children with Special Needs**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Facilities</b>	<b>No. of children</b>	<b>Amount (Rs.in lakh)</b>
1	Aids and Appliances	8,889	222.23
2	Escort Allowance	8,544	512.64
3	Transport Allowance	24,848	1490.88
4	Braille books	1,015	3.21
5	Large Print Books	3,227	10.43
6	Girls Stipend	25,569	511.38
7	Special Maintenance Grant	8,120	194.88

### **2.3.8. Early Intervention Centres**

There are 85 Early Intervention Centres for the Children with Special Needs (CWSN) in the age group of 0 to 6 years. During the year 2019-20, 1,159 CWSN were benefitted through special education and therapy relevant to their disabilities.

### **2.4 Infrastructure facilities**

In order to improve the infrastructure facilities in Government Schools, an amount of Rs.77.52 crore has been sanctioned in the year 2019-20 towards the construction of 20 additional classrooms, repair and renovation of 1475 toilets for boys and 1849 toilets for girls, provision of drinking water facilities in 46 schools, construction of 4493 meters of compound wall in 132 schools, 1643 toilets for Children with Special Needs, 5726 ramps with handrails, major repair works in 135 schools and providing solar power panels to 50 schools.

### **2.5. Educational Indicators**

The impact of interventions on school education can be evaluated through suitable

educational indicators. An educational indicator is a measure of the status or change in an educational system with reference to its goals. The definitions of some of the Educational Indicators are as follows:

### ***2.5.1. Gross Enrolment Ratio***

Total Enrolment in primary education (standards 1 to 5) regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the eligible official primary school-age population (6+ to 10+ years) in a given school-year.

### ***2.5.2. Net Enrolment Ratio***

Enrolment in primary education (standards 1 to 5) in the age group of 6+ to 10+ years expressed as a percentage of the children corresponding to the age group population.

### ***2.5.3. Retention Rate (Primary)***

Enrolment in standard 5 in a year expressed in terms of percentage to enrolment in standard 1, four years back.

### **2.5.4. Retention Rate (Upper Primary)**

Enrolment in standard 8 in a year expressed in terms of percentage to enrolment in standard 6, two years back.

### **2.5.5. Dropout Rate**

Proportion of children dropped out in a cohort enrolled in a given standard in a given year who are no longer continued in the following year.

### **2.5.6. Pupil Teacher Ratio**

$$\text{Pupil Teacher Ratio} = \frac{\text{Total Enrolment of students in a category}}{\text{Total Number of teachers in that particular category}}$$

Educational Indicators that prevailed during 2019-20 are given below:

#### **Educational Indicators (2019-20)**

<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Upper Primary</b>
Gross Enrolment Rate	106.60	106.48
Net Enrolment Rate	99.90	99.30
Retention Rate	99.25	98.65
Dropout Rate	0.75	1.35
Pupil Teacher Ratio	21.80	24.45

## **2.6. Child-Centric Pedagogy**

The basic principle of Child-Centric Pedagogy is to enable the optimal development of the personality and competencies of a child in line with his/her individual needs for early childhood education. The Government of Tamil Nadu has taken positive steps in the direction of child friendly learning. At present, the classroom transactions envisaged for the primary and upper primary levels reflect paradigm shift from teacher centric to learner centric pedagogic practices. Tamil Nadu is the pioneer State in implementing this in Government and Government aided schools.

### ***2.6.1.Simplified Activity Based Learning (SABL)***

Simplified Activity Based Learning is a child centric pedagogy practiced for standards 1 to 3 in all Government and Government aided schools of Tamil Nadu. It is a holistic pedagogy where curriculum, syllabi and classroom transactions are integrated and the activities in the cards are linked with the textbooks. It builds a viable gradient to higher classes. This methodology

facilitates the students to directly access the learning materials, engage in group activities, improve their self-confidence, etc., to attain the desired learning outcomes where teacher is a facilitator. It provides opportunities for every child to engage, discuss, think, question and assess themselves in a fear-free and shy-free atmosphere which provides scope for development of individual skills and creativity.

### **2.6.2. Simplified Active Learning Methodology (SALM)**

Simplified Active Learning Methodology is also a child-centric pedagogy practiced for standards 4 and 5 in all Government and Government aided schools. This methodology gives space to every child to participate directly and actively in the learning process under the guidance of well trained teachers.

### **2.6.3. Active Learning Methodology (ALM)**

Active Learning Methodology is a learning methodology which plays an important role in kindling the creativity and thinking skills of students and helps a student to acquire academic excellence. It is a learner-centric methodology,

adopted for the students of standards 6 to 8 to make them actively involved in the learning process. The foremost aim of ALM is to equip the learner to “learn to learn”.

The objectives of ALM are as follows:

- To make learning free from stress, fear and shyness
- To help improving conceptual understanding among students
- To build confidence in students to face examinations
- To improve their ability to think and creativity

## **2.7. In-Service Training**

### ***2.7.1. Training for Teachers***

To improve the quality of education, the Government has revised the curriculum and syllabi so as to inculcate analytical and creative skills in students and to face the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century. In-service training to teachers handling all standards upto 12 has been imparted with the objective to update the teachers on new

curriculum, syllabus, pedagogy and learning outcomes and to handle the energized textbooks. All primary and upper primary teachers of both Government and Government aided schools were provided a two-day training with the resource support of SCERT.

NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) is a capacity building programme to improve quality of school education through integrated teacher training in support and collaboration with National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA). A five day training programme aimed at building the capacity of teachers and head teachers on some of the topics of recent interest such as learner-centric pedagogy, learning outcomes, school-based assessment, subject-specific pedagogies, competencies at the elementary level have been imparted to Government school teachers. All Government primary and middle school teachers were trained through 198 State Resource Groups (SRGs) at a cost of Rs.4120.23 lakh.



### ***2.7.2. Training for Special Educators and Therapists***

Special Educators and Therapists, who are specialised in handling various disabilities in Children with Special Needs, are working in each block. In-service training is given for the Special Educators and Therapists in respect of 21 types of disabilities mentioned in the Right of persons with disabilities Act, 2016.

## **2.8. Pre-Primary Education**

### ***2.8.1. Educational Kits to Anganwadi Centres (LKG/UKG)***

8,105 Anganwadi Centres are functioning in the premises of Government schools. LKG/UKG classes have been introduced in the 2,381 anganwadi centres functioning in Government middle schools during 2018-19. To enhance the learning skills of the children, Rs.1683.37 lakh has been sanctioned to provide child friendly furniture, outdoor play materials and Kinder Garten (KG) theatres to these centres during 2019-20. Further training has been given to teachers handling these classes. 68,918 children

are being benefitted through these centres. Cost free text books and four sets of uniform have been supplied to these children.

## **2.9. Educational Management Information System (EMIS)**

Education Management Information System (EMIS) has been brought online wherein the database of every school, teacher and student in Government, Government aided and private schools are maintained on real time basis. It helps the Government in taking well informed policy decisions.

The data of EMIS rests on three key pillars – students’ data, staff data and schools’ data. All the data related to these three pillars are provided by the Headmasters through the EMIS portal in an exclusive login provided to each school. Using this information several tasks are automated, simplified and reported every day. Over 30 registers that are manually maintained at the school level have been digitized and made available for the Head Master.

Each student is provided with a unique ID and the same is carried forward throughout the

period of schooling of the student thereby making it easy to track the student and his / her performance in various activities all along. All welfare schemes provided to the students are also tagged to this unique ID of the students, making the distribution more accountable and transparent. QR Coded smart ID cards have been provided to students. On scanning the QR code, the basic information of the students are displayed.

Student and Staff attendance is captured using the EMIS mobile app every day. The attendance registers are automatically generated using the data from this application. If students are absent for 3 days continuously, SMS is sent to their parents informing them to report to the Headmaster of the school concerned.

Staff fixation and counseling for transfer and promotion of teachers are now carried out entirely in EMIS. Since the number of students and number of teachers are already available on EMIS, using a semi-automated setup, the sanctioned posts, eligible posts and vacant posts are listed for each school. Surplus teachers are identified based on the norms and transfer

application forms have been made completely online. The promotion panel for each category is also prepared online using the existing teacher data. The process has been carried out entirely online through EMIS in a completely transparent manner and order copies are generated online instantly.

Nominal roll preparation plays a vital role for conducting board examinations for the standards 10, 11 and 12. This has been made online through EMIS to reduce the administrative work and manual errors and ensure seamless integration of data with Directorate of Government Examinations (DGE).

In order to prepare the students studying in standards 9 and 10 for the upcoming trend of online test, an online aptitude test (ATSL-2009) was conducted through EMIS. This has a two-fold benefit wherein the students get exposed to online tests and based on the tests they get to identify their areas of strength. Each student was given a login ID and password to login to EMIS through which a 90-minute 90-question exam was conducted. Over 3 lakh students logged in and attempted the online test with great enthusiasm.

By conducting this test through EMIS, the State has now developed the facility to conduct similar such assessments through online mode.

### **2.10. Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE)**

Evaluation is one of the indispensable components of any curriculum. It plays a very crucial role in teaching-learning process and influences the quality of teaching and learning. CCE - a paradigm shift in evaluation, aims in shifting the focus from testing to holistic learning. The Government has introduced CCE system in the academic year 2012-13 in all its schools at the primary and upper primary levels to make the learning experiences in the classrooms interactive, collaborative, participative, contextual and learner-friendly. The significance of CCE is to develop individuality of the learner. It allows scope for use in a diagnostic and remedial way. It is a school based evaluation consisting of both scholastic and co-scholastic aspects. It helps the students to curb rote learning and help them to apply the concepts they have learnt.

## **2.11.Learning Enhancement Programme**

### ***2.11.1.English-Tamil-Picture dictionary***

Dictionary is a very important tool for learning a new language. English to Tamil picture dictionary is compiled specially for children at primary level with age-appropriate words. It helps children to learn the spelling, pronunciation, understand the meaning and improve their communication skills. The definition of a word is displayed in the form of pictures to ensure better understanding and stimulate the curiosity of children thereby helping them to increase their word power. Dictionaries were provided to 37,999 Government and Government aided schools having primary sections and 622 OoSC centres, residential schools etc, during 2018-19. Many teachers and children have found it very useful. Rs.238.60 lakh has been sanctioned in 2019-20 to provide these picture dictionaries to 24,321 Government primary schools and 6,966 Government middle schools.

### ***2.11.2. Teacher Geometry Box***

Mathematics is an important subject, and it is essential to create positive attitude among children towards it. Geometry is a part of mathematics which provides knowledge about size, shape and position to students. To develop mathematical skills in children, it is essential to teach students to draw geometrical figures and construct geometrical shapes on black board with correct measurements. This can be achieved by teaching using geometry tools on black board. Hence, teacher Geometry box have been provided to all Government middle schools including KGBVs and residential schools and all Government high and higher secondary schools at a cost of Rs.145.04 lakh.

### ***2.11.3. Story DVD***

Stories play a vital role in the growth and development of children. Stories are also useful for teaching values, such as the importance of sharing, respect to elders, compassion for others etc,. Stories are the best way to instil important moral values in the minds of the children. Hence, 2 DVDs consisting of moral stories are being

provided to 24,321 Government primary schools and 6,966 Government middle schools at a cost of Rs.78.17 lakh during 2019-20.

#### ***2.11.4. English Language Kit***

Language is the primary key for communication. Daily practice in English language helps to build familiarity of words. As resource material gives an excellent way to learn a language, English kits comprising of 14 items were provided to 22,400 Government primary schools and 6,109 Government middle schools on enrolment basis during 2018-19. In order to make the children attain all the expected learning outcomes at primary level and enhance the learning skills, four more items and user manual have been provided to the English Language Kit for the above mentioned schools during 2019-20 at a cost of Rs.2006.39 lakh.

#### ***2.11.5. Remedial Teaching***

Remedial teaching is done by identifying the late bloomers or slow learners through the results of Periodical Assessment, State Level Assessment Survey (SLAS) and National Achievement Survey (NAS). Remedial teaching involves customized



teaching of individual students after identifying their areas of difficulty. It provides need specific guidance to them to improve their learning. It is designed to assist students to achieve expected competencies and learning outcomes in the core academic skills such as literacy and numeracy. Hence, manuals for 14,000 teachers and workbooks for 5,03,612 students of standards 2 to 8 in Government schools have been provided during 2019-20 at a cost of Rs.564.48 lakh.

#### ***2.11.6. School Standards and Evaluation***

School Standards and Evaluation programme is being implemented in all Government and Government aided schools across the State since 2016-17. This programme is itself a performance tool to assess all the aspects of a school. During the academic year 2019-20, external evaluation of 16,520 schools has been completed up to February, 2020.

## **2.12. Other Programmes / Activities**

### ***2.12.1. Sports and Games Competitions for standards 3 to 5***

In order to identify the ability of students and motivate them to participate in sports and games, sports competitions are being conducted for the children studying in standards 3 to 5 in the primary and middle schools from the academic year 2019-20 and prizes are being awarded to them.

### ***2.12.2. Twinning of Schools***

A programme of 'Twinning of schools' has been initiated by the Government which aims to link Government and Government Aided schools located in rural and urban areas to enable interaction amongst the students and sharing of different experiences at school. Around 8224 schools are involved in this programme during the year 2019–20. In addition to the Government and Government aided schools, model schools and self-financed private schools have also been included in this programme. An amount of

Rs.246.72 lakh has been utilized for this programme for the benefit of 1,64,480 children.

### ***2.12.3. School Safety and Security***

School safety has become more complex now. The State endeavors to provide access to education in a safe and protective environment conducive for growth and development of each and every child. The teachers need to act as first level counselor within the school. Every school is required to display a board on safety with helpline and emergency numbers and contact persons. Orientation training has been provided to 1,45,551 teachers working in all Government primary and middle schools on safety of students during the year 2019-20 at a cost Rs.1,611.98 lakh.

### ***2.12.4. State Resource Centre for Inclusive Education***

A State Resource Centre for Inclusive Education has been set up in Chennai for the benefit of Children with Special Needs (CWSN) in the age group of 0 to 18 years. The centre is equipped with assistive devices to cater to the requirements of children with different disabilities.

This centre provides therapy for children with various types of disabilities related to speech, hearing, vision, autism and cerebral palsy. It also provides guidance and counseling to parents of the CWSN. During the year 2019-20, 68 CWSN have been benefitted. Numerous special children hailing especially from the under-privileged sections of society enthusiastically attend the therapy sessions in this centre and are showing appreciable progress in their interactive skills.

### ***2.12.5. Youth and Eco-club***

Youth and Eco-club in school is an instrument to develop life skills, build self esteem, develop self-confidence and resilience and counter negative emotions of stress, shame and fear.

Eco clubs in schools empower students to participate and take up meaningful environmental activities and projects. It is a forum which students can reach out to influence, engage their parents and neighbourhood communities to promote sound environmental behaviour. During 2019-20, an amount of Rs.1,212.50 lakh has been utilized for youth and eco-clubs in all Government primary schools at the rate of

Rs.5,000 per school, and an amount of Rs.1,056.45 lakh has been utilized for all Government middle schools at the rate of Rs.15,000 per school.

### ***2.12.6. Self-defence Training***

In order to promote overall development of the girl children, the State provides self-defence training for the girl students studying in standards 6 to 8 in Government middle schools. Training on Karate is given weekly twice for three months to all girl students in Government middle schools by well-trained lady coaches under the supervision of school teachers. A sum of Rs.628.74 lakh has been utilized for this programme.

### ***2.12.7. Sports and Physical Education***

Sports and Physical Education develops competency and self confidence of the students to take part in a range of physical activities, both in and out of school. It aims at ensuring physical and mental fitness of the students. It is necessary to provide adequate sports equipments to engage the students in sports actively. During the year 2019-20, the sports equipments have been

provided for 1,764 middle schools at a cost of Rs. 176.40 lakh.

### ***2.12.8. Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan Activities***

#### ***2.12.8.1.Exposure visits outside the State***

Exposure visit, an innovative initiative, provides students a learning experience and exposes them to different culture, values and systems. In the year 2019-20, 960 elementary students (30 students per district) visited Higher Learning Institutions, Science Centres, Museums, Architectural places in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana and Kerala. This visit helped students to gather first hand information and gain knowledge on the site, monuments, areas, etc. The students learn through practical way and interacted with the resource persons and shared their experiences with other students. The expenditure incurred on this venture was Rs. 19.20 lakh.

#### ***2.12.8.2 Excursion Trip for Students within State***

Exposure visit provides children with an ideal 'outdoor classroom' setting away from their

routine learning schedule. Exposure visit is also meant to provide learning experiences through which students can develop their individual talents, interests and abilities. Further, on new things, these visits help them to innovate and experiment. This visit is the part of quality teaching and learning programmes and the teaching content are delivered through experiences. For the year 2019-20, 16,000 students studying in standard 8 at the rate of 500 students per district, interested in Maths and Science were taken to Higher Learning Institutions, Science Centres, MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises), Museums, Planetariums, Zoological Parks etc. within the State at a cost of Rs.32.00 lakh.

## **2.13. Special Grants**

### ***2.13.1. School Grant***

School grant is utilized for provision of school equipments and other recurring expenditure involved in the annual maintenance of the school. In the year 2019-20, an amount of Rs. 13,118.88 lakh was released to all Government primary,

middle, high and higher secondary schools based on students' strength.

S.No.	Students strength in school	Amount of Grant (in Rs.)
1	between 1 – 15	12,500
2	from 16 to 100	25,000
3	from 101 to 250	50,000
4	from 251 to 1000	75,000
5	above 1000	1,00,000

### **2.13.2. Library Grant**

Opening of new libraries in schools and provision of books to 3,527 Government middle schools was taken up as a new initiative during 2018-19 for improving the quality of education and to inculcate reading habits among students. The scheme has been extended to remaining 3,439 Government middle Schools during 2019-20 at a cost of Rs.457.21 lakh.

### **2.14. School Management Committee (SMC)**

Community participation is an essential element of decentralizing educational governance to the grass root level. The effective implementation of various provisions specified in



the RTE Act, 2009 to ensure the child's right to education along with various entitlements rests with the School Management Committee and Local Authorities.

Accordingly, School Management Committees have been constituted in all Government primary and middle schools. Parent - Teacher meetings are being held on last Friday of every month in every school where the class teachers of each class will convene the meeting. The main objective of this committee is to prepare School Development Plan (SDP) and Social Audit Questionnaire (SAQ) as per the RTE guidelines / norms and in turn enable the school to transform into a RTE compliant school.

During 2019-20, 1,87,758 SMC members, have been provided with Capacity Building Training at Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) level at a cost of Rs.282.77 lakh. This training provided them awareness about the provisions of RTE Act,2009, roles and responsibilities of the SMCs, the importance of community participation for the overall development of the school, Disaster Management procedures, Child Rights, Gender Equality, Quality Education, and other

Government schemes. An amount of Rs.938.79 lakh has been sanctioned at the rate of Rs.3000 per school for the year 2019-20.

### **2.15. English Medium**

Realising the parental aspirations for getting their children educated in English Medium, the Government has introduced English Medium sections in selected Government primary schools during the academic year 2012-13. There is a continuous increase in enrolment of children in the English Medium sections. About 7.1 lakh children have been enrolled in the English Medium sections in Government Schools in the year 2019-20. The teachers of the primary and upper primary standards have been imparted training in a phased manner, to teach in the English Medium sections.

### **2.16. Samagra Shiksha**

Samagra Shiksha, the flagship scheme of Government of India, aims to treat school education holistically without segmentation from pre-primary to standard 12. It colligates the three schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)

and Teacher Education (TE), the erstwhile three major school education development schemes of Government of India. This scheme is implemented in partnership with the State with a sharing pattern of 60:40. The emphasis of the scheme is to incentivize to States towards improving quality of education. The vision of the scheme is to provide inclusive and equitable education from pre-primary to higher secondary standards.

## **2.17. New initiatives**

### ***2.17.1. Special Training for Talent Search Tests***

Special training is given to the students studying in standards 6 to 8 in the Government middle schools who are going to participate in various talent exams such as Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Examination, National Means cum Merit Scholarship Examination, National Talent Search Examination. A model Question Bank Booklet for Mental Ability Test has been prepared by a team of experienced teachers and has been uploaded in the Tamil Nadu

Teachers Platform (TNTP) which is beneficial for both the teachers and students.

### ***2.17.2. Bio – Metric Attendance for Teachers***

As the attendance of teachers has a great impact in delivering quality education to the children, Finger Print devices for Aadhaar based Bio-Metric Attendance system have been installed at a cost of Rs.2.28 crore in 8,179 Government and Government aided middle schools for monitoring the attendance of teachers.

### ***2.17.3. Implementation of IFHRMS scheme***

To carry out pay and finance related works through computers, the Directorate of Elementary Education and 413 Block Educational Offices have been provided with Computers, Scanners, Printers and Connectivity (Static IP) at a cost of Rs.10.70 crore for implementing Integrated Financial and Human Resource Management System (IFHRMS) scheme

#### ***2.17.4. Improving the administrative efficiency of Government Primary and Middle schools in the feeder area of Government High and Higher Secondary Schools.***

In order to improve the administrative efficiency and to enhance the learning outcomes of the students studying in Government primary and middle schools, the task of monitoring of such schools especially the functioning of the school, implementation of various welfare schemes, ensuring availability of necessary infrastructure facilities, availability of teachers, safety of students etc. has been entrusted with the Head masters of nearby Government high and higher secondary schools functioning in the same campus or cluster area for which the Government primary and middle schools serve as feeder schools.

#### **2.18. Budget**

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.16,728.09 crore for Elementary Education for the year 2020-21.

## **3. SECONDARY AND HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION**

### **3.1. Introduction**

Secondary and Higher Secondary Education builds a firm foundation for both higher education and employment options of the students. This is a vital stage of education which imparts the requisite knowledge, skills and attitude both for self development and development of the nation. The Government of Tamil Nadu consistently endeavors to ensure provision of quality education in schools by updating teaching skills of teachers through regular training, providing appropriate infrastructure facilities in schools to ensure conducive learning environment and providing equal opportunities to all by implementing various welfare schemes.

### **3.2. Vision**

Providing access to secondary and higher secondary education to all students with a focus on improvement in quality of teaching and learning, removing social and gender gaps and holistic development of students.

### **3.3. Objective**

- To provide access to quality secondary and higher secondary education to all students irrespective of gender and socio – economic barriers
- To implement all the student welfare schemes effectively to ensure 100% retention of students at the secondary and higher secondary levels
- To enhance the employability of students by offering soft skills, vocational education and skill development training
- To improve infrastructure facilities in schools in order to create a conducive and joyful learning environment
- To enhance access by providing free transport facilities and need-based residential facilities
- To offer required care and assistance to children with Special needs
- To offer equal opportunities to all students in participating and excelling in co-scholastic and extra - curricular activities

- To ignite the innate inquisitiveness of students and hone their scientific orientation, engage them in challenging activities of Science Clubs, ECO Club, Project Based Learning and discovery learning
- To identify the interest and talents of students in sports and help them to perform well at the District, State, National and International levels
- To help teachers retool themselves by undergoing well planned, professional learning programmes
- To ensure health awareness through awareness campaigns and periodical medical camps
- To make available training centres throughout the State for those who appear in competitive and entrance examinations
- To disseminate useful information on welfare schemes and guidance to students through toll free helpline



### **3.4. Access**

Creating better school access is the key to universalization of secondary and higher secondary education. The State carries out Geographical Information System (GIS) based school mapping exercise to identify the unserved habitations and to upgrade middle schools into high schools and high schools into higher secondary schools to improve access. 1,079 middle schools have been upgraded to high schools and 604 high schools have been upgraded to higher secondary schools, since 2011-12 with a view to provide access to secondary and higher secondary education.

#### ***3.4.1. Girls Hostels***

Girls Hostels have been established in 44 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) to reduce the marked disparity in enrolment of girl students at the secondary level with a capacity to accommodate 100 girl students. Girl students between the age group of 14 and 18 years, studying in standards 9 to 12, belonging primarily to SC, ST, OBC, minority communities and BPL families form the target group of the scheme.

Students passing out of Kasthuriba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) are given preference for admission in these hostels. A stipend amount of Rs.100 per child per month is deposited every month. Group Insurance coverage has been made for the girls during their stay in the hostel. In 2019-20, 4,195 girls are benefitted through these 44 girls hostels at a cost of Rs.1100.00 lakh.

### ***3.4.2. Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS)***

The Scheme of Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) covers all children studying in standards 9 to 12 in Government and Government aided schools, with one or more disabilities as defined under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. The following facilities are provided to improve the participation of Children with Special Needs (CWSN) in secondary stage.

- Appointment of Special Educators
- Provision of stipend to the CWSN girl students

- Conducting Medical Assessment Camps
- Conducting environment Building Programmes
- Provision of aids & assistive devices
- Provision of escort and transport allowance
- Provision of helpers
- Reader allowance for blind children
- Provision of unique resource rooms

A total of 16,826 CWSN students are benefitted through the above mentioned promotional activities at a cost of Rs.1229.40 lakh during the year 2019-20.

### **3.5. Appointment of Teaching Staff**

Having understood the need of teachers to impart quality education, the Government has taken efforts to appoint the required number of Graduate Teachers and Post Graduate Assistants according to the approved Pupil Teacher ratio through Teachers Recruitment Board in the upgraded and existing Government high and higher secondary schools. Accordingly the

following teacher posts have been filled since 2011 as given in the table below.

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Post</b>	<b>By Promotion</b>	<b>By Direct Recruitment</b>
1	Head Master (higher secondary)	2,184	-
2	Head Master (high)	2,506	-
3	Post Graduate Assistant	9,153	11,461
4	Graduate Teacher	6,001	20,329
5	Special Teacher	82	1,347
6	Physical Director	63	51

### ***3.6. Infrastructure Facilities***

#### ***3.6.1. Civil works with the financial assistance of NABARD***

Civil works for upgraded high and higher secondary schools are carried out with financial assistance of NABARD. The phase-wise details of infrastructure projects carried out through NABARD assistance are given below:

Sl. No	Project No & Phase	Year of Sanction	No of schools benefitted	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1	RIDF XVIII PhaseXI	2012	131	152.73
2	RIDF XIX PhaseXII	2014	210	247.75
3	RIDF XX PhaseXIII	2015	155	208.62
4	RIDF XX PhaseXIII(T)	2015	424	41.58
5	RIDF XXI PhaseXIV	2016	228	355.57
6	RIDF XXII PhaseXV	2016	149	251.92
7	RIDF XXIII PhaseXVI	2017	104	217.06
8	RIDF XXIV PhaseXVII	2018	111	200.18
9	RIDF XXV PhaseXVIII	2019	158	277.88
	Total		1670	1953.29

### ***3.6.2. Civil works under Samagra Shiksha during 2019-20***

Strengthening of infrastructure in the existing Government schools is taken up primarily through Samagra Shiksha. The ultimate purpose is to provide all the Government high and higher secondary schools with all essential infrastructural facilities. The details of the civil works carried out under Samagra Shiksha are given below:

**Civil works sanctioned under Samagra Shiksha  
in 2019-20**

Sl. No.	Components	Physical Sanction	Amount Approved (Rs. in lakh)
1	Additional Classroom	106	1769.14
2	Science Lab	83	1375.31
3	Art/Craft Room	84	1421.28
4	Library Room	85	1751.00
5	Drinking Water	103	206.00
6	Boys Toilet	105	449.40
7	Girls Toilet	123	587.94
8	Toilets for CWSN	6	9.00
9	Computer Room	50	846.00
10	Major repair	88	352.00
11	Solar Panels	94	351.00
12	Science Lab Equipments	83	83.00
Total		1010	9201.07

### **3.7. Educational Indicators**

#### **3.7.1. Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)**

The number of children enrolled in a level (secondary, higher secondary), irrespective of age, divided by the population of the age group that officially corresponds to the same level.

$$GER = \frac{\text{Enrolment in a level}}{\text{Population of age group in the level}} \times 100$$

### **3.7.2. Gender Parity Index (GPI)**

GPI is calculated as the quotient of the number of females by the number of males enrolled in a given stage of education (secondary, higher secondary etc.).

$$GPI = \frac{\text{No. of Girls Enrolled}}{\text{No. of Boys Enrolled}}$$

### **3.7.3. Gender Equity Index (GEI)**

GEI is an efficient tool to assess equity in enrolment at a given level.

$$GEI = \frac{\text{Share of Girls at enrolment in the level}}{\text{Share of Girls at age group in the level}}$$

### **3.7.4. Social Equity Index (SEI)**

Social Equity Index is a tool to assess equity in access to certain social goods and services and other rights within a specific society or isolated group having the same status. SEI exposes the differences that prevail in access to education amidst the underprivileged social sectors.

$$SEI(SC) = \frac{\text{Share of SC in enrolment}}{\text{Share of SC in 14 – 15 age group}}$$

$$SEI(ST) = \frac{\text{Share of ST in enrolment}}{\text{Share of ST in 14 – 15 age group}}$$

### **3.7.5. Secondary Graduation Rate (SGR)**

SGR reveals the improved internal efficiency of education

$$\text{SGR} = \frac{\text{No. of students appeared in Standard 10}}{\text{No. of students enrolled in Standard 9 in the previous year}}$$

### **3.7.6. Educational Indicators (2019-20)**

#### **3.7.6.1. Indicators (Secondary)**

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER)	93.85
2	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) – Girls	95.19
3	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) – SC	93.80
4	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) – ST	77.30
5	Gender Parity Index (GPI)	1.06
6	Gender Equity Index (GEI)	1.03
7	Social Equity Index (SEI) – SC	1.09
8	Social Equity Index (SEI) – ST	0.90

#### **3.7.6.2. Indicators (Higher Secondary)**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER)	77.80
2	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) – Boys	73.60
3	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) – Girls	82.00



4	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) – SC	77.55
5	Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) – ST	55.60

### **3.7.6.3. Dropout and Retention Rate (Secondary Level)**

S.No.	Indicator	Boys	Girls	Average
1	Dropout Rate	4.00	2.50	3.25
2	Retention Rate	96.00	97.50	96.75

### **3.7.6.4. Transition Rate**

Sl. No.	Secondary (Standards 8 to 9)			Higher Secondary (Standards 10 to 11)		
	Boys	Girls	Average	Boys	Girls	Average
1	96.80	96.90	96.85	86.40	93.60	90.00

## **3.8. Training**

### **3.8.1. Training for Teachers**

To improve the quality of teaching at the secondary and higher secondary level, professional development of teachers is essential. To ensure the development of transactional skills of teachers, in-service training has been imparted especially on the revised curriculum, syllabus and textbooks, IEDSS, post NAS activities, evaluation techniques and ICT. During the year 2019-20, a seven day training was given to 55,639

Graduate teachers and 33,956 Post Graduates teachers at a cost of Rs. 1881.50 lakh.

### ***3.8.2. School Leadership and Development Programme for Headmasters (SLDP)***

School Leadership and Development Programme is organized by the State every year to promote leadership qualities of school heads. NIEPA trained SRG members, assisted in conducting the training effectively. The school heads are mainly trained in preparation of Strategic School Improvement Plan for the long term goals (3 Years). In the year 2019-20, members of 96 State Resource Groups (SRG) were given SLDP training, with an expenditure of Rs.2.40 lakh. In turn, the SRG members imparted SLDP Training to the 960 newly promoted Headmasters with an expenditure of Rs.14.40 lakh.

### ***3.8.3. Training for School Management Development Committee (SMDC)***

Community participation has been viewed as an essential element of decentralizing educational governance to the grass root level. The effective implementation of various provisions ensuring the

child's right to education along with various entitlements specified in the RTE Act, 2009 rests with the School Management and Development Committee and Local Authorities.

Accordingly, School Management and Development Committees have been constituted in all Government high and higher secondary schools. Parent - Teacher meetings are held on last Friday of every month in every school where the class teachers of each class will convene the meeting. The main objective of this committee is to prepare School Development Plan (SDP) and Social Audit Questionnaire (SAQ) as per the RTE guidelines / norms and in turn enable the school to transform into a RTE compliant school.

During the year 2019-20, 36,390 SMDC Members, have been provided with Capacity Building Training at Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) level at a cost of Rs.54.89 lakh, to make them aware of the provisions of RTE Act, 2009, roles and responsibilities of SMDCs, the importance of community participation for the overall development of the school, Disaster Management procedures, Child Rights, Gender Equality, Quality Education and other Government

Schemes. An amount of Rs.181.95 lakh has been sanctioned at the rate of Rs.3000 per school for the year 2019-20.

### ***3.8.4. Training for Administrative Officers***

Organizing a week long training programme for the administrative officers is an integral part of the training year planner. In the year 2019-20, 2 days training programme was conducted in Chennai and Madurai. 120 District Educational Officers and 96 District Administrators were imparted training with an expenditure of Rs 2.4 lakh and Rs.1.92 lakh respectively. The training served as an useful platform for effective interactions and an opportunity for enriching the strategies to tackle various problems amicably. Eminent persons across the State were invited to address the participants on various topics pertaining to education, adolescent psychology and social parenting.

### **3.9. Co-Scholastic Activities**

#### ***3.9.1. State and National Level Sports Competitions***

The State Government is committed to the cause of developing a sports culture among the students. Young athletes are trained to succeed in the Zonal, District, State, National and International level events to bring glory to our State. With this aim, the State Government has been providing a sum of Rs.10.00 crore annually since 2013-2014. With the enhanced awareness among students, about 15 lakh students participate in the sports contests from Zonal to National levels. In the year 2019-20 Tamil Nadu has improved to 5<sup>th</sup> place from 7<sup>th</sup> place in the overall ranking with the tally of 77 Gold, 61 Silver and 116 Bronze medals at the National level sports competitions.

#### ***3.9.2. Chess Game***

Tamil Nadu leads the other States in the promotion of chess in India. The game enhances the reasoning and strategic abilities of the students. Chess competitions are conducted in

different categories for the age group between 7 and 17 years from the School level to the State level. In the year 2019-20, 24 students emerged as winners at the State level chess competition. The Government sanctions a sum of Rs. 22.00 lakh to meet out the expenses of conducting these competitions every year. In the National level competition conducted by School Games Federation of India in 2019-20, the chess team from Tamil Nadu secured Gold medal in Under-14 and Under-17 Girls category, Silver medal in the Under-17 Boys category and Gold medal in Under-19 boys and Silver medal in under-19 girls category.

### **3.9.3. Yoga**

Students are subjected to pressure on multiple fronts in this modern competitive world. Yoga is being practiced as a voluntary physical exercise in the schools since 2017-18 because Yoga releases stress and tension. Yoga helps students to develop both physical fitness and balanced mind. For the year 2019-20, an amount of Rs.16.00 lakh has been utilized to conduct Educational District, District and State level Yoga Olympiad programme among students studying in

standards 9 and 10 in Government high and higher secondary schools.

In the year 2019-20, Tamil Nadu bagged 1 Gold medal, 2 Silver medals and 4 Bronze medals in the 65th National competition conducted by School Games Federation of India. To inculcate physical activity and sports in the daily life of students, all schools have been instructed to allot 15 minutes in the morning and 45 minutes in the evening daily to promote fitness of the students.

#### ***3.9.4. National Service Scheme (NSS)***

The main purpose of National Service Scheme is to involve students in nation building through Community Services like Health Camps, Blood Donation Camps, Environment Awareness Programmes and Tree Planting. There are 97,900 student volunteers in 1,957 NSS units in the higher secondary schools in the State. A grant of Rs.1.83 crore towards regular activities and Rs.1.64 crore towards the conduct of Special Camps is sanctioned every year. NSS Programme officers are given periodical orientation training every year in Coimbatore and Chennai.

### ***3.9.5. Junior Red Cross Society (JRC)***

Junior Red Cross units are functioning in high and higher secondary schools in Tamil Nadu. Teachers are trained in this programme as counselors and students act as volunteers. It helps in developing the humanitarian part within the children including sharpening the potential of children in doing kind acts besides imbibing humanitarian values. JRC volunteers are trained in Disaster Management, Road Safety, First Aid, Fire Safety etc., They help the general public during festivals and mega events. There are 12,123 JRC units with 5,82,122 student-members in the State.

### ***3.9.6. Scouts and Guides***

The Scouts and Guides movement involving 3,23,375 students and 13,210 teachers, is a dynamic one in Tamil Nadu. The important activities taken up by them are cleaning of important places, archaeological centers and monuments, planting of trees, creating awareness on general health and hygiene, first aid, regulating traffic, etc. In the year 2018-19, the Government released a sum of Rs.2.00 crore to



Scouts and Guides movement as corpus fund. The accumulated interest amount from the deposit is utilized for various activities of Scouts and Guides all over the State. Tamil Nadu Bharat Scouts and Guides conducted its 10th State Camporee in Chennai from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2019 after an interval of 22 years. 4000 Scouts, Guides, Rovers and Rangers participated in the Camporee from all over the State.

### ***3.9.7. Youth and Eco-club***

Youth and Eco-club in school is an instrument to develop life skills, build self-esteem, develop self-confidence and resilience and counter negative emotions of stress, shame and fear.

Eco clubs in schools empower students to participate and take up meaningful environmental activities and projects. It is a forum which students can reach out to influence, engage their parents and neighbourhood communities to promote sound environmental behaviour. It empowers students to explore environmental concepts and actions beyond the confines of syllabus or curriculum. For this year 2019-20, an amount of Rs.1,516.25 lakh has been utilized

for all Government high and higher secondary Schools the rate of Rs.25,000 per school for the activities of youth and eco-club

### **3.10. Guidance and Counseling**

#### ***3.10.1. Mobile Counseling Centres for Students***

Guidance and counseling are important components of services rendered to students to help them face the challenges that adversely impact their academic achievement during early adolescence. In order to fulfill this psychological need, the State has been divided into 17 zones. 17 fully equipped mobile counseling vans have been deployed to cover all the schools. These vans are equipped with televisions and other digital tools. The Psychologists have been separately appointed for giving counseling to the students. Totally 1,49,037 students from 984 schools across the State have been provided with psychological counseling in the academic year 2019-20. Among them individual counseling have been given to 7,892 students and group counseling have been given to 1,41,145 students.

In all high and higher Secondary schools, there is a designated teacher counselor for counseling.

### ***3.10.2. Toll Free Helpline – 14417***

A Toll Free 24 X 7 Help Line - 14417 is made available for students from 01.03.2018. Nearly, 2.64 lakh calls have been attended through the Helpline, till February 2020. It is an innovative initiative for students, teachers and parents across the State, especially in rural and tribal areas to receive information on the welfare schemes for school students, the syllabus and examination related information. It also aims at mentoring of students by providing career guidance and psychological counseling for adolescent children.

### **3.11. Quality Interventions**

#### ***3.11.1. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Digital Initiatives - Hi-Tech Labs***

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is universally acknowledged as an important catalyst for improving teaching - learning process in schools. To equip the students and teachers of

Government Schools in Tamil Nadu digitally, 3090 Government high schools have been provided with 10 computer terminals per school and 2939 Government higher secondary schools have been provided with 20 Computer terminals per school with the accessories including base lease line connectivity of 1 Mbps speed for high Schools and 2 Mbps speed for higher secondary schools. Usage of these Hi-Tech labs is monitored centrally with the help of a Control Room, i.e., Command Centre with connectivity of 100 Mbps speed. It is proposed to use this facility for delivery of digital content and digital assessment of the students in Government high and higher secondary schools.

### ***3.11.2. CCTV surveillance in Government Schools***

Ensuring safety and security of students studying in Government high and higher secondary schools, action has been taken to install CCTV Cameras in 1,646 Government higher secondary schools and 244 Government high schools with networking system which include a monitor at State and District Level and 3 to 4 Cameras for each school with application Software. Government has sanctioned Rs.21.68

crore and entrusted the work to Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, Chennai.

### ***3.11.3. Establishment of Atal Tinkering Labs(ATL)***

With the objective of sparking curiosity, creativity and innovation in young minds and inculcating skills such as design mind set, computational thinking, adaptive learning, physical computing, rapid calculation and measurements, the State is encouraging establishment of Atal Tinkering Labs in higher secondary schools. So far, Atal Tinkering labs have been established in 267 higher secondary schools at a cost of Rs.49.97 crore.

### ***3.11.4. Issuance of Smart Cards***

The State Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.9.00 crore for issuing QR based SMART cards to around 70.60 lakh students studying from standard 1 to 12 in Government and Government aided schools. The smart cards have been linked with personal profile of each student. Steps have been taken to issue smart cards to teachers at a cost of Rs.1.17 crore during 2019-20.

### ***3.11.5. Introduction of Bio-Metric Attendance for Teachers/Staff***

Aadhaar Enabled Bio-metric Attendance System (AEBAS) has been made operational in all the Government/ Government aided high and higher secondary schools and more than 2.13 lakh teachers have been using this system to mark their attendance. Finger Print devices have been provided for this purpose. Moreover, Bio-Metric attendance has also been introduced in the offices of Chief Educational Officers, District Educational Officers and Block Educational Officers for marking the attendance of the staff.

### ***3.11.6. Coaching for Competitive Examinations***

The Government has introduced coaching centres from the academic year 2017-18, to prepare the students studying in Government and Government aided schools to compete in competitive examinations, for which 412 block-wise coaching centres have been established throughout the State. In the year 2018-19, after the completion of Public examination for the students, residential training

was conducted in 14 centres across Tamil Nadu. Awareness training on Chartered Accounts course (CA) has been conducted in all Government and Government aided schools by Institute of Chartered Accounts of India (ICAI) for the aspiring students from Commerce stream.

### ***3.11.7. Self-defence Training***

As an initiative towards women empowerment, the State has introduced self-defence training programme for the girl students studying in 5,711 schools in all districts.

Training on Karate, Judo and Taekwondo is given twice in a week for three months to all girl students studying in standards 9 and 10 in high and higher secondary schools by well-trained lady coaches under the supervision of school teachers. A sum of Rs.513.99 lakh has been utilized for this programme.

### ***3.11.8. Library Grant***

A new initiative of opening of new Libraries in schools and provision of library grant for providing books to all Government high and higher secondary schools was taken up during 2018-19

at a cost of Rs.270.63 lakh for improving the quality of education. Additional grant to a tune of Rs.910.75 lakh have been provided to these schools during 2019-20.

### ***3.11.9. Talent Search @ School Level***

The objective of Talent Search at school level is to adopt, child centred approach to build up overall personality of students and to improve academic excellence. The schools will be organising five rounds of inter-group classroom competition /debates/ presentation of students studying in standards 9 and 10 in Government high and higher secondary schools at various levels from School, Educational District, District, Regional, and State level. During the year 2019-20, an amount of Rs.32.00 lakh has been utilized for this programme.

### ***3.11.10. IMPART***

IMPART (Improving Participation) is another special initiative designed to improve the participation of secondary students in their scholastic activities in all districts. It motivates the students to prepare indigenous projects with a view of enhancing their learning experience. The



students are awarded for their best projects prepared in the District level exhibition. A sum of Rs.123.44 lakh has been utilized towards implementation of this programme during 2019-20. 1,54,500 students were benefitted through this programme.

### ***3.11.11. Study trip for students to Higher Institutions within the State***

Exposure visit provides children with an ideal 'outdoor classroom' setting that is not within their routine learning schedule. Exposure Visit is also meant to provide a structured learning experience in which students can develop their individual talents, interests and abilities through an experience that allows them to innovate and experiment. This visit is a part of quality teaching and learning programs and the teaching content are delivered through experiences.

In the year 2019-20, 38,575 students from selected 1,543 Government high and higher secondary schools visited Higher Learning Institutions, Science Centres, MSME (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises), Museums, Planetarium,

Zoological parks etc., at a total cost of Rs.77.15 lakh.

### ***3.11.12. Exposure Visit outside the State***

Exposure Visit, an innovative initiative provides students learning experience and exposes them to different culture, values and systems. This visit helps students to gather experiences by visiting the Higher Learning Institutions, Science Centres, Museums, Monuments, Architectural places in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana and Kerala and to learn through practical way and interacting with the resource persons and sharing with other students. In the year 2019-20, 3,600 students studying in standards 9 and 10 (30 Students per educational district) from 120 Educational Districts were covered. The expenditure incurred on this venture was Rs.72.00 lakh.

### ***3.11.13. Teacher Exchange Programme for Empowerment***

Under this activity the selected teachers are being provided opportunities to visit higher learning institutions of other States wherein modern ICT advancements are brought in usage

for the classroom interactions.1,200 teachers from 120 educational districts (10 teachers from each educational district) were benefited in the year 2019-20 at a cost of Rs. 24.00 lakh.

### ***3.11.14. Mapping Skill 2019-20***

It is very essential to develop mapping skill among the students. Training was imparted to all social science teachers especially the geography teachers. The trained social science teachers in turn transfer the skill to the students under their care. Geography kit was supplied to all Government high and higher secondary schools comprising of Clinometers, 3D maps, Toposheets etc., which helped the teachers to transact in the classroom effectively. A sum of Rs.60.65 lakh has been utilized for this project and 6,17,100 students have been benefitted.

## **3.12. Events and Awards**

### ***3.12.1. Science Exhibition***

The State is always eager to invest on projects that promote scientific aspiration in students. Science exhibition is one of such promotional activity since exhibitions enable

interaction and exchange of innovative ideas among young students. It spreads out the canvas needed for the students to exhibit their quest for science, innovation and creativity. The exhibitions are conducted at school, educational district and district levels. In the year 2019-20, the district level science exhibitions were conducted in all the districts with an expenditure of Rs.16.00 lakh. A total number of 6,675 secondary students from all Government high and higher secondary schools participated in the final district level science exhibition.

A State Level Science Exhibition was organized at Karur on 31.10.2019. A total number of 160 science projects were kept for display on various themes such as sustainable Agriculture practices, Resource Management, Health and hygiene. The State level winners participated in the Southern India Science Fair in January, 2020 in Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu. 600 participants with 300 exhibits from 6 States participated in the exhibition.

### **3.12.2. Quiz Programme**

The primary objective of Quiz competition is to encourage students to look beyond their textual knowledge.

Quiz competition for the students of secondary level was conducted at 5 levels i.e. School, Educational District, District, Regional and State Level. 36,856 students from all Government high and higher secondary schools enthusiastically participated as teams of four each. The best 3 teams were selected at the final quiz competition at State level. The winners of the quiz competition at all the levels were suitably awarded with cash prize, certificates and trophies. A sum of Rs.46.07 lakh has been utilized for this programme during the year 2019-20.

### **3.12.3. Kala Utsav**

Kala Utsav is an initiative to promote arts among students and to enhance the life-skills of the participants by nurturing and showcasing the artistic talent of school students at the secondary level. It is organized at District, State and National levels. It helps the students to explore, understand and showcase their living tradition in

the art forms of Music (Vocal, Instrumental), Dance and Drawing. A sum of Rs.12.00 lakh has been utilized during the year 2019-20.

National level competitions for the year 2019-20 were held at Bhopal from 2<sup>nd</sup> January to 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020. 8 students from Tamil Nadu participated and won two First prizes in the category of Musical Instrument and painting (Boys), one Third prize in the category of Musical Instrument (Girls). These prizes comprise of a cash award of trophies, medals and certificates.

Sl. No.	Name of the Art form	No. of Participants (2019-20)	
		District Level	State Level
1	Music / Vocal	1109	64
2	Music / Instrumental	658	59
3	Dance	1258	63
4	Drawing	1926	64

### **3.12.4. Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award**

'Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award' is given to students studying in Standards 10 and 12 in Tamil medium in Government and Government aided schools. The Government has allotted a sum of

Rs.145.30 lakh to award Rs.10,000 each for top 15 performers in standard 10 Board examination and other co-scholastic activities and Rs.20,000 each to top 15 performers in standard 12 Board examination and other co-scholastic activities in each district. Every year, 960 students are being bestowed with this cash award.

### ***3.12.5. Puthumai Palli Award***

The schools which are functioning efficiently in increasing the enrolment of students, adopting innovative methods for imparting education, fulfilling all basic infrastructure facilities and coordinating with School Management Development Committee in the development of school and education of students are identified and given 'Puthumai Palli' awards since 2017-18. Four Schools one in each category of schools namely primary, middle, high and higher secondary are selected in a district and are presented with this award. Certificates and Rs.1.00 lakh are given to primary and middle schools. For high and higher secondary schools a cash award of Rs.2.00 lakh along with a certificate are given.

### **3.12.6. Kanavu Asiriyar Award**

“Kanavu Asiriyar Award” is given to encourage the teachers in Government schools who handle their classes using ICT methods, promote co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, work with the community members of their locality for the betterment of schools and to increase student enrolment in schools. Such efficient teachers are identified and a cash award to the tune of Rs.10,000 is given every year.

### **3.13. New Initiatives**

#### **3.13.1. Transformation of Government Schools as Model Schools**

The State Government is keen to provide the most advanced infrastructure and sophisticated learning environment to children. With this noble objective, the State established 32 model schools during the year 2018-19 at a cost of Rs.16.00 crore. In the year 2019-20, the Government has established 88 model schools in the remaining educational districts with a financial support of Rs.20.00 lakh to each selected school.



Model schools function as composite schools, having classes from LKG to standard 12. These schools are provided with state of the art facilities such as smart class rooms, hi-tech labs, solar lights, biometric attendance, e-library, laboratories, sports articles, toilet facilities, protected drinking water, CCTV cameras and other infrastructural facilities that are essentially required.

### ***3.13.2. Vocationalisation of Secondary education***

Skill based vocational education is provided for the students studying at secondary level. In 2018-19, vocational education scheme was implemented in 67 Government higher secondary schools and in 2019-20, the scheme has been extended to 53 Government higher secondary schools, totalling to 120 Schools, one in each educational district. An amount of Rs.1158.28 lakh has been utilized to implement this programme during 2019-20 and 14,960 students have been benefitted.

### ***3.13.3. Online Aptitude Test at School Level - ATSL 2020***

Aptitude Test is designed to assess the learning levels of students when provided with right education and instruction. It represents the level of competency of students to perform a certain type of task. During 2018-19, aptitude test was conducted in offline mode for the students studying in standard 9 only. In 2019-20, aptitude test was conducted for 8,51,999 students studying in standards 9 and 10 in all Government high and higher secondary schools through online mode at a total cost of Rs.85.20 lakh. Due care has been taken to make the assessment and interpretation less complicated for the teachers and students.

### ***3.13.4. School Safety and Security***

The issue of school safety has become more complex now.

The State endeavors to provide every child access to education in a safe and protective environment conducive to growth and development. The teachers need to act as first level counselors within the school. Every school is

required to display a board on safety with helpline, emergency numbers and contact persons. Rs.921.73 lakh has been sanctioned for orientation training to 89,140 teachers working in all Government high and higher secondary schools on safety of students during the year 2019-20.

### ***3.13.5. Recognising best performing Parent Teacher Associations***

In order to encourage the best performing Parent Teachers Association in the State, one PTA in any category of schools namely primary, middle, high, higher secondary, one in each Educational District have been selected and honoured with a cash award of Rs.50,000 per school with an expenditure of Rs.60.00 lakh during the year 2019-20.

### ***3.13.6. Online Fund Raising Platform (CSR)***

In order to encourage public participation in improvement of facilities in Government schools and to provide an authentic channel for receiving contributions from the public and corporate sector through CSR, an online fund raising platform named "Champions of Change"

has been launched by the Government (<https://contribute.tnschools.gov.in>)

Some of the benefits of using a simplified online portal for raising funds are as follows:

Public participation in the development of Government schools is increased due to increased visibility and transparency.

The web portal provides the ability for any individual or corporate body across the country to contribute to meet the needs of schools of their choice directly, thereby potentially increasing the number of contributors and number of contributions received.

Tax exemptions provided on the donations encourages more individuals and organizations to contribute through the web portal.

Potential to build Government school alumni database through details of contributors.

The Tamil Nadu State Parent Teacher Association (TNPTA) has been identified as the nodal agency to manage the funds raised through the web portal.

### **3.14. Budget**

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.16,717.33 crore for Secondary and Higher Secondary Education for the year 2020-21.

## **4.WELFARE SCHEMES**

### **4. Introduction**

Tamil Nadu is witnessing a vibrant development phase, with the State Government giving special emphasis for the development of the children. The health and education of the children have been improved by implementing various welfare schemes. These schemes provide the children with facilities for a better future. The Government is implementing various welfare schemes including distribution of cost free items to the students of all Government and Government aided schools to overcome the social and economic differences among children and to ensure enrolment and retention of students in Government and Government aided schools.

#### ***4.1. Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R Nutritious Meal Programme***

The students studying in standards 1 to 10 are being provided with nutritious noon meal under the Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R Nutritious Meal Programme. This Scheme is being implemented by Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department. During the

academic year 2019-20, 48.19 lakh students have been benefitted under this scheme. This scheme will be continued in the academic year 2020-21.

#### **4.2. Textbooks**

Free textbooks are being provided to all students of Government and Government aided schools. Government introduced the trimester system in 2012-13 to reduce the burden of students in carrying heavy load of books. The textbooks are distributed to the students on the opening day of every term. In the academic year 2019-20, 72.18 lakh students have been benefitted. A sum of Rs.195.25 crore has been allocated for the continuance of the scheme during the academic year 2020-21.

#### **4.3. Notebooks**

Free notebooks are being provided to all the students studying in standards 1 to 10 in Government and Government aided schools from the year 2012-13. Free notebooks are distributed to the students on the opening day of every term. 59.92 lakh students have been benefitted by this scheme in 2019-20. A sum of Rs.107.20 crore

has been provided for the continuance of the scheme during the academic year 2020-21.

#### **4.4. Laptop**

Students studying in higher secondary standards in Government and Government aided schools are provided with cost-free Laptops since 2011-12. 15.31 lakh students have been benefitted for the years 2018-19 and 2019-20. A sum of Rs.949.30 crore has been allocated for the continuance of the scheme for students studying in standard 11 in Government and Government aided schools during the academic year 2020-21.

#### **4.5. Uniform**

Government is providing four sets of uniform free of cost to all students who are studying in Government and Government aided schools in standards 1 to 8 and are enrolled in Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R Nutritious Meal Programme. The Government has introduced a new design of uniform for distribution to the children of Government and Government aided schools in the year 2019-20. In the academic year 2019-20, 38.70 lakh students have been benefitted. A sum



of Rs.409.30 crore has been provided for the continuance of the scheme during the academic year 2020-21.

#### **4.6. Footwear**

Footwear is provided free of cost to all students studying in standards 1 to 10 in Government and Government aided schools from the year 2012-13. In the academic year 2019-20, 59.92 lakh students are benefitted. The Government has decided to distribute shoes and socks for students studying in standards 6 to 10 in Government and Government aided schools from the academic year 2020-21 onwards, instead of cheppals. A sum of Rs.90.17 crore has been allocated for implementing this scheme during the acadmic year 2020-21.

#### **4.7.School Bag**

School bags are being provided free of cost to all students studying in Government and Government aided schools in standards 1 to 12 from the year 2012-13. During the 2019-20, 71.87 lakh students are benefitted by this scheme.

#### **4.8. Crayons**

Crayons are being provided free of cost to all students studying in standards 1 and 2 in Government and Government aided schools from the year 2012-13. In the academic year 2019-20, 8.93 lakh students have been benefitted.

#### **4.9. Colour Pencils**

The scheme of providing colour pencils free of cost to all students studying in standards 3 to 5 in Government and Government aided schools was introduced in the year 2012-13. In the academic year 2019-20, 14.92 lakh students have been benefitted.

#### **4.10. Geometry Box**

The scheme of providing geometry box free of cost to the students studying in standards 6 to 8 in Government and Government aided schools was introduced in the year 2012-13 and is being implemented from the year 2013-14. In the academic year 2019-20, 11.33 lakh students have been benefitted under this scheme.

#### **4.11. Atlas**

Free atlas is provided to students studying in standards 6 to 10 in Government and Government aided schools. This scheme was introduced in the year 2012-13. In the academic year 2019-20, 7.98 lakh students have been targeted.

Totally, a sum of Rs.95.38 crore has been allocated for distribution of School Bags, Crayons, Colour Pencils, Geometry Box and Atlas for the academic year 2020-21.

#### **4.12. Woolen Sweaters**

In the year 2013-14, the Government introduced the scheme of distribution of woolen sweaters free of cost to students who are studying in standards 1 to 8 in Government and Government aided schools in hilly areas and enrolled in the Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R Nutritious Meal Programme. During the academic year 2019-20, 1.16 lakh students have been benefitted. A sum of Rs.3.00 crore has been allocated for the continuance of the scheme during the academic year 2020-21.

#### ***4.13. Rain Coats, Boots and Socks***

Students of standards 1 to 8 studying in Government and Government aided schools in hilly areas and enrolled in the Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R Nutritious Meal Programme are being provided with rain coats, boots and socks free of cost. This scheme was introduced in the year 2016-17. In the year 2019-20, 1.16 lakh students are benefitted.

#### ***4.14. Bus Pass***

Free bus passes are being issued every year to the students studying in standards 1 to 12 in all schools for providing easy access to their schools. This scheme is being implemented by the Transport Department. Around 24 lakh students have been benefitted in the year 2019-20. This scheme will be continued in the academic year 2020-21.

#### ***4.15. Bicycles***

Free bicycles are supplied to students studying in standard 11 in Government and Government aided schools. The Bicycles are distributed to students belonging to Backward

Classes and Most Backward classes through Backward Classes, Most Backward classes and Minorities Welfare Department. For students belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department is providing bicycles. Students belonging to other classes (OC) get free bicycles through School Education Department. 5.29 lakh students have been benefitted during the year 2019-20. This scheme will be continued in the academic year 2020-21.

#### ***4.16. Financial assistance for students who lose their bread winning parents***

Financial Assistance is given to the students of standards 1 to 12 studying in Government and Government aided schools whose bread winning parent (father or mother) expires or becomes permanently incapacitated in accident. The Government ensures that the children of such parents are not affected due to such unforeseen dire circumstances. An amount of Rs.75,000 is deposited in Government Financial Institutions in the name of the student whose bread winning parent expires or becomes permanently incapacitated in accident. The financial assistance

was increased from Rs.50,000 to Rs.75,000 in 2014-15. 474 students have benefitted under this scheme in the year 2019-20. A sum of Rs.5.70 crore has been allocated for the scheme during the academic year 2020-21.

#### ***4.17. Student Accident Relief Scheme***

The Government has started this scheme to provide financial relief to families of students, who meet with unexpected accidents while in schools or while involved in school related activities. Students studying in Government, Government aided and local body schools are covered by this scheme. Under the scheme, financial assistance of Rs.1,00,000 is given for accidental death, Rs.50,000 for major injuries and Rs.25,000 for minor injuries to the family of the student. The scheme ensures a speedy disbursement of relief to the beneficiaries.

#### ***4.18. Special Cash Incentive to reduce dropouts***

The Government has been striving tirelessly to ensure that no student should dropout or discontinue his/her education because of economic constraints in the family. The Special

Cash Incentive Scheme to reduce dropouts at secondary level has been introduced in the academic year 2011-12. An incentive of Rs.1500 for students studying in standards 10 and 11 and Rs.2000 for students studying in standard 12 in Government and Government aided schools is deposited in the Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation and the same is disbursed to the students on completion of their higher secondary education. 15.46 lakh students have been benefitted in the year 2019-20. A sum of Rs.313.59 crore has been provided for the continuance of the scheme during the academic year 2020-21.

## **5. MATRICULATION SCHOOLS**

### **5.1. Introduction**

Matriculation Schools are self-financing schools which were initially under the control of University of Madras and University of Madurai and subsequently, brought under the control of the Directorate of School Education in the year 1978. A separate Directorate to monitor and regulate matriculation schools in the State was formed in the year 2001. At present, there are 4438 matriculation schools providing education to about 38 lakh children.

### **5.2. Vision**

To provide quality education in matriculation schools by ensuring good infrastructure facilities, fully qualified teachers, high level of learning outcomes and safe learning environment.

### **5.3. Objective**

- To ensure transparency in granting renewal of recognition to matriculation schools by adopting online application process



- To ensure that all matriculation schools comply with the norms and standards stipulated in terms of requirement of infrastructure facilities and safety of children
- To ensure appointment of fully qualified teachers in matriculation schools
- To act as State Nodal Agency for the implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009

## **5.4. Administrative Responsibilities**

### ***5.4.1. Permission/Recognition***

Permission is accorded to open new matriculation schools and to upgrade existing matriculation schools into matriculation higher secondary schools which fulfil the norms prescribed by the Government. During the year 2019-20, permission has been accorded to open 58 new matriculation schools and 91 matriculation schools have been upgraded into matriculation higher secondary schools.

Renewal of recognition to matriculation schools is given by the Chief Educational Officers of the districts concerned.

#### ***5.4.2. Implementation of The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009***

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 is being implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu with full attention. In accordance with section 12 (1) (c) of the RTE Act, 2009, clear guidelines for effecting implementation of 25% reservation for students belonging to disadvantaged group and weaker section in all private non-minority self-financing schools at entry level viz. LKG/Standard 1, have been issued. The application for admission under 25% reservation has been made online from the academic year 2017-18. This facility will enable the parents to apply online for admission and the schools would be under obligation to grant admission, if eligible. Arrangements have also been made to facilitate parents to apply online in all the Educational Offices at Block and District level, free of cost. If eligible applications are more than the intake capacity of the school, lots

are drawn in the presence of applicants / parents. Eligible applications received from priority category viz. a child who is an orphan or affected with HIV, transgender, a child of a scavenger and differently abled are considered first and admission is given before the process of lots is taken up. 76,927 children belonging to disadvantaged group and weaker section were admitted during the year 2019-20. Category wise number of children admitted during 2019-20 is given below:

S.No.	Category	No. of children admitted
1	Weaker section	60,714
2	Disadvantaged group	16,002
3	Orphan	27
4	Affected with HIV	4
5	Child of scavenger	40
6	Differently abled	138
7	Transgender	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>76,927</b>

The Government has so far reimbursed a sum of Rs.644.69 crore to the schools and 5,60,829 children have been admitted under section 12 (1) (c) of the RTE Act, 2009 from the year 2013-14. An amount of Rs.304.14 crore has been provided for reimbursement to the schools by the Government during the year 2020-21.

### **5.5. Quality Education**

All efforts have been taken by the Government for improving quality of education in schools by effecting regular supervision and monitoring. Curriculum, syllabi and text books have been revised at par with other boards of examinations. All the matriculation schools are following the new syllabus developed by the SCERT.

### **5.6. The Tamil Nadu Private Schools (Regulation) Act, 2018**

The Tamil Nadu Uniform System of School Education Act, 2010 was enacted and all the private schools have been brought under State Common Board of School Education.

Pursuant to the enactment of the above Act, it was felt that a Comprehensive Act should be formulated to regulate all the Private Schools affiliated with the State Common Board of School Education and to other Boards. A Committee headed by a former Vice Chancellor of Madurai Kamarajar University was constituted by the Government to formulate a Comprehensive Act and Rules for this purpose. Based on the Committee's Report, the Tamil Nadu Private Schools (Regulation) Act, 2018 was enacted and published in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette on 05.07.2018. Framing of Tamil Nadu Private School (Regulation) Rules is under process.

### ***5.6.1. Salient features of the Tamil Nadu Private Schools (Regulation) Act, 2018***

The Act lays emphasis on safety and security of children in private schools. It also proposes to ensure quality education in private schools by ensuring basic minimum standards and norms in private schools and to regulate the admissions, collection of fee and conduct of examinations in private schools. It also prevent commercialization of education and lays foundation for a strong value system for building a vibrant society.

It specifically prohibits the admission of children in any school which has not been granted with certificate of recognition. It makes a mandatory provision prohibiting the educational agency to run the school consequent to withdrawal of recognition. To protect the interest of students, the Act empowers the Government to impose severe penalty, if any pupil is prevented from appearing for the Board Examination on account of poor academic performance or for any other reason.

### ***5.7. Fee Determination for private schools***

The Government enacted 'The Tamil Nadu Schools (Regulation of Collection of Fee) Act, 2009' to prevent commercialization of education. A Committee headed by a retired High Court Judge has been constituted for the purpose of fixing fee for the private schools. The Committee has determined fee for 8138 schools up to February, 2020. Fee fixation orders have been uploaded on the Committee's official website namely "[www.tamilnadufeecommittee.com](http://www.tamilnadufeecommittee.com)".

## **5.8. Budget**

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.307.41 crore for this Directorate for the year 2020-21.

## **6. STATE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING**

### **6.1. Introduction**

The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) is the primary organization involved in designing and executing training programs to bring about qualitative changes in the classroom transactional processes in School Education. It acts as the academic authority to develop appropriate curriculum, syllabus and text books for standards upto 12 by involving the best academic experts in the State. It designs and supports teacher professional development programmes by way of capacity building trainings to teachers. It has introduced latest innovations in ICT to help students acquire soft skills. It offers career guidance to help them face challenges after schooling and pursue their higher studies and to choose suitable career options. The SCERT provides support to all other Directorates of School Education Department. It plans and provides need based quality in-service training at all levels. It facilitates the teachers and teacher educators to undertake action researches to address the academic issues in the classrooms



and transform teachers into reflective practitioners. The SCERT-guided district-specific researches enable the policy makers to introduce need based quality interventions in schools.

## **6.2. Vision**

The State Council of Educational Research and Training envisages a digitally vibrant environment in schools with e-learning platform encompassing virtual classrooms, interactive teacher training, enabling use of digital content and accessories in classrooms to improve learning by the students relating to real life situations and professional development of teachers through pre-service and in-service trainings.

## **6.3. Objective**

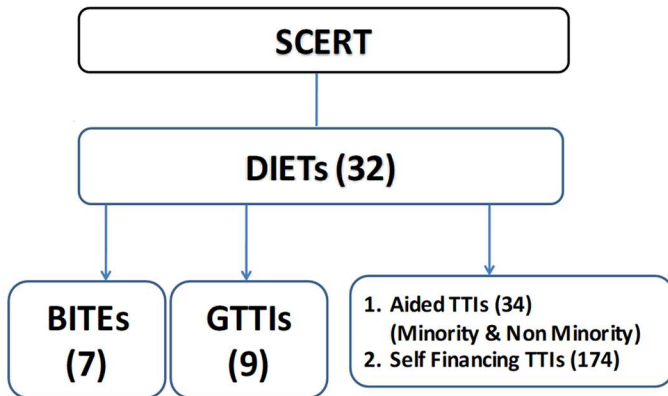
- Developing and updating curriculum, syllabus, textbooks, supplementary materials, newsletters, journals, educational kits, multimedia digital materials and other related literature
- Organizing pre-service and in-service training respectively to teachers and trainers/teacher educators

- Integrating learning outcomes in the classroom transactional processes
- To undertake, aid, promote and coordinate researches related to school education
- To develop and disseminate innovative educational techniques and practices
- To evolve, implement and assess systems and approaches for quality improvement in school education and to sustain the interventions with remedial follow-up
- Updating the assessment methods to provide constructive feedback to students based on multiple modes of assessment
- To empower teachers to adopt learning outcome based transactional strategies in the classroom
- To implement Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation to help children learn the concepts and develop competencies
- To collaborate and network with related directorates and departments, universities, NGOs, other Educational and Research

Institutions/Agencies for implementing academic and other extension services

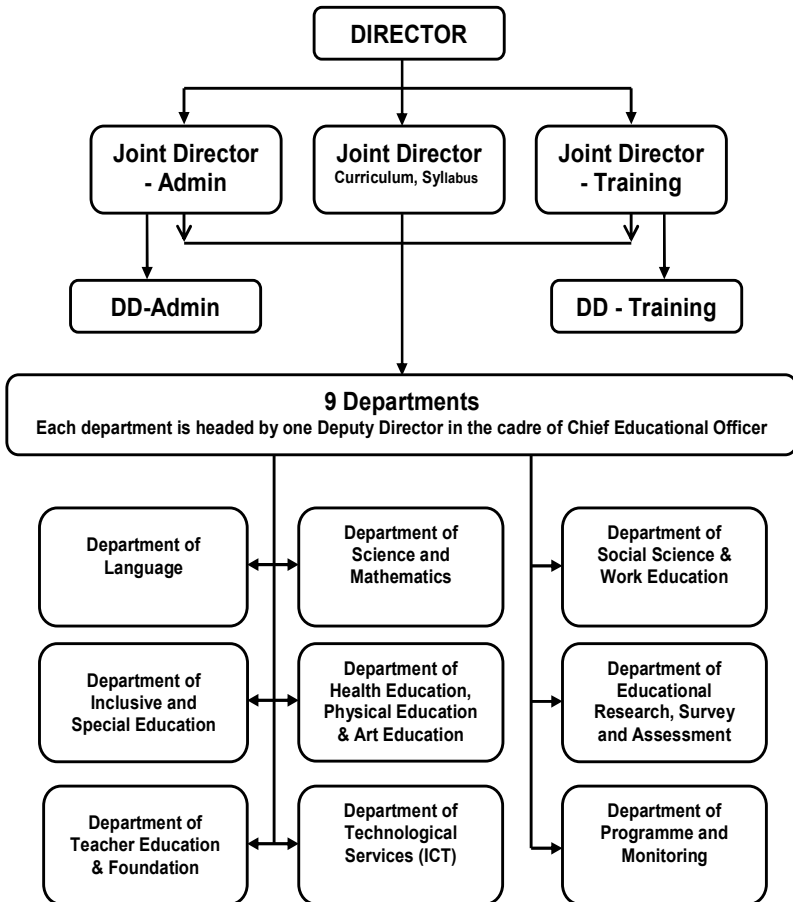
## **6.4. Administrative set-up**

### **6.4.1. Organization Structure**



BITE: Block Institute of Teacher Education  
GTTI: Government Teacher Training Institute  
TTI : Teacher Training Institute

## 6.4.2. Administrative structure



## **6.5. Roles and Functions**

- Acts as a State level apex academic body for formulating norms, policies and programmes
- Selects candidates for admission to Diploma in Elementary Education (D.El.Ed.) course through Single Window System
- Develops and revises Teacher Education Curriculum for D.El.Ed. periodically
- Facilitates and promotes the development of professional skills of Teacher Educators
- Assesses and evaluates the functioning of District Institutes of Education and Training (DIET) and Block Institutes of Teacher Education (BITEs) through periodical reviews
- Provides recommendations for improving the functional efficiency of DIETs, BITEs, Block Resource Centres (BRCs) and Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs)
- Provides the required infrastructure at the levels of the SCERT, DIETs and BITEs for

transforming the pedagogies of various subjects using digital platforms

- Develops curriculum, syllabus and textbooks taking into account the radical changes happening across the world in all walks of life. Besides, due importance is given for the development of textbooks and learning materials for vocational education
- Empowers teachers to adopt Learning Outcomes (LO) to shift the teacher-centred pedagogy to learner-centred instructional processes in compliance with RTE Act, 2009 towards achieving the curricular expectations of all curricular areas
- Develops appropriate digital contents to help teachers clarify concepts considered difficult
- Plans and develops contents for the programmes in Educational TV Channel “ Kalvi Tholaikaatchi”
- Plans, designs and develops need-specific training programmes at all levels from

block to State and from primary to higher secondary schools

- Organizes training programmes for improving the efficiency of Anganwadi workers
- Organizes training programmes to educational administrators through SIEMAT
- Works in partnership with Samagra Shiksha to enhance and achieve improved learning outcomes at the primary and upper primary levels in consonance with the norms fixed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)
- Works to achieve Vision Tamil Nadu 2023 and enhance the secondary and higher secondary levels of education with appropriate grounding in Career Guidance and Counseling for academic pursuits
- Analyses the findings of National Achievement Survey (NAS) / State Level Achievement Survey (SLAS) to analyse the learning gaps that hamper students from performing well and designs appropriate

pedagogical inputs and change in the focus of assessment

- Facilitates the provision of on-site professional support to teachers through regular school visits by the Academic faculty members of DIETs
- Organizes evaluation programmes in the field of Teacher Education and School Educatio.
- Provides research and academic support to organizations like Non-Formal & Adult Education and Samagra Shiksha

## **6.6. Research Activities**

Research projects and action researches are carried out in all DIETs across Tamil Nadu to address the problems of school education. A *Research Activities Monitoring Team* has been constituted at SCERT to continuously monitor the research activities and to give guidelines to districts to undertake researches.

The main objectives of these research activities are as follows

- To address academic issues in classrooms



- To enhance the professionalism of teachers to become critical thinkers and practitioners of innovative processes through collaborative action researches
- To utilize the findings of the research studies for organizing need based in-service training programmes
- To improve the implementation of the existing academic interventions

The core research activities undertaken in 2019-20 are,

- Impact of social media and mobile apps on learning habits among high school learners
- Effectiveness of QR codes incorporated in the new textbooks in all subjects
- Effect of physical exercises and yoga practices among obese children
- Utilization of Tamil Nadu Teachers Platform (TNTP) by teachers of Government schools
- Effectiveness of using multimedia approach in improving graphical and geometrical skills of teachers

- Analysis of new higher secondary textbooks with reference to competitive examinations
- Impact of training on learning outcomes training among primary and upper primary teachers
- Effectiveness of counseling on mental health among the parents of CWSN children in the centres for inclusive education
- Study on educational problems of migrant children
- Enhancing the speaking skills for improving communicative skills of students

In all DIETs across Tamil Nadu, 83 research projects and 393 action researches have been undertaken. The findings of the research projects and action researches are being consolidated in a research compendium and disseminated through District and State level conferences benefiting all stakeholders of school education.

Based on the research inputs, SCERT has planned the prospective training programmes for the year 2020-21 in the following areas.

- Enhancing the Learning Outcomes at secondary level
- Improving language skills of students at upper primary and secondary levels
- Strengthening analytical and arithmetic skills of students at upper primary and secondary levels
- School based assessment at upper primary and secondary levels
- Addressing the learning disabilities of Children with Special Needs (CWSN).

### **6.7. Textbook Development for standards 1 to 12**

Vision 2023 of the Hon'ble former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu envisions Tamil Nadu to be the 'Knowledge Hub' and 'Innovation Centre' for India. Globalisation, societal changes and advancement in the curricular areas have led the Tamil Nadu School Education System to introduce the new curriculum in order to produce highly

skilled human resources. Accordingly, the Government of Tamil Nadu has revised the curriculum for standards 1 to 12 to enable children to face the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Based on the revised curriculum, SCERT constituted teams of experts for developing syllabus for various classes. The teams prepared textbooks in Tamil and English for the standards 1 to 12 and translated them into languages such as Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Urdu.

The new textbooks were introduced for the standards 1, 6, 9 and 11 in 2018-19 and for the remaining standards in 2019-20.

The new textbooks have been prepared in multicolour and with a number of qualitative aspects for maximising learning such as 'box items', 'QR code with animated video inputs', 'learning corners', 'enrichment activities' etc.

### ***6.7.1. Textbook development for pre-school***

The Government has introduced pre-school education (LKG & UKG) in 2,381 Anganwadi centres. The SCERT has prepared pre-school syllabus and textbooks for LKG and UKG classes

with the guidance of an expert committee for English, Tamil, Maths and EVS.

### **6.7.2. Orientation training on New textbooks**

SCERT has trained all the teachers handling standards upto 12 during the years 2018-19 and 2019-20 on new textbooks. The training focused on the following:

- Familiarising new concepts introduced in the textbooks
- Transacting the contents of different subjects innovatively
- Understanding the importance of attainment of Learning Outcomes
- Enhancing ICT based quality inputs like QR codes and other ICT activities for making classroom more interactive
- Building the capacity of students in higher secondary standards to face National level competitive examinations with confidence
- Providing career guidance for the students of classes 10 and 12 to expose them to a

variety of courses available for their higher education

### **Number of beneficiaries of new textbook orientation training**

<b>Standards</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>DIET faculty / KRPs</b>	<b>Teachers</b>
1	July – August,2018	220	1,03,612
6	July – August, 2018	309	84,312
9	July – August,2018	451	50,273
11	July – August, 2018	806	29,240
2 to 5	July – August, 2019	253	1,03,782
7 and 8	July – August, 2019	319	85,327
10	June, 2019	465	53,373
12(11 subjects)	June – July ,2019	896	30,340
12 (5 subjects)	October – November,2019	288	17,449

### **6.7.3. Content Enrichment of the new textbooks**

SCERT has involved the DIET faculty members for the content enrichment of new textbooks. The 438 DIET faculty members visited 5,890 schools and collected feedback on the new textbooks from the teachers, schools and gave their valuable inputs under various categories for enriching the textbooks. *Content Enrichment Teams* have been constituted with faculty members for each of the subjects namely Tamil,

English, Mathematics, Science and Social Science to enrich the content in the new textbooks at district and State level. These teams collect the inputs from the teachers and suggest necessary changes so as to enrich the content of the new text books.

#### ***6.7.4. Training on new textbooks to teachers of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Puduchery***

The Education Department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands requested SCERT, Tamil Nadu to provide training to key resource persons on the new textbooks. Hence, a team of teachers, two for each subject namely English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Science headed by the Joint Director (Syllabus) and others subjects in higher secondary courses conducted the training for master trainers/in the month of November, and December, 2019 at Port Blair. The training of the higher secondary teachers focused on content enrichment, pedagogical processes adopted in Tamil Nadu. Further, based on the MOU signed between TNSCERT and the Puducherry Government, the academic experts and authors of new text books were deputed to hold orientation

training at the State Training centre, Government of Puducherry on new textbooks for standards 10 and 12.

## **6.8. Programmes and Activities**

### ***6.8.1. Role of DIETs in offering In-Service Training Programmes***

The capacity building of teachers is a continuous process. In-Service training plays a vital role in sharpening the pedagogic skills of teachers in transacting the content of the textbooks effectively in schools. The DIETs are district level academic agencies to visit classrooms, interact with teachers and map the gaps in learning outcomes to devise and develop training manuals to scaffold teachers for heralding qualitative changes in learning styles of children. SCERT organises training programmes and holistic teacher development initiatives including scouting of innovations and video documentation of the best practices of teachers with the nodal agency, DIET through a cascade mode.



### **6.8.2. Training on Pre-School Education**

Pre-school education prepares tiny tots to enjoy the childhood along with handling of various play materials for developing their fine motor skills. This is very significant as it prepares children for school readiness. SCERT organised training for secondary grade teachers on pre-school education with the following objectives:

- To enlighten the secondary grade teachers on the pre-school textbook content developed for all the 4 subjects
- To motivate the secondary grade teachers psychologically to handle the pre-school children
- To empower teachers to transact the pre-school content through play way activities

A three day training for Key Resource Persons (KRP) was given to Secondary Grade Teachers in the month of June 2019. A total of 184 teachers were trained in two phases, each with 92 teachers.

### **6.8.3. Training on Spoken English**

To improve the communication and writing skills in English of the students in Government Schools, SCERT has developed Spoken English modules and videos and imparted training to teachers to handle these modules at a total cost of Rs.1.95 crore.

Three modules have been developed for the primary level each with 30 topics and four modules with 30 topics each have been developed for the standards 6 to 9. The modules have been printed by the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation and two sets of module have been given to each school. 150 videos have been prepared by DIET faculty members and reviewed by a team of experts from SCERT. These videos have been uploaded in Tamil Nadu Teachers Platform (TNTP) for the reference of teachers. The videos of model lessons enriched the class room transactions of teachers. The trainings have been conducted to handle modules on Spoken English for Key Resource Persons (KRP) at State level and teachers of primary, upper primary and secondary standards at district level.

## **6.9. Digital initiatives**

### **6.9.1. *Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) training to Government School Teachers***

A Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) has now started to gain importance around the world due to its openness, flexibility and versatility. It operates on the Linux OS. Unlike the proprietary software, FOSS software pack can be copied any number of times or it can be shared without any restrictions. This unique feature has led the State Government to adopt FOSS to its academic curriculum. SCERT organised FOSS workshops for enhancing the transactional skills of the teachers using ICT, thereby, increasing their efficiency in classrooms. The teachers have been given hands-on training on FOSS tool for enriching ICT skills in Audio/Video Editing, Dubbing, Audio/Video content creation etc. A total of 2880 Government School teachers have been trained in handling FOSS tools.

### **6.9.2. 'Kalvi Tholaikkatchi' (Educational TV)**

The Government undertakes a number of quality initiatives for enhancing the quality of school education. Television is one of the attractive media for the students of the present generation who are technologically proficient and technically adept with inquisitiveness to learn new concepts. The School Education Department utilized this inclination of children towards media to make learning long lasting and continuous.

The School Education department has launched an educational channel 'Kalvi Tholaikkatchi' for the benefit of teachers and students. The educational broadcast commenced from the 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. In order to develop educational programmes, 20 technical experts and 20 teachers are continuously working on preparing educational contents for telecast. These educational programmes are also uploaded on to the YouTube, 'kalvi channel.'

Presently, our educational programmes are being telecast under 32 titles every day. Some of the programmes are listed below:

**Ethirkol Vetrikol** and **Siragai Viri** help students to prepare themselves to face the competitive exams like NEET, JEE, NMMS, etc.

**Paaduvom Padippom** is exclusively designed to impart skills and moral values to the primary children. It aids in boosting children's intellect.

The participation of children in **Pesum Oviyam** brings out their own imaginative skills through beautiful stories.

Through **Kavidhai Pezhai** and **Yamarindha Mozhigalile**, Tamil and English Language content are carried to the reach of the students in order to make them to acquire proficiency in their language skills.

**Aaivukkoodam**, **Mupparimanam** and **Geometry Box** are the special programmes produced to develop mathematical and scientific skills of students

**Ulagam Yavaiyum** helps children to travel around the world virtually and to know the world history and geography. This programme provides them with global knowledge and greater insight about other countries.

***Kalai Thozhil Pazhagu*** covers the contents of higher secondary groups (Arts and Science). This programme develops socialization and learning skills of young children.

***Kalvi Ula, Paadu Adu Panpadu, Poonguyil Ganam*** programmes focuses on bringing out various skills of the students.

***Kalluri Vaayil and Velaivaaippu Seithigal*** are the two other programmes on guiding higher secondary students about the various employment opportunities, educational courses and institutions for higher studies to ensure them a better future.

Spoken English sessions are telecasted through "***Aanggilam Pazhakuvom***" programme.

### **6.9.3. DIKSHA**

Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) a digital platform is an initiative of Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. DIKSHA helps teachers to create training content, profile, in-class resources, assessment aids, news and announcements to connect with teachers community. Tamil Nadu has

been conferred with **DIKSHA Champion Award** for maximum usage of DIKSHA during 2019. Integrating DIKSHA platform through QR codes, “energized” textbooks (ETBs) have been introduced in Tamil Nadu. 13,207 digital contents have been hosted on DIKSHA for sharing across the country. Tamil Nadu is the leading State in transferring knowledge through digital content.

#### ***6.9.4. Hi – Tech ICT laboratories for 6029 Government High and Higher Secondary Schools***

In order to provide the latest and updated teaching and learning experience to the students, the Government has initiated the process of installing Hi-Tech Laboratories in 6,029 Government high and higher secondary schools in the State. In order to provide the know-how of handling Hi Tech labs by Government school teachers, SCERT has conducted 2 day training programme for 192 Post Graduate and Graduate teachers at a cost of Rs.13.50 lakh during 2019.

## **6.10. Other Important Activities**

### **6.10.1. Disaster Management Awareness Activities**

The safety of all children has been ensured and enhanced by implementing various awareness interventions development of syllabus and training modules on disaster management and prevention programmes.

The Government has envisioned and planned to create awareness on disaster management and conducted competitions on prevention programme with the following objectives:

- Inclusion of Disaster Management concepts in textbooks to create awareness among students.
- Ways to avoid or to mitigate the effect of natural calamities
- Creation of awareness on preventive measures during disasters



### **6.10.2. National Population Education Project (NPEP)**

SCERT implements NCERT funded National Population Education Project. The main goal of this project is to orient the teacher educators on the adolescent behavioural problems, gender equality, healthy relationship between boys and girls, life skill development, prevention of substance abuse etc. SCERT conducted Poster and Role Play Competitions for creating awareness among the students of Government Schools. An amount of Rs.15.00 lakh has been allotted for implementing the National Population Educational Project by NCERT.

### **6.10.3. Specific Learning Disability Training (SLD)**

This programme is focussed on imparting training to primary teachers on identification of learning disability of students and providing appropriate remedial measures to overcome their learning difficulties like inability to finish their class work, making spelling mistakes, difficulty in recalling answers during examinations, difficulty in reading and doing basic operations in

mathematics. This programme was piloted in one block in selected districts at a cost of Rs.19.15 lakh. 70 teachers have been trained through this programme.

### **6.11. NISHTHA Training Programme**

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India redesigned the training package of teachers across the country. Under this initiative, two National level Integrated Training packages viz, Training Package and Leadership Package have been developed in English by NCERT. Training package includes the following:

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Curriculum, Learner Centered Pedagogy, Learning Outcomes and Inclusive Education
2	Developing Personal –Social Qualities and Creating Safe and Healthy School Environment
3	Art Integrated Learning
4	School Based Assessment
5	Health and Wellbeing in Schools
6	Integration of ICT in Teaching, Learning and Assessment
7	Initiatives in School Education
8	Pedagogy of Environmental Science
9	Pedagogy of Mathematics

10	Pedagogy of Language
11	Pedagogy of Science
12	Pedagogy of Social Science

The concepts covered in Training Package empower teachers to design appropriate strategies in the classrooms for enhancing learning of concepts, adopt suitable assessment strategies, promote the health and wellness of children and integrate ICT in classroom processes.

Leadership Package for School Heads includes the following:

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Introduction to the Package for School Leadership Development
2	School Leadership: Concepts and Applications
3	Pre-school Education
4	Pre-Vocational Education and Vocational Education in Schools
5	Relevance of Gender Dimensions in Teaching and Learning Processes

The concepts covered in the Leadership Package sensitize the school heads on the leadership qualities, gender neutrality in schools and vocational education.

SCERT organized State level training for Key Resource Persons (KRPs) and State Resource Persons (SRPs) with the academic support of NCERT faculty members. Four batches of State Resource Group (SRG) Training has been completed. A total 1188 SRG members from DIET, high and higher secondary school Heads and BRTes have been trained. Block level training has also been given to teachers.

## **6.12. Special Initiatives**

### ***6.12.1. Integrated Health and Wellness Programme***

As a new initiative, an Integrated Health and Wellness Programme for students has been launched on 11.02.2020. This training programme is focused on sensitizing the school going children on Health, Gender issues, Safety, Nutrition, Life Skills, Substance abuse, Safe use of Internet, Social media etc. and to empower them to take wise decisions in their real life situations. SCERT

has conducted a series of meetings with UNESCO, New Delhi and has prepared a calendar of activities for organising Orientation Programmes for officials and Key Resource Persons. SCERT has also prepared a tool kit to be used during the training.

### ***6.12.2. Capacity Building of Teachers on Assessment***

SCERT, in collaboration with the American Institute for Research (AIR), USA and the UNICEF, New Delhi, has undertaken a two year project of building the capacity of select SCERT/DIET faculty members and teachers of Government schools on various aspects associated with assessment. This programme includes a series of activities such as development of multiple choice assessment tools based on Learning Outcomes, strands of the assessment area, etc., for students of standards 8 and 9 throughout the State. The tool will be analysed and the capacity of teachers in developing the skill of reporting to various stakeholders such as parents, monitoring officials and policy makers will be taken up. The experts from the AIR directly train the select faculty members and

teachers through various assignments related to the task.

### **6.13. Quality Enhancement in School Education in Collaboration with the Bio Academy of Finland**

The Government is committed to enhance the quality of school education. The best practices adopted all around the world are identified and brought to the State for the benefit of school going children. The Hon'ble Minister for School Education along with officials of the department visited Finland during 2019, to know about the best educational practices adopted, the implementation of vocational education and the linkage of schools with the industries. In continuation to this, an expert team from Finland visited Tamil Nadu and presented the activities adopted in Finland to enhance the quality education to the officials of School Education Department of the State and interacted with the selected teachers and school heads by visiting selected Government and self financing schools to learn about the best educational practices of our State including curriculum, ICT initiatives, etc.

## **6.14. Budget**

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.119.47 crore for State Council of Educational Research and Training for the year 2020-21.

## **7.GOVERNMENT EXAMINATIONS**

### **7.1. Introduction**

The Directorate of Government Examinations was formed in the year 1975 with the primary objective to conduct the State Board examinations in an efficient manner. The mark certificates issued by the Directorate are vital documents for the students to pursue their higher studies and for employment purposes. This Directorate also conducts various other Scholarship examinations such as National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Examination, Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Examination and National Talent Search Examination. Having realized the necessity for digitization, the Directorate has introduced the integrated computerization scheme, to improve the examination process and to publish examination results within the stipulated time.

### **7.2. Vision**

To ensure fair assessment of learning by conducting appropriate examinations effectively with the use of improved evaluation techniques.



### **7.3. Objective**

- To conduct all the examinations in a fair manner in a secured environment
- To bring about reforms in setting up of question papers which would eventually develop critical thinking skills of students
- To improve the accuracy in evaluation system through digitization
- To publish the results and issue relevant certificates to the candidates within the stipulated time

### **7.4. Functions**

The Directorate is mainly responsible for conduct of about 35 different kinds of examinations including examinations for standards 10,11 and 12 and Diploma in Elementary Education . Besides the preparation of question papers, the Directorate adopts transparency in conduct of examinations, result publication and issue of certificates to candidates. In the year 2019-20, about 27 lakh students are appearing Secondary School Leaving Certificate

(SSLC) and Higher Secondary (First and Second Year) Board Examinations.

### **7.5. Administrative Structure:**

For the ease of conduct of examinations, the Directorate of Government Examinations has been restructured and 32 offices of Assistant Director of Government Examinations at district level have been created. The Director is supported by 2 Joint Directors, 9 Deputy Directors and 34 Assistant Directors. The Assistant Directors in 32 districts co-ordinate in despatch of examination materials and stationeries to examination centres, sanction of expenditures for conduct of examinations and in despatch of certificates after the publication of results.

### **7.6. Online facilities**

The Directorate has an official web portal namely [www.dge.tn.gov.in](http://www.dge.tn.gov.in) to facilitate easy access of the required information to the students, parents and institutions. The facilities include

- Examination notifications
- Examination time tables

- Application forms
- Examination fee structure
- Instructions to candidates
- Previous year question papers
- Application for duplicate mark certificate
- Application for certified copy of mark certificate (CCM)
- Application for Migration certificate
- Preparation of Nominal roll of regular / private students
- Provision for downloading hall tickets
- Online payment of examination fee

### **7.7. Examination Service Centres**

237 Examination Service Centres are functioning in school premises. These service centres facilitate the candidates to apply for all examinations conducted by the Directorate in easy and efficient manner.

### **7.8. Exemption of Examination fee for Tamil Medium Candidates**

All the candidates appearing for the SSLC and higher secondary examinations in Tamil medium are exempted from paying examination fee. As a result, 4,96,052 students for SSLC examination, 4,38,988 students for higher secondary first year examination and 4,54,367 students for higher secondary second year examination will be benefitted during the academic year 2019-20.

### **7.9. Concessions Granted to Children with Special Needs (CWSN)**

Children with special needs who appear for SSLC and Higher Secondary examinations, are granted extra time for all the subjects. In addition, they are allowed to appoint a scribe / exempted from appearing in anyone of the languages / permitted to use calculators depending on the type of the special needs prescribed in doctor's certificate. In March, 2020 examination, 3,175 CWSN will be appearing for higher secondary first year examination,

3330 for higher secondary second year examination and 6,184 for SSLC examination.

### **7.10. Examination Centres in Prisons**

To transform the lives of the inmates of the prison and to promote the educational pursuit among them, examination centres are set up in the premises of the prisons every year. During March 2020, about 300 prison inmates will appear for the SSLC examination in different central Prisons and higher secondary first year/second year examinations in Puzhal central Prison.

### **7.11. Conduct of Examinations**

Transportation of the question papers to examination centres and collection of the answer script bundles from the examination centres to the Answer Script Collection Centres are done in a secured manner by using a dedicated vehicle.

Impersonation by the candidates in the examination hall has been prevented by providing an answer booklet which contains the photograph of the candidate, details and dummy number in barcode format on the top sheet. The part of the top sheet, which contains the candidate's identity,

is detached in the examination centre and only the remaining part with barcoded information is sent for evaluation. The valuation centres are provided with barcode readers to capture the dummy numbers of the answer scripts and to carry out the valuation of answer scripts. 6 digital printers have been provided to carry out the printing work of top sheets at a cost of Rs.2.34 crore so as to ensure security of answer scripts.

The main answer booklets issued to the candidates are customized to the requirement of specific subjects. The forms, graphs and maps, which are part of questions to be answered by the candidates, are merged within the answer booklets.

To monitor the examination arrangements and to ensure free and fair conduct of examination, an examination control room functions in the Directorate during the period of examination, from 8.00 A.M. to 8.00 P.M. to address the doubts from the candidates and public.

## **7.12. New initiatives**

### ***7.12.1. Single Paper for Language Subjects in SSLC Examination***

In the year 2018-19, the Paper I and Paper II of Language Subjects in higher secondary first and second year examination have been merged into a single paper without compromising on assessment of learning levels. Merger of papers has been widely appreciated by the students and educationists. In continuation of this, the Paper I and Paper II of Language Subjects in SSLC Examination have also been merged into a single paper in the academic year 2019-20.

### ***7.12.2. Extended Duration for Public Examinations.***

Considering the welfare of the students who write the public examinations in new syllabus, the Government increased the time duration from 2.30 hours to 3.00 hours for standards 10, 11 and 12.

## **7.13. Publication of Results**

To reduce the anxiety of the students results are communicated to the candidates through SMS

instantly to the Mobile numbers registered at the time of enrolment. Also, the publication of results is done online through three websites created for this purpose viz., [www.tn.results.nic.in](http://www.tn.results.nic.in), [www.dge1.tn.nic.in](http://www.dge1.tn.nic.in), [www.dge2.tn.nic.in](http://www.dge2.tn.nic.in). An online facility to download Tabulated Mark List (TML) by the respective schools has been created instead of providing a printed copy from the Directorate.

## **7.14. Issue of Certificates**

### ***7.14.1. Provisional Mark Certificate/ Statement of marks***

The SSLC candidates can download their Provisional Mark Certificates and higher secondary candidates can download the Statement of marks from the website ([www.dge.tn.nic.in](http://www.dge.tn.nic.in)) from the next day after the publication of the results.

### ***7.14.2. Separate Mark Certificates for Higher Secondary First Year and Second Year Examinations***

The candidates who have passed all subjects in first year and second year of higher secondary examinations are issued with separate mark



certificates. Statement of Marks are issued to the failed candidates.

***7.14.3. Consolidated Mark Certificate for the candidates who pass the S.S.L.C./ Higher Secondary Examinations in more than one attempt***

Earlier, the candidates were issued with mark certificates for each and every appearance till they complete the examinations. As a result, these candidates had to keep all these certificates in their possession. For the benefit of such candidates, a provision has been made to issue a consolidated mark certificate which contains only the pass details.

***7.14.4. Certified Copy of Mark list and Duplicate Mark Certificate***

Certified copy of mark list (CCM) and Duplicate mark certificates are issued to the candidates on request. The format of the application has been uploaded on the website. In the year 2019-20, 4126 CCM and 5307 duplicate mark certificates have been issued.

### ***7.14.5. Migration Certificate***

Migration certificates are issued within 5 days from the date of receipt of application to the candidates, who pass SSLC and higher secondary examinations and who desire to continue their higher studies in other States. In the year 2019-20, 8265 migration certificates have been issued.

### ***7.14.6. Verification of Genuineness of Mark Certificates***

Verification of genuineness of mark certificates is carried out whenever the requests are made by the appointing authorities and by the higher educational institutions. 2,46,145 certificates, were verified and genuineness of mark certificates, have been issued in the year 2019-20.

### ***7.14.7. DigiLocker***

DigiLocker is a platform for issuance and verification of documents and certificates in a digital way, thus eliminating the use of physical documents. The candidates, who have appeared for the higher secondary and SSLC examinations

and signed up for a DigiLocker account with their Aadhaar (UIDAI) number, can download their Digital Mark Certificate from the repository of the Directorate of Government Examinations. This facility has been made available to all the 65,07,882 candidates, who have appeared for the higher secondary and SSLC examinations from the year 2016 to 2019.

### **7.15. Uploading of Scanned Answer Scripts for Revaluation / Re-totalling**

A provision has been made for online application for requesting scanned copies of answer scripts for the higher secondary examinations. After the publication of the results, the scanned copy of the answer scripts of the candidates are uploaded in the website on request. This procedure enables them to see their evaluated answer scripts directly and put-forth their genuine demand of either requesting for re-totalling of marks or for revaluation of answer scripts.

## **7.16. Conduct of June / July Special Supplementary Examinations**

To prevent school dropouts, Special supplementary examinations are conducted in the month of June/July every year for those students who have failed in the examinations (SSLC, Higher Secondary first and second year) conducted in the month of March. This supplementary examination facilitates them to continue their studies without break. A provision has also been made for the private candidates to re-appear in the June/July session.

## **7.17. Conduct of various other Examinations**

### ***7.17.1. Eighth Standard Examination for private candidates***

The Directorate conducts the Eighth Standard Examination for direct private candidates in order to impart minimum educational qualification of Eighth Standard to secure employment and promotion at basic level.

### ***7.17.2. Government Technical Examinations***

To provide technical qualification for employment purposes, Government Technical

Examinations are conducted for the subjects namely Drawing, Sewing, Agriculture, Printing, Music, Handloom and Weaving etc. These examinations are conducted at two levels i.e. Lower and Higher Grade.

### ***7.17.3. Diploma in Elementary Education***

The Directorate conducts the examinations for Diploma in Elementary Education. 15,633 candidates appeared for the examination conducted in June 2019.

### ***7.17.4. Scholarship Examinations***

#### ***7.17.4.1. Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Examination (TRUST)***

The students from the rural areas who are studying in standard 9 and whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.1,00,000 are eligible to appear for the Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Examination. To encourage the rural student this examination is conducted in the month of September every year. 50 girls and 50 boys are selected from each district and a scholarship amount of Rs.1000 per annum is granted for a continuous period of four years.

In the year 2019, 69,722 students appeared for the TRUST examination and 3,200 students were found eligible for scholarship.

#### ***7.17.4.2. Examination for National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMS)***

Students, who have passed standard 7 from Government and Government aided schools and are studying in standard 8 and whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.1,50,000 are eligible to appear for the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship examination. The scholarship amount has been increased from Rs.6,000 to Rs.12,000 per annum with effect from the year 2019-20. The selected students get a sum of Rs.12,000 as scholarship per annum (at the rate of Rs.1000 per month) from standards 9 to 12. The candidates are selected based on the marks obtained and by adopting the rule of reservation. This scheme provides scholarship to 6,695 students in the State every year. In the year 2019, 1,51,374 students appeared for NMMS examination.

### **7.17.4.3. National Talent Search Examination (NTSE)**

The Directorate acts as a nodal agency for National Council of Educational Research and Training in conducting this examination. Students, who are studying in standard 10 in the State / Central Board Schools during the academic year, are eligible to appear for this examination. After the publication of results of Level I conducted by the Directorate, the Level II examination is conducted by the NCERT at National level. In the year 2019, 1,55,853 students appeared for the NTSE. The Scheme provides scholarship to 40 students in Tamil Nadu every year. The selected students are awarded scholarship of Rs.1,250 per month for standards 11 and 12 and Rs.2,000 per month for degree level. Scholarship is provided as per the recommendation of University Grants Commission for Ph.D level for a maximum period of 4 years.

### **7.18. Conduct of Union Public Service Commission / Staff Selection Commission Examinations**

The Directorate acts as the Nodal Agency to conduct all Union Public Service Commission / Staff Selection Commission examinations at Chennai centre every year.

### **7.19. Computerisation of the Directorate**

All activities of the Directorate have been computerised through Tamil Nadu E-governance Agency at a cost of Rs.2.72 crore. The entire examination process right from the preparation of nominal roll till the publication of results have been made online. The registration of the Candidates and the pre-examination works for the NTSE and NMMS scholarship examination have been done through online portal.

### **7.20. Budget**

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.146.12 crore for this Directorate for the year 2020-21.



## **8. NON-FORMAL AND ADULT EDUCATION**

### **8.1. Introduction**

Adult Education aims at extending educational options to those adults, who have lost the opportunity and have crossed the age of formal education, but now feel a need for learning of any type, including literacy, basic education, skill development and equivalency. With the objective of promoting adult education, a series of programmes have been successfully implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu through the Directorate of Non Formal and Adult Education which was formed in the year 1976 to make all illiterate adults as literates, particularly female illiterates in the age group of 15 and above by providing basic literacy, vocational education and equivalency education programmes.

### **8.2. Vision**

Achievement of total literacy by providing basic literacy, vocational education and life skill development to the illiterate adults in the State.

### **8.3.Objective**

- To impart basic literacy and numeracy to all illiterate adults
- To provide opportunity for neo-literates to continue their learning beyond basic literacy and acquire equivalency to formal education
- To organize training in vocational skills thereby improving their earning capacity and standard of living.
- To provide opportunities to neo-literates for lifelong learning and continuing education

### **8.4. Karkum Bharatham Scheme**

“Karkum Bharatham” scheme was successfully implemented from the year 2009 to 2018 in nine districts Viz., Dharmapuri, Salem, Erode, Perambalur, Villupuram, Ariyalur, Thiruvannamalai, Thiruppur and Krishnagiri at an outlay of Rs.160.90 crore which was shared by the central and State Governments. 25.39 lakh learners have been benefitted by acquiring basic literacy through “Karkum Bharatham” scheme.

## 8.5. Special Adult Literacy Programme for the Prisoners

In the year 2019, the Government has introduced a Special Adult Literacy Programme for the illiterate prisoners in the Central and District Prisons of the State at a cost of Rs.14.60 lakh. The scheme is implemented in the Central Prisons of Thiruvallur, Cuddalore, Vellore, Salem, Trichirapalli, Madurai, Thirunelveli and Coimbatore Districts and district Prison of Pudukkottai District in co-ordination with the Department of Prison.

Prison-wise enrolment of illiterate adult prisoners is furnished below:

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of Prisoners		Total
		Male	Female	
1	Thiruvallur	480	25	505
2	Coimbatore	90	0	90
3	Madurai	100	32	132
4	Cuddalore	17	0	17
5	Salem	65	24	89
6	Thirunelveli	67	0	67
7	Trichirapalli	67	26	93
8	Vellore	87	13	100
9	Pudukkottai	20	0	20
<b>Total</b>		<b>993</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1113</b>

Source: Prison Dept

### ***8.5.1. Salient features of the programme:***

This special literacy programme commenced from December, 2019. The duration of the programme is six months. Basic literacy and numeracy are taught to the learners and at the end of the programme, an assessment test will be conducted. A completion certificate will be issued to the successful learners.

A one day induction training to the officials of districts concerned was conducted followed by a two day content training to the tutors of the said programme in the premises of the Central Prison, Puzhal.

### **8.6. Special Adult Literacy Programme in the Aspirational Districts**

To make a significant increase in the adult literacy percentage of the Aspirational districts in the State, the Government has introduced a special Non-Formal and Adult Literacy Programme in Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar Districts at a cost of Rs.6.23 crore during the year 2019. The prime aim of the programme is to provide basic literacy and numeracy to the identified illiterate adults.

### ***8.6.1. Target and Coverage of the programme***

Around 1,68,716 illiterate adults in the age group of 15 years and above from Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar Districts will be covered under this programme. It has been planned to implement the programme in 4 batches from the year 2019 to 2021. The duration of the programme is six months.

### ***8.6.2. Establishment of Adult Literacy Centers (ALC)***

947 Adult Literacy Centers (ALC) have been established in the premises of Government and Government aided Primary and Middle schools in Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar Districts.

District and Block wise details of number of Adult Literacy Centers and enrolment of learners are listed below

Ramanathapuram District			Virudhunagar District		
Block	No. of ALC	No. of learners enrolled	Block	No. of ALC	No. of learners enrolled
Ramanathapuram	11	440	Virudhunagar	49	1973
R.S. Mangalam	30	1178	Sathur	61	2454
Nainarkoil	10	410	Kariyapatti	49	1971
Thiruvadanaï	13	520	Aruppukottai	40	1600
Mandabam	50	2000	Narikudi	53	2120
Thirupullani	32	1280	Thiruchuzhi	49	1960
Kadaladi	42	684	Srivilliputhur	73	2945
Paramakudi	24	960	Rajapalayam	92	3885
Bogalur	19	760	Sivakasi	42	1680
Kamuthi	63	2520	Vembakottai	51	2064
Muthukulathur	38	4392	Watrap	56	2303
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>15144</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>24955</b>

Source: DNFAE

A one day induction training was conducted for 2166 district / block officials, school heads and educational volunteers followed by a two day content training for 947 educational volunteers at block level.

### ***8.6.3. Academic activities***

Basic literacy and numeracy skills are being taught to the illiterate adults by utilizing the services of the educational volunteers in the adult

literacy centers by making use of primers developed by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT).

Curriculum focuses on providing basic reading, writing and arithmetic skills for a period of 6 months in order to prepare the adult learners for their final assessment test which will be conducted at the end of every batch of the programme.

#### ***8.6.3.1.New Primer with QR Code***

A new primer comprising of 28 chapters focusing on basic literacy, numeracy and activities of daily living has been developed and the contents have already been linked with QR code by the way of audio visual contents.

This technology enables the learners to learn the contents of the primer independently in their home by utilising ICT materials, TAB and SMART Phones with the support of their family members. Audio visual contents provides hands on training in connection with the online management in the banking sector (e-transactions), e-booking, apps management such as BHIM, PAYTM and etc.

### **8.7. Implementation of the special literacy programmes**

The above mentioned two special literacy programmes are being implemented at the field level in co-ordination with the Chief Educational Officers, District Education Officers, Block Education Officers, Assistant Programme Officers (Samagra Shiksha), Block Resource Teacher Educators and school HMs of the districts concerned.

### **8.8. Budget**

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.5.18 crore for this Directorate for the year 2020-21.



## **9.PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

### **9.1.Introduction**

Public library is a treasure house of knowledge connecting the local learning set up with the global resources of information and knowledge. It plays a vital role in keeping the public informed of changes that take place around the world. The focus is to promote reading habits and life-long learning.

### **9.2.Vision**

To empower and strengthen the community by providing free and equitable access to cultural, intellectual and information resources.

### **9.3.Objective**

- Providing quality information to the people in a timely and convenient manner
- Creating strong and relevant resources and transform libraries with the help of latest technology
- Connecting people through knowledge sharing

- Preserving our cultural materials and documents
- Making libraries inclusive to suit different kinds of people
- Facilitating the readers to access the global information and ideas.

#### **9.4. Libraries in Tamil Nadu**

Public Libraries have been established in the State to nurture reading habits, facilitate research work and provide information to the needy people in accordance with the "Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, 1948". Till date, 4,638 libraries have been set up to meet the ever growing information exposure of the society.

##### **Details of libraries in Tamil Nadu**

Name /Types of libraries	Numbers
Connemara Public Library (State Central Library)	1
Anna Centenary Library	1
District Central Libraries	32
Branch Libraries	1926
Mobile Libraries	14
Village Libraries	1915
Part-Time Libraries	749
Total	4638

### **9.4.1. Connemara Public Library**

Connemara public library is one of the ancient libraries of historical eminence established in 1896 in India and certainly a pride of Tamil Nadu. It is not only a heaven for book lovers and research scholars but also an architectural beauty and marvel which acquires a special significance. The Connemara Library became the State Central Library with the enactment of Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, 1948.

The Library houses Text Book section, Reference section, Language section, Periodicals section, Microfilm section, Book Preservation section, an entire floor for books from the Indian languages, a Braille Library and an IAS study centre. The digitization section of the library does a great job by scanning and electronically storing old, rare books and documents which are preserved for posterity. It has a huge collection of competitive examination books and digitized versions of old newspapers and periodicals for the civil service aspirants.

It is one of the four National depository libraries, which receives a copy of all books, newspapers and periodicals published in India. It also serves as a depository library for the United Nations Organisation and Asian Development Bank. The library is completely computerized with an Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) which helps the readers to search for books, its availability and its location inside the library. It also enables the members to renew and reserve books online.

The library has a collection of over 8,89,603 books with 1,44,873 members. The information regarding the library can be accessed from its official website [www.connemarapubliclibrarychennai.com](http://www.connemarapubliclibrarychennai.com).

#### **9.4.2. Anna Centenary Library**

Anna Centenary Library, a State-of-the Art library, established in 8 acres of land with a built up area of 3.75 lakh sq. ft. at Chennai, is one of the largest libraries in Asia. At present, the library has 6,14,118 books covering wide range of subjects.

It comprises of different sections viz., Competitive Examination Section, Children Section, Periodical Section, Tamil and Regional Language Section, Section for Books in English, E-Library Section and Government Oriental Manuscripts Section including separate sections for Braille and own book reading. The dedicated children section, has a fun-filled theme-based reading area with multimedia kits and storybooks. The library also boasts a high-tech section for the visually impaired, with talking books and Braille displays. This section hosts more than 3100 books in Braille, collection of CDs / DVDs and around 1.1 TB of other digital content.

It is equipped with WEB-OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue), an integrated library management system, which is accessible over the internet to browse availability of books in the library from anywhere with ease and promptness. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tagging of books has helped in automation and ensuring security of books.

Anna Centenary Library organizes a literary oriented programme, since 2016 to kindle the curiosity and innovative spirit of the audience by

name 'Ponmalai Pozhudhu' on every Saturday from 6.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. The eminent personalities from various domains like Tamil literature, cinema, media, medicine, law, science, fine arts, etc. are invited to give a special talk and interact with the readers. Ponmaalai Pozhudhu Programme is very popular among the readers and public. This programme is being telecasted live via Anna Centenary Library's official 'You Tube Channel' ([www.youtube.com/ac1chennai](http://www.youtube.com/ac1chennai)).

Anna Centenary Library plays a vital role in imparting professional knowledge and skills for the professionals of Library and Information Science through national conference, seminar, special lectures, workshops, etc. Orientation programmes and guidance for succeeding in the various competitive examinations are being conducted every Sunday.

#### ***9.4.3. Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library and Research Centre***

Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library and Research Centre is one of the most ancient libraries in India and **the most remarkable Library** established in the

16th century by the Nayak Kings which exhibits unparalleled repository of cultural antiques and rare books, paintings and manuscripts. This library flourished and attained its peak during the rule of Maharaja Serfoji (1798-1832) and was brought under the control of the District Collector of Thanjavur in the year 1918.

It is a world famous knowledge hub, housing 47,334 manuscripts, of which 24,165 are in palm leaves and 23,169 in paper form in Tamil, Telugu, Sanskrit, Marathi and English languages and a collection of 45,000 books, maps, paintings on all aspects of literature, art and culture. A maintenance grant of Rs.75.00 lakh is being sanctioned per year for the development of the said library by the Government.

#### ***9.4.4. Dr.U.Ve Swaminatha Iyer Library, Chennai***

Dr.U.Ve.Swaminatha Iyer Library was established in 1943 in memory of the eminent Tamil scholar and Researcher, Dr.U.Ve.Swaminatha Iyer. This library consists of a significant priceless collection of 2,170 palm-leaf bundles, ancient works on Tamil grammar, Sangam

literature, Tolkappiyam, the five great Tamil epics, minor epics, 37,355 books and a rare collection of letters written by Tamil scholars to Dr. U.V. Swaminatha Iyer, diaries written by him and 1,504 rare books and 855 manuscripts collected by him. Moreover, this library has ancient rare printed books and letters from the year 1923 onwards and these valuable collections are being digitized and preserved in CDs.

#### ***9.4.5. Maraimalai Adigal Library***

Maraimalai Adigal Library was established in 1958 with the collection of 4500 books of Maraimalai Adigalar 'Manimozhi Noolagam' and with the collection of 5,000 books from Saiva Siddhanta Kazhagam by the Saiva Siddhanta Nool Padippu Kazhagam. At present the library is located in the complex of Connemara Public Library and has a collection of 80,000 books of which 1,400 are ancient and rare books. 3,528 members and around 1,500 research scholars are benefitted through this library. The Government provides a maintenance grant of Rs.1.00 lakh every year to this library.



#### **9.4.6. District Central Libraries**

District Central Libraries are established in districts exclusively for dissemination of quality information and knowledge among general public including all kinds of people. They have been established as per Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Rules, 1950. The State Government has taken massive efforts to digitize libraries in the State. E-book reader, an electronic device, for the convenience of readers especially for the school/college students and research scholars to have access to even 100-year-old rare books has been introduced. The libraries possess a huge collection of 56,64,338 books and magazines on multifarious fields in its sections viz., periodicals, references, competitive examinations including civil services, women, children, own book reading, differently abled and internet surfing serving 12,96,357 members and 48,76,963 visitors who have accessed the libraries upto February, 2020 during the year 2019-20.

#### **9.4.7. Branch Libraries**

With a view to extend the coverage, branch libraries have been set up in the urban and rural

areas with a population between 5,000 and 50,000. At present, there are 1,926 branch libraries including 314 full time libraries with good resources and infrastructure serving 60,81,853 members. During the year 2019-20, 4,62,47,736 visitors have availed these facilities upto February, 2020. The libraries also provide services, programmes for children, students, women, job seekers and elderly people.

#### **9.4.8. Village Libraries**

With the noble idea of encouraging rural community to enroll themselves as a member, 1915 village libraries have been set up in the State, since 1996. Rural libraries provide great value to the community and serve as a public, social and physical meeting place for the community with its 1,86,21,924 rich collection of books benefitting 20,05,722 members. 2,31,00,110 visitors have been benefitted during the year 2019-20 through these libraries upto February, 2020. In the digitized era, with the advent of new information technology, the role of village libraries has been enhanced by providing computers.

#### **9.4.9. Mobile Libraries**

Mobile libraries, stocked with books and periodicals, committed to serve the poorest of the poor and to reach the unreached in the hilly, remote areas is functioning in 14 districts of the State. A mobile van with its organized collection of books and other materials includes maps, films, and compact discs (CDs) helps to foster reading habit among the school students by visiting schools in rural areas at regular intervals. During the year 2019-20, 26,904 members and 1,65,925 visitors have been benefitted by these mobile libraries upto February, 2020.

#### **9.4.10. Part time Libraries**

Part time Libraries have been set up in accordance with Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Rules, 1950 to reach out to the grass root level. Presently, 749 part time libraries are functioning which cater to the needs of 3,19,107 members. 40,93,029 visitors have been benefitted during the year 2019-20 through these libraries upto February, 2020.

## **9.5. Source of Funding**

### **9.5.1. Library Cess**

Library cess, a major source of revenue for sustaining the activities of libraries is being levied on house / property tax. It is utilised for procurement of books, other materials, development of infrastructure facilities, construction of new buildings and their maintenance, digitization of old and rare books and development activities etc. An amount of Rs.132.99 crore has been collected as library cess up to 29.02.2020.

### **9.5.2. Grant from the Raja Ram Mohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkatta**

The Raja Ram Mohun Roy Library Foundation, the nodal agency of the Government of India, for coordinating, monitoring and developing public library service in the country has taken long strides to support and promote public library services and systems by patronizing public as well as private libraries consistently since its inception in 1972. The State Government contributes an equal amount as State share to initiate and build

the resources available in the libraries. The financial matching assistance of Rs.600.00 lakh has been received by the department during the financial year 2019-20.

### **9.6. Infrastructure of Public Libraries**

1780 libraries are housed in own buildings, 2,530 in rent free buildings and 314 in rented premises apart from 14 mobile vans. Expenditure to a tune of Rs.111.10 lakh have been incurred towards the construction of two branch libraries during the financial year 2019-20.

### **9.7. Procurement of Books and Periodicals**

Selection of books and periodicals is done by a professional selection committee keeping in view the reader's requirements, the changing needs and demands of the readers giving adequate representation to the scientific, social, historical, cultural and intellectual works. In normal course, 25% of the collection of library cess is earmarked for books and 6.5% for periodicals in a given year.

## **9.8. Computerization**

Realizing the importance of automation to meet the increasing demands of public, computerization of public libraries has been taken up on priority. This has not only improved the quality of services but has also made access to database easy.

The Department has taken measures such as introduction of computerized management in library operations, computer-based retrieval of bibliographic material, computer networking, computer-aided reprography, e-mail transmission and e-resources bringing a change of mindset among the users and the librarians. Computers with internet facilities have been made available in all District Central libraries, and 314 full time libraries.

Digital Libraries have been set up at Erode and Salem with a focused collection of digital material that can include text, visual material, audio and video material stored in electronic media formats, along with means for organizing, storing, and retrieving the files and media contained in the library collection.

## **9.9. Civil Services Study Circles**

In the larger interest and for the success of the youth in various Competitive Examinations, Civil Service Study Centers have been set up in Connemara Public Library, District Central Libraries and 289 libraries located at the Taluk Head Quarters functioning all over the State. Books, Newspaper, Periodicals, Magazine connected to these competitive examinations have been procured and high-tech facilities have been installed strengthening the usage by the young aspirants.

Online submission of applications to jobs related to Government and allied sectors have been facilitated in Connemara Public Library and the District Central Libraries to the aspirants of the competitive examinations at free of cost.

## **9.10. Readers Forum**

Readers' Forum has been constituted in each library consisting of Educationists, Writers, members of the library and local residents to promote people participation in the library activities. The forum enriches the comprehensive utilization of the libraries, promotes better reading

habit, develops library activities by establishing more new libraries, identifies new writers and books and establishes cordial relationship among the users.

Many important programmes such as introduction of new books and writers, literary discourses, literary debates, book exhibitions, oratory, essay and quiz competition etc., are conducted in the District Central Libraries, Taluk Libraries and Branch Libraries.

### **9.11. Members / Readers / Patrons**

To intensify the library activities, a special drive was initiated by the department. As a result, 98,75,347 members have been enrolled and 7,87,94,196 readers have been benefitted. A person by donating Rs.1,000 can become a patron of the library and by donating Rs.5,000 a great patron and by donating Rs.10,000 one can become a donor. 1,30,772 have enrolled as Patrons and 1,209 as Great Patrons, 460 as Donors of the libraries, by contributing Rs.1,414.17 lakh. This fund has been deposited as fixed deposits and the annual interest accrued is being utilized for strengthening of the libraries.



## **9.12. Library Events**

### **9.12.1. Librarians Day**

Every year, 12<sup>th</sup> of August is celebrated as National Librarians Day in India to pay homage and tribute to Dr.S.R.Ranganathan, Father of Library Science for his fundamental thinking on the famous Five Laws of Library Science. This helps in sensitizing the librarians about their mission of evolving continuously towards meeting the diverse needs of the users.

### **9.12.2. Library Day**

Recognizing the importance of usage of the library resources and justifying the role that the library plays in the society, “Library Day” is celebrated annually on 22<sup>nd</sup> May to promote strong community engagement.

### **9.12.3. National Library Week**

National Library Week is celebrated every year from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November to create awareness among public about libraries and to recognize the best contributions of dedicated professionals.

#### **9.12.4. World Book Day**

UNESCO has declared 23<sup>rd</sup> of April as World Book Day or Copy Right Act Day, in recognition of the distinguished services of the world's eminent writer A. William Shakespeare. His birth anniversary i.e. 23<sup>rd</sup> April is celebrated enthusiastically every year in the State.

#### **9.12.5. Book Exhibition**

The book exhibition cum festival is an annual literary event that brings together best authors and readers on single platform. In the larger interest of avid readers, a permanent book exhibition has been established at the Connemara Public Library. Book exhibitions are organized in all the district head-quarters with the help of book sellers and publishers. Apart from this, Mobile exhibitions have been organized in the schools of 14 districts to inculcate reading habits among the students.

#### **9.13. Achievements**

- Smart TV at a cost of Rs.32.00 lakh have been provided in all the District Central Libraries to create awareness among the

visitors by exhibiting the seminars, literary events, training courses held for competitive examinations, employment opportunities available, eloquent comments of eminent writers and subjects experts and special programs conducted all over the State.

- Hi-Band internet facilities for the benefit of the readers have been made available in all District Central Libraries at a cost of Rs.19.20 lakh.
- Photo Copiers and Scanners have been installed in 100 full time libraries at a cost of Rs.75.00 lakh for the benefit of the school / college students preparing for competitive examinations.
- All District Central Libraries have been up graded into smart libraries at a cost of Rs.50,000 each by equipping facilities viz downloading the required books, global newspapers, magazines of National and International importance for the aspirants preparing for competitive examinations.

- A Library Research and Development centre has been established at a cost of Rs.10.00 lakh with facilities for providing technical training to the librarians and conducting workshops and seminars.
- Special Library on Tamil Music, Dance and Fine arts at Thanjavur has been established at a cost of Rs.31.61 lakh. Further, works related to setting up of a Special Library on Mathematics and Science in Tiruchirapalli at a cost of Rs.64.57 lakh, a Special Library on Printing Technology in Chennai at a cost of Rs.46.46 lakh, a Special Library on Astronomy and Innovative findings (New Inventions) in Coimbatore at a cost of Rs.25.66 lakh, a Special Library on Tamil (Siddha) Medicine in Thirunelveli at a cost of Rs.41.47 lakh and a Special Library on Folk Arts in Madurai at a cost of Rs.35.05 lakh have been completed. Further, a Special Library on the Culture of Tribes in the Nilgiris at a cost of Rs.45.88 lakh and a Special Library cum Exhibition on Tradition

and Civilization at Keezhadi in Sivagangai at a cost of Rs.1.00 crore are being set up.

#### **9.14. Ongoing Schemes**

Construction of new buildings for two libraries at Chennai and Tiruppur at a cost Rs 80 lakh is under progress.

Creation of a Special wing in all District Central Libraries for differently abled persons with hearing impairment and speech difficulties at a cost of Rs.1.50 lakh per district is under progress.

Establishing a Special Library for Children in the complex of District Central Library, Salem at a cost of Rs.50.00 lakh is under progress.

#### **9.15. Awards for Excellence**

##### ***9.15.1. Dr.S.R.Ranganathan Award***

To honour the Librarians for their outstanding performance, Dr.S.R.Ranganathan Award is conferred every year. The award consists of a silver medal and a cash prize of Rs.5,000.

### **9.15.2. Shield of Honour to the Best Libraries**

To motivate and encourage the librarians to maintain libraries, a “Shield of Honour” is given to the libraries since 2012-13. Based on the State-wide assessment, this award is given to the libraries which take special initiatives on increasing the enrolment of members and patrons, receiving donations and initiating other development activities.

### **9.15.3. Library Activist Award**

‘Library Activist Award’ comprising a shield worth of Rs.5,000 each with a certificate is conferred on the presidents of the best performing readers fora in all districts to encourage their enthusiastic participation and warmth towards the library activities and their development.

## **9.16. Budget**

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.142.19 crore for this Directorate for the year 2020-21.

## **10.TEACHERS RECRUITMENT BOARD**

### **10.1. Introduction**

Teachers are the backbone of our Nation. The Teachers Recruitment Board was established in the year 1987, in order to recruit teachers with adequate skills and to expedite the process of recruitment of teachers for Government Schools and Government Educational Institutions under the control of Director of Collegiate Education, Director of Technical Education and Director of Legal Studies. Till date, 1,62,833 teachers for Schools and Colleges have been recruited through Teachers Recruitment Board. Besides, Teachers Recruitment Board is the State Nodal Agency for the conduct of the Tamil Nadu Teacher Eligibility Test (TNTET). The official notifications for recruitment of various categories of teachers and publication of results are regularly uploaded in the official website of Teachers Recruitment Board.

### **10.2. Objective**

The main objective is to build the system and procedures for identification of suitable candidates to suit the requirements for various categories of

teachers. In addition, the Board adopts the state of the art technology to ensure fair selection process in all recruitments.

### **10.3. Fair Recruitment Process**

The board conducted earlier recruitment examinations through OMR answer sheets. As the above process was cumbersome and time consuming, the Government has taken a decision to conduct all further recruitments through Computer Based Test (CBT). Accordingly, the Board has conducted recruitment for the posts of Computer Instructors Grade-I (PG Level) and Post Graduate Assistant / Physical Director Grade I through Computer Based Test (CBT) mode during 2019-20. By adopting this procedure, the entire recruitment process has been completed in a transparent manner within a short period without giving room for any complaints.

### **10.4. Information Centre**

An Information Centre is functioning in the premises of the Teachers Recruitment Board since 2015. Technically qualified persons in the



Information Centre attend to queries on various issues related to recruitment procedures.

## **10.5. Recruitment**

### ***a) Recruitment made since 2011-12***

From 2011-12 to 2019-20, the Teachers Recruitment Board has recruited 49,214 candidates for various teaching posts including teachers in Government Schools, Assistant Professors in Government Colleges as detailed below:

Sl No	Name of Department	Recruitment Period		Total
		2011-12 to 2018-19	2019-20	
1.	School Education	43068	3048	46116
2.	Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department, Adi-Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, Social Defence and Corporation Schools	1346	107	1453
3.	Higher Education	1528	117	1645
Total		45942	3272	49214

### ***b) Recruitment in progress***

Sl. No.	Notification No.	Name of the post	No of Posts
1.	12/2019 28.08.2019	Assistant Professor	2331
2.	14/2019 27.11.2019	Lecturer	1060
3.	13/2019 27.11.2019	Block Educational Officer	97

### **10.6. Tamil Nadu Teachers Eligibility Test -2019**

Teachers Eligibility Test-2019 was conducted by Teachers Recruitment Board on 08.06.2019 and 09.06.2019. 5,42,047 candidates appeared for the test and the results were published online on 20.08.2019 and 21.08.2019 respectively.

### **10.7. Budget**

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.4.84 crore for this Board for the year 2020-21.

## **11.TAMIL NADU TEXTBOOK AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION**

### **11.1. Introduction**

The Bureau of Tamil Publications was established in the year 1961, to translate and publish books of other languages relevant to Higher Education in Tamil in order to enrich the knowledge of students. In the year 1970, "Tamil Nadu Textbook Society" was constituted comprising of the Bureau of Tamil Publications. In the year 1993, it was named as "Tamilnadu Text book Corporation" with a mandate not only to print and supply textbooks but also to sell books on literature, science, technology and other streams. Subsequently, in the year 2013, Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation was renamed as "Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation", as the work related to procurement of cost free educational kits was additionally entrusted to it. The Corporation has been procuring and supplying cost free educational kits to the students studying in Government and Government Aided schools throughout Tamil Nadu by following due procedures.

## **11.2. Objective**

- Printing of energized textbooks for students studying in standards upto 12
- Printing and publishing of books on higher studies such as Engineering, Medicine, Agriculture, Law, Veterinary Science, Siddha Medicine, Fisheries and Physical Education duly translated from English to Tamil
- Re publication of rare and old Tamil books and creation of Tamil literary resources
- Acting as a procuring agency for supply of cost free educational kits for students studying in Government and Government Aided schools

## **11.3. Infrastructure**

The Corporation has been functioning in its own 10 storied building in DPI Campus, Chennai. There are 22 regional godowns managed by Regional Officers.

#### **11.4. Supply of Textbooks**

Free Textbooks are directly supplied to the students in Government and Government aided schools through Block/District Educational Offices. In respect of private schools, they can opt for delivery of books either directly through online facility or from the concerned Regional Offices. Textbooks are also sold through sales counters functioning in DPI Campus and Anna Centenary Library. Besides selling books through these sales counters, online facility through Corporation portal has been provided to enable the students to get the books at their door steps through students login mode from the Adyar Godown. The individuals who do not have online access can avail the facility through TACTV centres located in respective Taluk offices. Introduction of online facility is very much appreciated by the schools and students.

#### **11.5. Printing**

The textbooks are printed by using 80 GSM Elegant printing paper and 230 GSM Aura fold blue board for wrapper printing with lamination. In order to enable the students to view the

related video content and online question bank, the textbooks are printed with QR (Quick Response) codes linked to related audio visual contents.

The details of textbooks and other books printed and sold in the year 2019-20 are tabulated below:

**a) Text Books**

<b>Details of Textbooks</b>	<b>No. of books Printed (in lakh)</b>	<b>Total value (Rs. in crore)</b>
Textbooks for students of standards 1 to 12 in Government and Government aided schools.	568.00	294.00
Textbooks for students for standards 1 to 12 in self financing schools	227.00	228.65
Tamil Textbooks standards 1 to 10 for schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education	9.55	9.62

**b) Other Books**

The Corporation has also printed 48.26 lakh other books at a cost of Rs.10.53 crore for

Samagra Shiksha, Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education, Parents Teacher Association, Madras University, Bharathidasan University, Integrated Child Development Scheme, State Council for Education Research and Training and Non-formal and Adult Education. Besides, this Corporation is also printing Braille books through National Institute for Visually Handicapped (NIVH) for the Visually Challenged students of standards 1 to 8 to be supplied to Samagra Shiksha.

### **11.6. Translation and publication of books**

For the benefit of the students appearing for various competitive and entrance examinations at National level to pursue their higher education, Question Banks published by the renowned private publisher Pearson India for Physics, Chemistry and Biology of standards 11 and 12 have been translated and published in Tamil. The Corporation has also translated 8 titles on Veterinary Science and Agriculture from English to Tamil for the benefit of students preparing for National Level Exams conducted by Indian Council of Agriculture Research at Post Graduation level.

To translate literary works from Tamil to English, 6 titles have been identified and steps have been initiated to publish these titles by joining hands with leading publishers like Oxford University Press, Harper Collins and Orient Black Swan.

### **11.7. Publication**

In 2019, under the rare book category, a book titled "Keeladi – Urban Settlement of Sangam Age on the bank of river Vaigai" has been published in collaboration with Department of Archeology. 47,500 copies of the book in Tamil and 7500 copies in English have been printed.

### **11.8. Digitization of rare and old books**

Out of 1000 old books for higher studies, the Corporation has so far digitized 875 rare books through Tamil Virtual Academy. Of these, 635 rare books have been printed in 100 copies. A total of 2,512 copies of these titles were sold for Rs.3.21 lakh during the year 2019-20. 582 titles of rare books have been supplied to Anna Centenary Library, Connemara Library, TNPSC and All India Civil Services Institute for the benefit of student community. These books are also



exhibited at Chennai Book Fair every year for creating awareness among the common readers.

### **11.9. Procurement Activities**

The very objective of the Government is to ensure retention, avoid dropouts and to improve the performance of students studying in Government and Government Aided schools. Therefore, by duly following the tender procedures, the following cost free educational kits were procured during the year 2019-20.

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Name of the Cost free item</b>	<b>Ordered Quantity (in Nos./ Pairs)</b>
1.	Crayons	8,93,599
2.	Wooden Colour Pencil	14,91,658
3.	Geometry Box	11,33,989
4.	School Bag	71,87,298
5.	Woollen Sweater	1,16,400
6.	Socks	2,32,800
7.	Rain Coat	1,16,400
8.	Footwear	59,92,713
9.	Ankle Boot	1,16,400
10.	Atlas	7,98,453

### **11.10. Funding of Schemes**

During the academic year 2019-20, a sum of Rs.5.65 crore was released to SCERT towards revision of syllabus.

This Corporation was originally started for printing and supplying textbooks alone. It has now grown up manifold and is involved in various other activities such as online sale of books, publication of rare and old books, translation of Science and Technology books from English to Tamil, digitization of books and procurement of cost free educational kits in an appreciable manner.

## 12. FINANCIAL OUTLAY

The outlay for School Education in 2020-21  
in Demand No.43 is Rs.34,181.73 crore.

Budget Estimate 2020-21					
(Rupees in Lakhs)					
	Head of Account	State Expenditure	Central Sector Schemes	Schemes shared between State and Centre	Total
<b>Revenue Section</b>					
2051	Public Service Commission	484.48			484.48
2059	Public Works	3944.10			3944.10
2202	<b>General Education</b>				
	1	Elementary Education	1452505.75	237432.21	1689937.96
	2	Secondary Education	1572938.04	93292.49	1666230.53
	4	Adult Education	518.04		518.04
	5	Language Development	1783.59	0.01	1786.11
	<b>Total - General Education</b>		<b>3027745.42</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>3358472.64</b>
2204	Sports and Youth Services		172.91	58.56	231.47
2205	Art and Culture		14198.69		14198.69
2225	Welfare of SC & ST and Other Backward Classes		17084.74		17084.74
2235	Social Security and Welfare		90.00		90.00
2251	Secretariat-Social Services		1080.31		1080.31
<b>Revenue Section Total</b>			<b>3064800.65</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>330785.77</b>
<b>Capital Section</b>					
4202	Capital Outlay		21937.99	530.01	22468.00
<b>Capital Section Total</b>					
<b>Loan Section</b>					
7610	Loans to Government Servants		29.50		29.50
7615	Miscellaneous Loans				0.00
<b>Loan Section Total</b>					
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>3086768.14</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>331315.78</b>
ADD – Recoveries (Under Revenue Section)					89.10
<b>Grand Total for Demand No. 43</b>					<b>3418173.03</b>

The Government is committed to provide quality education to all the children in the State by introducing various educational reforms, best teaching and learning practices, innovative schemes and digital initiatives. The Government strives relentlessly to bring to reality the legendary vision of the Hon'ble former Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to make Tamil Nadu the knowledge hub of the world.

**K.A.SENGOTTAIYAN**  
**Minister for School Education,**  
**Youth Welfare and Sports Development**