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# **HOME, PROHIBITION AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT**

## **ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

### **DEMAND NO.3**

#### **POLICY NOTE 2019-2020**

##### **Introduction**

Administration of impartial justice to all citizens has always been considered as one of the Prime functions of any State from time immemorial. The prime concern of the State is to ensure easy and speedy access to Justice for all citizens as enshrined in the Constitution of India.

In Tamil Nadu, the growth and development of Judiciary in terms of infrastructure and performance have been significant. The Government of Tamil Nadu have been always keen that the independence of Judiciary is maintained and a suitable climate is ensured for that purpose. The Government is committed to provide adequate facilities in terms of buildings, manpower and other infrastructures so that

efficient service is offered to the litigant public.

## **2. Organisational Hierarchy of the Judiciary**

The Supreme Court of India in New Delhi is the Apex Court of the Country. All the High Courts functioning in the States are being controlled by the Supreme Court. The hierarchy of Judiciary at State level is given in Annexure-I.

## **3. Strength of the Courts**

There are 1149 courts functioning in the State. Out of these, 126 Courts are functioning in Chennai City and 1023 Courts are functioning in other Districts. The details are as follows:-

### **Courts**

- (i) City Civil Courts-39
- (ii) Court of Small Causes-17
- (iii) District and Additional District Courts – 85
- (iv) Sub Courts – 149
- (v) District Munsif Courts – 195
- (vi) Chennai Metropolitan Magistrate Courts – 36

- (vii) Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts – 32
- (viii) Judicial Magistrate Courts – 219
- (ix) District Munsif – cum – Judicial Magistrate Courts – 54
- (x) Labour Courts – 15
- (xi) Family Courts – 30
- (xii) Mahila Courts and Additional Mahila Courts – 45
- (xiii) Fast Track Courts – 50
- (xiv) Special Courts for exclusive trial of cases under Land Grabbing – 26
- (xv) Special Courts for trial of cases under MCOP (including MACT) cases and LAOP cases–34
- (xvi) State Transport Appellate Tribunal – 12
- (xvii) District Legal Services Authority – 32
- (xviii) Mobile Courts – 12
- (xix) Permanent Lok Adalat – 32
- (xx) Other Special Courts - 52

## **Offices**

Official Assignee, High Court of Madras, Chennai

Administrator General and Official Trustee, Chennai - 1

Deputy Administrator General and Official Trustee, Chennai - 1

#### **4. District-wise distribution of Courts**

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

#### **5. Classification of Expenditure**

The expenditure of the High Court of Madras and the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai is classified as "CHARGED" and the expenditure for the remaining part of the Judiciary as "VOTED".

#### **6. High Court, Madras**

6.1 The High Court is the highest Court of Justice in the State. The approved strength of Hon'ble Judges of the High Court (both Principal Seat at Madras and the Madurai Bench) is 75. The strength of the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court (both Principal Seat at Madras and the Madurai Bench) at present is 59 and the High Court exercises Original Jurisdiction and

Special Original Jurisdiction (Writ Jurisdiction) in civil matters. It has also appellate jurisdiction both in civil and criminal matters. On the original side, the High Court tries suits above the value of Rs.1,00,00,000/- arising within the City of Chennai. The High Court is also exercising extended jurisdiction over Union Territory of Puducherry and the expenditure of officers and staff attending to Puducherry matters in the High Court is initially incurred by the Government of Tamil Nadu, and is reimbursed subsequently by the Government of Puducherry.

6.2 Besides dispensing Justice, the High Court of Madras exercises full administrative control over the entire subordinate judiciary in the State of Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

## **7. Madurai Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai**

7.1 The Madurai Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai was inaugurated and started functioning from 24.07.2004 with jurisdiction over 13 Districts viz., Madurai, Dindigul, Pudukottai, Thanjavur,

Tiruchirappalli, Karur, Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari and Theni. At present Madurai Bench of Madras High Court is functioning with a strength of 16 Hon'ble Judges. Except Original Jurisdiction, the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court exercises jurisdiction in all other matters as in the case of the Principal Seat of Madras High Court.

## **8. Civil Courts**

### **8.1 Chennai City**

#### **(a) City Civil Court, Chennai.**

There are 39 Judicial Officers, consisting of 20 in the cadre of District Judge (including one Mahila Court Judge), 18 in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge and a Registrar in the cadre of Civil Judge, who is in-charge of Administration. The territorial jurisdiction of the City Civil Court extends over the whole of the City of Chennai. The pecuniary jurisdiction of the Assistant Judge is up to Rs.10.00 lakh and that of Principal Judge, it is above Rs.10.00 lakh but not



exceeding Rs.1.00 crore. If the value of a case is in excess of Rs.1.00 crore, the suit has to be instituted in the High Court of Madras. The City Civil Court is also functioning as the Sessions Court for the Chennai Sessions Division. An Additional City Civil Court is functioning for the exclusive trial of cases of corruption under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. A Special Court is functioning for exclusive trial of cases under the Tamil Nadu Protection of Interests of Depositors (in Financial Establishment) Act, 1997.

### **(b) Court of Small Causes, Chennai**

There are 17 Judicial officers and the Court is presided over by the Chief Judge in the cadre of a District Judge. There are also 8 Judges in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge and 8 Judges in the cadre of Civil Judge, including a Registrar, who is in-charge of the Administration. The Registrar is also attending Judicial functions such as disposal of certain execution petitions. The Court of Small Causes are exercising powers under the Presidency Small Causes Courts Act, 1882. The V and VI courts are exclusively functioning

as Tribunals for trial of cases under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. The Chief Judge and Judges of II, III and IV courts have also been empowered to try cases under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. The Judges of X to XVI are functioning as Rent Controllers for the City of Chennai. The Chief Judge and Judges of II to IV, VII and VIII courts are empowered to hear Rent Control Appeals.

## **8.2 Mofussil**

### **(a) District Courts/ Additional District Courts**

There are 85 District Courts functioning in this State which includes 31 District Courts and 54 Additional District Courts. The District Courts are functioning as Special Tribunals under certain special enactments such as The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, The Estate Abolition Act, 1948 and the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. The District Judges are also the Sessions Judges of the respective Divisions. The District Judges are having pecuniary jurisdiction where the amount of value of subject matter exceeds

Rs.10.00 lakh without any limitation. They are exercising Civil Appellate Jurisdiction over the district. Further, they are inspecting the Subordinate Courts in their respective Divisions.

### **(b) Sub Courts**

There are 149 Sub Courts functioning in the State. The Jurisdiction is defined under the Civil Courts Act, 1892. The Sub Courts have pecuniary jurisdiction in all civil proceedings where the amount of value of subject matter exceeds Rs.1.00 lakh, but does not exceed Rs.10.00 lakh. They are also exercising appellate powers in respect of appeals arising from and out of the decisions of the District Munsif Courts functioning in their respective territorial jurisdiction up to the value of Rs.1,00,000/-. These Courts are also functioning as Assistant Sessions Courts and as Motor Accident Claims Tribunals.

### **(c) District Munsif Courts**

There are 195 District Munsif Courts functioning in the State. The District Munsif Courts are exercising

pecuniary jurisdiction up to Rs.1.00 lakh. Each District Munsif Court has defined territorial jurisdiction. They are also exercising Small Causes jurisdiction up to Rs.20,000/-. They are Rent Controllers of their respective territorial jurisdictions.

#### **(d) District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts**

The District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts try both the civil and criminal cases. There are 54 District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts functioning in the State.

### **9. Criminal Courts**

#### **9.1 Chennai City**

There are 36 Metropolitan Magistrate Courts functioning in Chennai City in which 2 Metropolitan Magistrates are in the cadre of District Judge, 27 Metropolitan Magistrates in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge and 7 Metropolitan Magistrates (including 4 Fast Track Courts, 2 Special Courts for exclusive trial of land grabbing cases and 1 as Additional Mahila Court) in the

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

## **9.2 Mofussil**

### **(a) Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts**

There are 32 Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts functioning in the State. The Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts have administrative control over the courts of Judicial Magistrate in the Districts. In certain category of cases, powers of the Assistant Sessions Judge are conferred on the Chief Judicial Magistrates.

### **(b) Judicial Magistrate Courts**

There are 219 Judicial Magistrate Courts functioning in the State. This court is a criminal court functioning at the lowest level in the judicial hierarchy and it is competent to try the case if the offence is punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or with fine not exceeding Rs.5,000/- or with both. These courts are functioning almost in all Taluks of this State.

## **10. Special Courts**

### **(i) Labour Courts**

There are 15 Labour Courts functioning in the State. Among them, four are in Chennai, one each at Vellore, Coimbatore, Kancheepuram, Madurai, Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Cuddalore, Tirunelveli and Thanjavur and two Additional Labour Courts one each at Coimbatore and Vellore. An Industrial Tribunal having State wide jurisdiction is functioning at Chennai. The Presiding Officers of the Labour Courts and the Industrial Tribunal are in the cadre of District Judges. The Labour Courts are adjudicating the labour disputes referred to them by the Government and also the claim petitions filed by parties. The Presiding Officers of the Labour Courts and the Industrial Tribunal are touring officers and they hold Camp Courts for adjudicating labour disputes and claim petitions in their respective jurisdiction.

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

Seven Special Courts in the cadre of District Judge are functioning in the State for trial of cases

registered under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955. The details of the courts and their jurisdiction are given below:

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Court</b>	<b>Jurisdiction of the Court</b>
<b><u>Protection of Civil Rights Act Courts</u></b>		
1.	I Additional Sessions Court, Trichirappalli	Tiruchirappalli
2.	I Additional Sessions Court, Thanjavur	(i) Thanjavur (ii) Tiruvarur
3.	II Additional Sessions Court, Tirunelveli	(i) Tirunelveli (ii) Thoothukudi (iii) Kanniyakumari
4.	III Additional Sessions Court, Madurai	Madurai
<b><u>Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act Courts</u></b>		
5.	Special Court in the cadre of District Judge, Villupuram	Villupuram
6.	Special Court in the cadre of District Judge, Sivagangai	Sivagangai
7.	Special Court in the cadre of District Judge, Srivilliputhur	Virudhunagar

Administrative sanction has been accorded for constitution of 16 Special Courts in the cadre of District judge for trial of cases under Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 in 16 District in 4 phases from 2016-2017 to 2019-2020 and financial sanction was accorded for constitution of 8 courts (i.e., 4 courts in the 1<sup>st</sup> phase and 4 courts in the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase) during the year 2016-2017 and 2018-2019 as follows:

- (i) Dindigul
- (ii) Ramanathapuram
- (iii) Srivilliputhur in Virudhunagar District,
- (iv) Pudukkottai
- (v) Cuddalore
- (vi) Namakkal
- (vii) Theni
- (viii) Tiruvannamalai

Among the above courts the Court at Srivilliputhur is functioning.

In respect of the remaining districts, the Principal District and Sessions Court concerned are empowered to try the cases under the above said Acts.



### **(iii) Special Courts to try Economic Offences**

Three Special Courts were constituted to deal with cases of economic offences relating to violation of Central Acts. There are three Special Courts, two at Chennai viz. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Economic Offences-I & Economic Offences-II in the cadre of District Judge and one at Madurai viz., Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge.

### **(iv) Family Courts**

The Family Courts Act, 1984 provides for establishment of Family Courts by the State Governments with a view to promoting conciliation and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs and for matters connected therewith. 30 Family Courts in the cadre of District Judge are functioning in the State. 4 Holiday Family Courts are also functioning at Chennai for the benefit of the employed litigants. Besides this, 3 more Family Courts each one at Perambalur, Pudukkottai and

Tiruvannamalai have been sanctioned for the year 2019-2020 under the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission.

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

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

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

Eight Special Courts are functioning for exclusive trial of Central Bureau of Investigation Cases in the State, of which six courts are in Chennai and one each at Madurai and Coimbatore. It includes one special

court functioning at Chennai to deal with Banks and Financial Institution Scam cases.

**(vii) Special Courts for trial of cases registered under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988**

Eight Special Courts are functioning in the State for exclusive trial of cases registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (Central Act 49 of 1988), one each at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Villupuram, Salem, Sivagangai and Tirunelveli.

**(viii) Special Court for trial cases registered under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985**

Five Special Courts i.e. two courts each at Chennai and Madurai and one court at Villupuram are functioning to deal with cases registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

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

Six Special Courts, one each at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Pudukkottai, Salem and

Thanjavur are functioning with the Presiding Officers in the cadre of District and Sessions Judge to try cases under the Essential Commodities Act,1955.

#### **(x) Special Courts for Sandalwood offences**

There is one Special Judicial Magistrate Court to deal with sandalwood offences at Tirupattur in Vellore district.

#### **(xi) Railway Courts**

There are nine Railway Magistrate Courts in the districts of Vellore, Cuddalore, Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and in Egmore and Chennai Central Railway Stations for trial of cases of offences in respect of ticketless travel, offences committed in the Railway Station and Trains etc., under the Indian Railway Act,1989. Expenditure for the above courts is borne by the State Government and the fines collected by the said courts are credited to the receipts of the State Government.

#### **(xii) Mobile Courts**

There are 12 Mobile Courts functioning in the State in the cadre of Judicial Magistrate i.e., two at

Chennai and one each at Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Namakkal, Salem, Erode, Dindigul and Tirunelveli to deal with petty cases registered under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988) and the cases registered under other enactments. Constitution of these courts has resulted in expeditious disposal of the above said cases.

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

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

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

Two Special Courts in the cadre of Additional Sessions Judge were constituted for trial of Bomb Blast cases, one each at Chennai and Coimbatore.

The Special Court functioning at Poonamallee in Chennai is also trying cases arising out of the offences under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 (Central Act 15 of 2002).

**(xv) Sessions Court for the trial of Communal Clash Cases**

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

**(xvi) Special Court for the Trial of Criminal Cases related to Elected Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu:**

One Special Court for Trial of Criminal Cases related to elected Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu is functioning at Chennai.

**(xvii) Special Court for cases related to Fake Indian Currency and Fake Stamp paper:**

One Special Court for dealing with cases of Fake Indian Currency and Fake Stamp papers is functioning at Chennai.

**(xviii) Special Court for offences punishable under the provisions of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Scheme (Banning) Act 1978:**

One Special Court in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge is functioning at Chennai to try the Crime Branch CID cases in CC.No. 3876/2009 for the offences punishable under the provisions of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Scheme (Banning) Act 1978.

**(xix) Magalir Neethimandram (Mahila Courts)**

There are 45 Mahila Courts / Magalir Neethimandram functioning in the State to try offences against women. Among them, one Mahila Court and one Additional Mahila Court are functioning at Chennai. The remaining 43 courts which are functioning in Districts include the 22 Fast Track Mahila Courts also. In addition to this, 11 Additional Mahila court at Thanjavur, Theni, Thoothukudi, Tiruvallur, Thiruvannamalai, Vellore, Tiruvarur, Villupuram, Virudhunagar at Srivilliputhur, Ariyalur and Tiruppur have been sanctioned for the year 2018-2019.

### **(xx) Courts for CCB and CBCID Metro cases**

One Special Court in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge for exclusive trial of Central Crime Branch cases (relating to cheating cases in Chennai) and Crime Branch Criminal Investigation Department metro cases in Chennai, has been constituted and started functioning.

### **(xxi) Evening Courts**

53 Evening Courts in the State to try petty cases so as to clear the backlog of the cases pending before the Regular Courts.

### **(xxii) Fast Track Courts**

There are 50 Fast Track Courts functioning in the State to clear the pendency of criminal cases in the Judicial Magistrate Courts in this State. Among them, 4 courts at Chennai are in the cadre of Metropolitan Magistrates. 11 Courts in the District are in the cadre of District Judge, and 35 courts in the cadre of Judicial Magistrate level.



**(xxiii) Special Courts to deal with MCOP and LAOP cases**

There are 34 Special Courts functioning in the State to deal with the trial of cases relating to Motor Accident Claims Original Petition (MCOP)/Land Acquisition Original Petition (LAOP) cases. Out of this, 9 Special Courts to deal with MCOP cases (in the cadre of District Judge), 19 Special Courts to deal with MCOP cases (in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge) i.e., 2 at Chennai and the remaining 17 courts are functioning in other Districts. Further, 6 Courts in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge are functioning in District to deal with the trial of cases relating to Land Acquisition Original Petition (LAOP) cases. In addition to this, 8 more Special Courts to deal with MCOP cases in the cadre of District Judge i.e., two courts each at Coimbatore and Cuddalore, one court each at Trichy, Tiruppur, Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram District have been sanctioned during the year 2018-2019 under the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission.

#### **(xxiv) Special Courts for Land Grabbing Cases**

Consequent to the formation of 39 Anti land grabbing special cells in all the cities and districts of the State, a large number of complaints have been registered in these cells. The accumulation of land grabbing complaints in the anti land grabbing special cells constituted all over the State has made it imperative to try these cases before a Special Court to give speedy disposal. The Government have sanctioned constitution of twenty six Special Courts in the cadre of Civil Judge in the State including two Special Courts at Chennai City. The details of Courts are given in Annexure-IV.

#### **(xxv) Additional Master Courts**

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

## **(xxvi) The Administrator General and Official Trustee, Chennai**

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

### **11. Details of Pending Cases**

The details showing the institution, disposal and pendency of civil and criminal cases in the Principal Seat of High Court of Madras, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and the Subordinate Courts in the State from the year 2014 - 2018 are given in the Annexure-V, VI and VII respectively.

### **12. Tamil Law Journal**

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

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

### **13. Centrally Sponsored Scheme**

13.1 The Department of Justice is implementing a "Centrally Sponsored Scheme" for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary to augment the resources of the State Governments / UT administration. The scheme covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodation of Judicial Officers in the Subordinate Courts to facilitate better delivery of justice. Under this scheme, the ratio of expenditure shared between Centre and the State Governments has been revised as 75:25 from the year 2012-2013. This ratio of expenditure has been revised as 60:40 from the year 2015-2016.

13.2 The details of amount sanctioned under the scheme for the years 2006-2007 to 2019-2020 are tabulated below:-

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Central Share</b> (Rs. in lakh)	<b>State Share</b> (Rs. in lakh)	<b>Total</b> (Rs. in lakh)
1.	2006-2007	245.00	251.420	496.420
2.	2007-2008	248.00	250.852	498.852
3.	2008-2009	846.00	761.210	1607.210
4.	2009-2010	356.00	286.560	642.560
5.	2010-2011	--	---	--
6.	2011-2012	--	---	--
7.	2012-2013	1953.00	631.090	2584.090
8.	2013-2014	7343.00	2447.660	9790.660
9.	2014-2015	--	--	--
10.	2015-2016	--	--	--
11.	2016-2017	5000.00	3380.65	8380.65
12.	2017-2018	--	--	--
13.	2018-2019	609.00	--	609.00
14.	2019-2020	1500.00	--	1500.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18100.00</b>	<b>8009.442</b>	<b>26109.442</b>

#### **14. 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Recommendation:**

The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has recommended for setting up of Fast Track Courts, Additional Courts and Family Courts, redesigning of existing Courts to

make them more litigant friendly, providing manpower, technical support and digitization of case records to enhance Information and Communications Technology environment of Courts, setting up of Alternative Disputes Resolution Centres and Lok Adalat. However no grant has been allocated for the above scheme and the Government of India has suggested to incur the expenditure towards the above items from out of the 10% increase in tax devolution by the Central Government to the State. No separate allocation for these components have been made by the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission.

As per the recommendation of the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, the following financial sanction have been accorded from the State Funds:

- Administrative sanction was accorded for a sum of Rs.37.00 crore for digitization of case records for Judiciary and out of which financial sanction was accorded for a sum of Rs.10,58,44,472/- was sanctioned for digitization of case records available in the Principal Seat of High Court of Madras.

- A sum of Rs.5,86,39,990/- was sanctioned for constitution of 10 Additional District Courts (Fast Track Courts) at Theni, Paramakudi, Arani, Nagercoil, Villupuram, Palani, Mettur, Kumbakonam, Vellore and Kancheepuram.
- A sum of Rs.3,14,94,288/- was sanctioned for constitution of 4 more Family Courts at Chennai.
- 114 Posts of Technical Manpower have been created for High Court and Subordinate Courts.
- A sum of Rs.1,31,92,650/- was sanctioned towards provision of ramps and lift facilities in the Combined Court Buildings, District Court Campus at Madurai.
- A sum of Rs.19,46,36,880/- was sanctioned for constitution of 15 Family Courts.
- Administrative sanction was accorded for Rs.10.24 crore from 2016-2017 to 2019-2020 and financial sanction for Rs.2.56 crore was accorded towards the scheme "Training and Capacity Building".

- Administrative sanction was accorded for Rs.5,50,00,000/- from 2016-2017 to 2019-2020 and financial sanction for a sum of Rs.1,19,85,500/- was accorded towards organizing Lok Adalats.
- Administrative sanction was accorded for a sum of Rs.19.70,00,000/- for the year 2016-2020 and financial sanction for a sum of Rs.8,00,00,000/- was accorded towards support of mediation and conciliation in ADR Centre.
- Administrative Sanction was accorded for a sum of Rs.12,08,00,000/- for the year 2016-2020 and financial sanction was accorded for a sum of Rs.3,02,00,000/- towards Incentives to Mediators /conciliators.
- Administrative sanction was accorded for a sum of Rs.3.06 crore for the period from 2016-2020 and financial sanction for a sum of Rs.1.21 crore was accorded towards training of Mediators and Lawyers.



- A sum of Rs. 10,85,98,784/- was sanctioned for constitution of 8 Special Courts to deal with MCOP cases, two courts each at Coimbatore and Cuddalore, one court each at Trichy, Tiruppur, Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram Districts.

## **15. Court Managers**

Thirty five posts of Court Manager have been sanctioned for the High Court of Madras, the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and the District Courts under the provisions of 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission. The Government of India have permitted the State to use a part of the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission grants to provide supporting staff to the Court Managers. Although the period of Court Managers had ended by 31.3.2015, the Government accepting the request of the High Court have sanctioned continuance of 35 posts of Court Manager with 23 posts of supporting staff out of the State Fund.

## **16. e-Courts Integrated Mission Mode Project**

16.1 The e-Courts Integrated Mission Mode Project is one of the National e-Governance Projects

being implemented in High Courts and District/ Subordinate Courts of the Country. The project has been conceptualized on the basis of the “National Policy and Action Plan for Implementation of Information and Communication Technology in the Indian Judiciary-2005” by the Hon’ble E-Committee, Supreme Court of India. An Empowered Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Justice, to give strategic direction and guidance to the project. The project is being implemented by National Informatics Centre (NIC).

The National Informatics Centre, New Delhi released a sum of Rs.4.18 crore in three installments under this scheme. The e-Courts project largely aims at Information Communication Technology enablement of the lower Judiciary including District and Taluk Courts. Cause lists, case-status, orders, and judgements will be made available on the web and made accessible to litigants, advocates and the general public.

16.2 The key modules in e-Courts project includes Laptops and Laser Printers, Training to Judges and

Court staff, Internet connectivity to the Judges, Internet connectivity at the court complexes, Video conferencing, Site preparation, Hardware, Networking, Application Software, Technical manpower, Upgradation of the Information and Communication Technology Infrastructure etc. The objectives of the project are:

- To help judicial administration of the courts in streamlining their day-to-day activities
- To assist judicial administration in reducing the pendency of cases
- To provide transparency of information to the litigants
- To provide access to legal and judicial databases to the Judges.

### **Computerization in the High Court of Madras (Principal Seat and the Madurai Bench)**

16.3 All the Judges have been provided with laptops, desktop computers, printers and broadband connection for their Home Offices and Chambers.

The Official Website of the High Court, Madras is being accessed by the litigants and advocates for getting information on case status and to get the orders / judgements. All the sections of the High Court and Court Halls have been provided with Desktop Computers, Printer interconnected through Local Area Network Connection.

16.4 Touch Screen Kiosks have been placed at various places of High Court, Madras and Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, Madurai.

16.5 Display Boards are purchased and fixed with latest configuration in all the Courts Halls and at various places of High Court, Madras and Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, Madurai.

16.6 The Registry has also purchased and fixed Display Boards in the Madras Bar Association, Madras High Courts Advocates Association and Women Lawyers Association within the High Court Premises for Rs.10,07,782/-

16.7 Cause List and Case Details have been provided through SMS Service to all the Registered Users (Mobile) of Madras High Court, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, Sub Ordinate Courts by the sender id HCMDRS (hcmad.auth, courts-madurai.sms, courts-tn.sms) as Citizen Centric Services.

### **Computerization of the Subordinate Courts**

16.8 The State Government have accorded administrative sanction for Rs.37.00 crore towards provision of TNSWAN-8 MBPS connectivity to all Court Complexes and financial sanction was accorded for Rs.11.80 crore for supply and installation of hardware. The Electronic Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT), Chennai, has implemented TNSWAN connectivity in 250 Court Complexes.

16.9 The State Government have accorded sanction for Rs.9.00 crore towards replacement of computer and other IT peripherals in 310 Courts in District Head Quarters.

16.10 A sum of Rs.11,41,52,345/- was sanctioned during the Financial year 2018-2019 towards implementation of Studio based Video Conferencing equipment and the said work were completed in all locations by ELCOT, Chennai. The Hon'ble Chief Justice has inaugurated the Studio based Video Conferencing facility on 23.01.2019 in 33 District Court Complexes, Principal Seat of High Court, Madras and Madurai Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai. In the next phase 116 Court Complexes has been taken up for implementation of Studio Based Video conferencing and the same is under progress by ELCOT, Chennai.

16.11 All the Judicial Officers are provided with laptops, laser printers and broadband connectivity. Leased line connections have also been provided to 42 District Court Complexes and unique identification numbers to all the Judicial Officers are provided. All the Districts have been provided with technical manpower (One System Officer and two System Assistants). Hardware have been provided to all the Courts.

## **17. Appointment of Civil Judges**

A large number of vacancies in the post of Civil Judges, which arose during the years 2014-2015 to 2016-2017 were filled up through direct recruitment, and 220 posts of Civil Judges in Tamil Nadu State Judicial Service were filled up through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission during the year 2018-2019.

- The Government have accorded sanction of one post of Registrar (Inspection) in the cadre of District Judge and one post of Additional Registrar (Inspection) in the cadre of District Judge (Entry level) along with 19 number of supporting staff and other infrastructural facilities for the Inspection Department, at a cost of Rs.2,23,52,919/- (i.e., Rs.1,68,31,704/- as recurring expenditure and Rs.55,21,215/- as non-recurring expenditure).
- The Government have accorded sanction for creation of “Judicial Recruitment Cell” based on the directions/observations made by the Supreme Court of India for the recruitment of Staff members in the

Judicial Service in the State of Tamil Nadu, except for the posts of Civil Judge in Tamil Nadu State Judicial Service and Junior Assistant, Typist and Steno-Typist in Tamil Nadu Judicial Ministerial Service as the said posts are under the purview of the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission. The Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs.5,87,90,889/- for creation of “Judicial Recruitment Cell” with 34 posts of additional staff, infrastructure and other amenities. Further, a sum of Rs.30,00,000/- is sanctioned for a single recruitment process and when AMC period ended, a sum of Rs.8,00,000/- is sanctioned at the time.

- The Honorarium of Rs.15,000/- per month paid to the Law Clerks to the Hon’ble Judges of High Court of Madras and Madurai Bench of Madras High Court was enhanced to Rs.30,000/- per month.

## **18. Judicial Academy**

18.1 The Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy under the administrative control of High Court of



Madras was established on 23.04.2001. The objective of the Academy is to impart effective training to the Judicial Officers such as District Judge, Senior Civil Judge, Civil Judge and staff of the Judiciary and to give induction training to the new recruits.

18.2 The Government have accorded sanction for enhancement of the standing sanction under the head “Cost of Books” from Rs.75,000/- to 1,25,000/- for the Headquarters at Chennai and from Rs.1,00,000/- to Rs.1,25,000/- for each of the Regional Centres at Coimbatore and Madurai of Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy.

### **19. Usage of Tamil language in the proceedings of the High Court of Madras**

The practice of usage of State Official Language in the High Court is being adopted in four States of the Country. However, repeated request to authorize the use of Tamil in High Court of Madras was not favourably considered by the Full Court of Supreme Court of India during its meeting held on 11.10.2012. As it is a long standing aspiration and demand of this

State, the Government of India have been addressed again to reconsider the request of this State.

## **20. e- Stamping for Payment of Court Fees**

Considering the importance of the e-Governance in the Judiciary and the benefits accrued to the Public, this Government have introduced the system of payment of court fee by means of e-Stamping with effect from 20.04.2018 based on the recommendation of the High Court. This system was introduced in the High Court of Madras and its Madurai Bench in the first phase and it will be extended to all Principal District Courts in the next phase. The public can avail this facility through internet. They can also avail the facility through the Authorised Collection centres of M/s.Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited and the Authorised Banks by filing applications.

20.2. Through e-stamping mode of payment, 2,09,401 receipts have been generated for e-stamping for a sum of Rs.21.25 crore in the High Court of Madras and its Madurai Bench for the period from 20.04.2018 to 31.03.2019.

20.3. Now the Government have also permitted M/s. Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited, Chennai to sell Non-Judicial e-Stamps from the counters at the premises of the High Court of Madras and its Bench at Madurai for use of the Public.

## **21. Tamil Nadu Advocates' Welfare Fund**

The Government have enhanced the financial assistance given to the legal heirs / nominees of the deceased Advocates to be paid from the Tamil Nadu Advocates Welfare Fund from Rs.5.25 lakh to Rs.7.00 lakh. The Government have also enhanced the annual grant from Rs.4.00 crore to Rs.8.00 crore to the Advocate Welfare Fund.

## **22. Tamil Nadu Advocates' Clerks Welfare Fund**

The Government have enhanced the financial assistance given to the nominee / dependant of the deceased Advocates' Clerks from Rs.50,000/- to Rs.2.00 lakh to be paid from the Tamil Nadu Advocates' Clerks Welfare Fund.

### **23. Court buildings, quarters for Judicial Officers and other Infrastructure facilities**

An amount of Rs.1086.83 crore has been sanctioned during the years 2011-2012 to 2018-2019 for construction of court buildings, residential quarters and other infrastructure facilities. During the year 2018-2019 a sum Rs.125.15 crore was sanctioned.

- A sum of Rs.405.21 lakh has been sanctioned for other amenities in the court halls and quarters in the campus of the High Court and Subordinate Judiciary of Tamil Nadu.
- A sum of Rs.2693.62 lakh has been sanctioned for repair and maintenance works of the Subordinate Judiciary of Tamil Nadu.

### **24. New Courts**

This Government have sanctioned 456 new Courts during the years 2011-2012 to 2018-2019.

## **25. Other facilities sanctioned in 2018-2019:**

- A sum of Rs.363.42 lakh was sanctioned towards purchase of Xerox Machines, Fax Machines, EPABX Boards, Digital Notice Board. Mopping Machine, Bio–Metric Machine and Virtual Machines to the High Court of Madras, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and to the Subordinate Courts in the State.
  
- A sum of Rs.182.33 lakh was sanctioned for purchase of Cars to the Hon'ble Judges of the Madras High Court, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and Subordinate Judges and a van for sending file of Madurai Bench of Madras High Court.
  
- A sum of Rs.804.75 lakh was sanctioned for Installation of Local Area Network to the newly constructed Combined Court Buildings, provision of Tamil Nadu State Wide Area Network (TNSWAN) connectivity for District and Taluk Court Complexes throughout the State, provision of Broad Band

connectivity, Fax line connection and direct line telephone connections to both the Subordinate Courts and Hon'ble Judges of the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court.

- A sum of Rs.127.95 lakh was sanctioned for purchase of steel rack and other furniture items to the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and to the Subordinate Courts in the State.
- A sum of Rs. 100.00 lakh sanctioned for supply of Law Books and Book Racks for Bar Associations in the High Court of Madras and in all 32 Districts.

## **26. Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority Objectives**

26.1 The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (as amended by Act 59 of 1994) was enacted to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities, to organize Lok Adalats on a statutory basis as an Alternative Disputes

Resolution Forum, to educate poorer sections of the society on their rights and to enable them to get the benefits and privileges given to them in various social welfare legislations and administrative orders. To discharge the above functions, the Act contemplates constitution of State Legal Services Authority, District Legal Services Authorities, Taluk Legal Services Committees and High Court Legal Services Committees.

### **Constitution**

26.2 In accordance with the above Act, the Government have constituted Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority and the District Legal Services Authority for every district in the State. Taluk Legal Services Committees constituted in every area where there is a court throughout the State. The High Court Legal Services Committees were constituted by the State Legal Services Authorities. At present there are 32 District Legal Services Authorities, 150 Taluk Legal Services Committees and 2 High Court Legal Services Committees functioning in the State.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

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

- (i) A member of Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;
- (ii) A victim of Human Trafficking or Beggar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution;
- (iii) A Woman or a Child;
- (iv) A Physically Challenged person;
- (v) A person under circumstances of undeserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster; or
- (vi) An Industrial workman
- (vii) In custody, including a custody in a protective home, Juvenile Home, Psychiatric hospital or Psychiatric nursing home; or
- (viii) The annual income which is less than the amount as specified in 12(h) of the Legal Services



Authorities Act, 1987. The annual income as prescribed for free legal assistance has been enhanced from Rs.1,00,000/- to Rs.3,00,000/-.

The persons seeking legal assistance may give their applications in writing. No separate fees or court fee stamp is necessary. Illiterate persons may give their representations orally which shall be recorded by the staff of the Authority/Committee in writing for further action.

### **Counselling and Mediation Centres (Pre– Litigation)**

26.4 In the State, Mediation Centres and Counselling Centres are functioning as an instrumentality for pre-litigative settlements. The Counselling lawyer makes every effort to arrive at negotiated settlements between the parties to the dispute. Thus, they provide an Alternative System of Dispute Resolution at the grass-root level itself.

### **Centre for Women (Pre- Litigation)**

26.5 Women being the weaker section of the society have been given prominence in providing

assistance through the Centre for Women in the State in solving their matrimonial disputes and also other problems.

### **Legal Assistance**

26.6 Legal Services Authorities / Committees arrange for free Legal Assistance to the persons affected in Criminal Cases, Victims in Motor Vehicle Accident cases and also assists the weaker segments of the society for getting benefits from the welfare measures such as old age pension, widow pension etc., from the Government.

### **Lok Adalat**

26.7 Lok Adalats shall have jurisdiction to determine and to arrive at a compromise or settlement between the parties to a dispute in respect of any case pending before or any matter which is falling within the jurisdiction of any court for which the Lok Adalat is organized but has not been brought before the court.

## **Legal Aid Camps and Legal Literacy Promotion Camps**

26.8 Legal Aid cum Legal Literacy Promotion camps are held periodically in rural areas. The officials from the Revenue, Police and other Departments are invited to attend the said camps. Panel lawyers are deputed to the places of the camps and enlighten them on the various rights of the people and also receive petitions from the people. The problems of the petitioners are referred to the Officials of the Departments concerned who attend the camps and if possible settlements are made on the spot itself.

## **Prison Adalat and Legal Aid Cell in Central Prisons**

26.9 The Prison Adalat and Legal Aid Cell are functioning in Central Prisons Chennai, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Vellore, Cuddalore, Salem, Tirunelveli and Coimbatore and in Special Prison for Women at Vellore. A Legal Aid Clinic is functioning in the Central Prison, at Puzhal in Chennai. The Prison Adalat is functioning on every Friday. In the Prison Legal Aid Cell, petitions are received from the prisoners and the

same are being registered in the register maintained in the Legal Aid Cell and follow up action is taken. 3,826 Prison Adalats were held up to 31.03.2019 and 22,129 cases were disposed of.

### **Pension Adalat**

26.10 Pension Adalat is being conducted by the Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority to settle the disputes to the person who retired from various Government Department with the Hon'ble Retired Judge of the High Court, Madras as the Presiding Officer with two Members. 249 pension adalt were held up to 31.03.2019 and 1294 number of grievances were settled.

### **Legal Aid Counsel Scheme**

26.11 Under the Legal Aid Counsel Scheme, Legal Aid counsels who are deputed to all Magistrate Courts by the Legal Services Authorities/ Committees strive to provide legal assistance to the under trials produced for remand before Magistrates, pleading no means to engage counsel. The State Legal Services

Authority is implementing this Scheme in the State. This scheme lays emphasis for legal aid to the persons in custody at the following three stages:

- a) Legal assistance for getting release on bail and opposing remand applications;
- b) Legal assistance during trial for defence
- c) Legal assistance for preferring appeals or revision in case of adverse orders.

### **Alternative Disputes Resolution Centres**

26.12 Alternative Disputes Resolution Centre set up in each district functions as a hub for all mediation activities such as Lok Adalats and other Alternative Disputes Resolution mechanism as specified in Section 89 of Civil Procedure Code. The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.4.20 crore for construction of Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre in Chennai and also a sum of Rs.29.00 crore for construction of Alternative Disputes Resolution Centres in the remaining 29 judicial districts. In 30 Districts viz.,

Chennai, Vellore, Krishnagiri, Salem, Theni, Tiruvarur, Madurai, Namakkal, Cuddalore, Ramanathapuram, Dindigul, Trichy, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Kancheepuram at Chengalpattu, Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Tiruvallur, Srivilliputhur, Nagapattinam, Perambalur, Erode, Thanjavur, Sivagangai, The Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Karur, Pudukottai and Dharmapuri, Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres are functioning.

### **Permanent Lok Adalats**

26.13 In accordance with the provisions made under section 22B of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987, Permanent Lok Adalats have been established in 32 districts at a cost of Rs.7,70,70,784/-.

### **National Lok Adalats**

26.14 National Lok Adalats were conducted in all the courts in the country right from the Supreme Court of India to the Taluk.

Now, the National Lok Adalat is being conducted in every two months throughout the Country. During the year 2018-2019, National Lok Adalat was conducted for six times. The last National Lok Adalat was held on 09.03.2019. In the above Lok Adalats 5,64,325 cases were settled for an award amount of Rs.2186,89,00,267/-

### **Telecast of Neethi Mandra Seithigal (News from court)**

26.15 Neethi Mandra Seithigal (News from Court), a 25 minutes sponsored programme, by the Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority was telecasted from 30.09.2007 on every Sunday at 7.30 A.M. in Podhigai Channel in Doordarshan. Now, this programme is being telecasted every Saturday at 10.30 A.M. from 22.04.2017.

### **Voice of Law**

26.16 "VOICE OF LAW", a continuous programme on Legal Awareness by the Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority, Chennai in association

with All India Radio, Chennai is being broadcasted through air, every Sunday, at 8.30 a.m in the 1<sup>st</sup> Channel of All India Radio, Chennai from 15.02.2015.

### **Legal Aid Help Line**

26.17 A Legal Aid Help Line is functioning in the Satta Udhavi Maiyam Building in Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority, Chennai. The Advocates are deputed on all working days to attend the calls and to give opinion both in the morning and evening by turns. The litigants can contact the Help Line over phone number 044-25342441. The litigants can also contact the toll free helpline number 1800-4252-441.

### **27. The Department of Government Litigations, High Court, Chennai**

27.1 The Department of Government Litigations, High Court, Chennai was constituted in the year 1997 under the overall administrative control of the Advocate General of Tamil Nadu. The unit offices headed by the Additional Advocate General I II IV V VI VII and VIII, the Public Prosecutor, the Government Pleader, High



Court, Chennai, Additional Advocate General III and Additional Public Prosecutor and Special Government Pleader at Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, Madurai are functioning under the control of Advocate General. One Additional Advocate General has been appointed to defend the cases on behalf of the Government listed before the Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.

27.2 The Department of Government Litigations, High Court, Chennai has 13 unit Offices as described above with nearly 230 Law Officers both in Civil and Criminal sides and 305 staff members.

### **Other facilities**

27.3 A sum of Rs.73.95 lakh has been sanctioned during the year 2018-2019, towards purchase of cars for the use of the Advocate General of Tamil Nadu, Public Prosecutor and Additional Advocate Generals of Tamil Nadu.

## **28. Directorate of Prosecution**

### **Functions**

28.1 The main function of the Directorate of Prosecution is to have an effective control over proper conduct of prosecution of the criminal cases before the Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts / Judicial Magistrate Courts in the State and to monitor the performance of the Prosecuting Officers, attached to respective courts, spread all over the State.

### **Organizational set up**

28.2 The Directorate of Prosecution started functioning from 25.05.1995. The Directorate is headed by 1 Director of Prosecution, who is assisted by Joint Director (Administration) at the head quarters. There are 11 Deputy Directors of Prosecution at the regional level as administrative heads and 14 Assistant Directors of Prosecution at the District level as administrative heads of the district units and 1 Assistant Director of Prosecution as the Associate Editor of Tamil Nadu Prosecutor Journal in the Head Quarters. There are

31 Additional Public Prosecutors, conducting the cases in Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts, 96 Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-I, conducting the cases in District Munsif cum Judicial Magistrate Courts 193 Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-II, conducting the cases in Judicial Magistrate Courts, in the State.

28.3 Apart from this, 5 Deputy Directors of Prosecution, 36 Additional Public Prosecutors and 25 Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-I and 13 Assistant Public Prosecutors Grade-II, are deputed to other departments like Vigilance, Police, Prison, Public Health, Agriculture, Drugs Control, Seeds Certification etc, as legal advisers.

### **The Tamil Nadu Prosecutors Journal**

28.4 The Tamil Nadu Prosecutors Journal has been prepared and published as per the Tamil Nadu Third Police Commission recommendation. This journal carries important, sensational judgements of the Supreme Court and the High Courts of the States. This is very useful for the Law Officers of this Directorate in

conducting prosecution in criminal cases. Libraries with Law books one each at Headquarters, Regions and at District level offices are maintained.

### **Training and Capacity Building for Public Prosecutors**

28.5 Based on the recommendation of the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, the Government of India have recommended a sum of Rs.7.5 crore for “Training and Capacity Building for Public Prosecutors”. This Government have accorded administrative sanction for a sum of Rs.4,90,32,360/- for the financial year 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 towards the above training and accorded financial sanction for a sum of Rs.3,60,48,980/- for the year 2018-2019.

### **29. Holiday Family Courts**

Four Holiday Family Courts, the first of their kind in the Country have been functioning effectively at the Madras High Court premises since litigants found holidays suitable for conciliatory process. Further the disposal of cases was 25% more than the situation prior

to introduction of Holiday Family Courts. The foremost objective for making Family Courts function on holidays is for speedy settlement of family disputes. The emphasis is on conciliation and achieving socially desirable results. The Government periodically sanction honorarium to the Judges and staff of the Holiday Family Courts.

### **30. Conclusion**

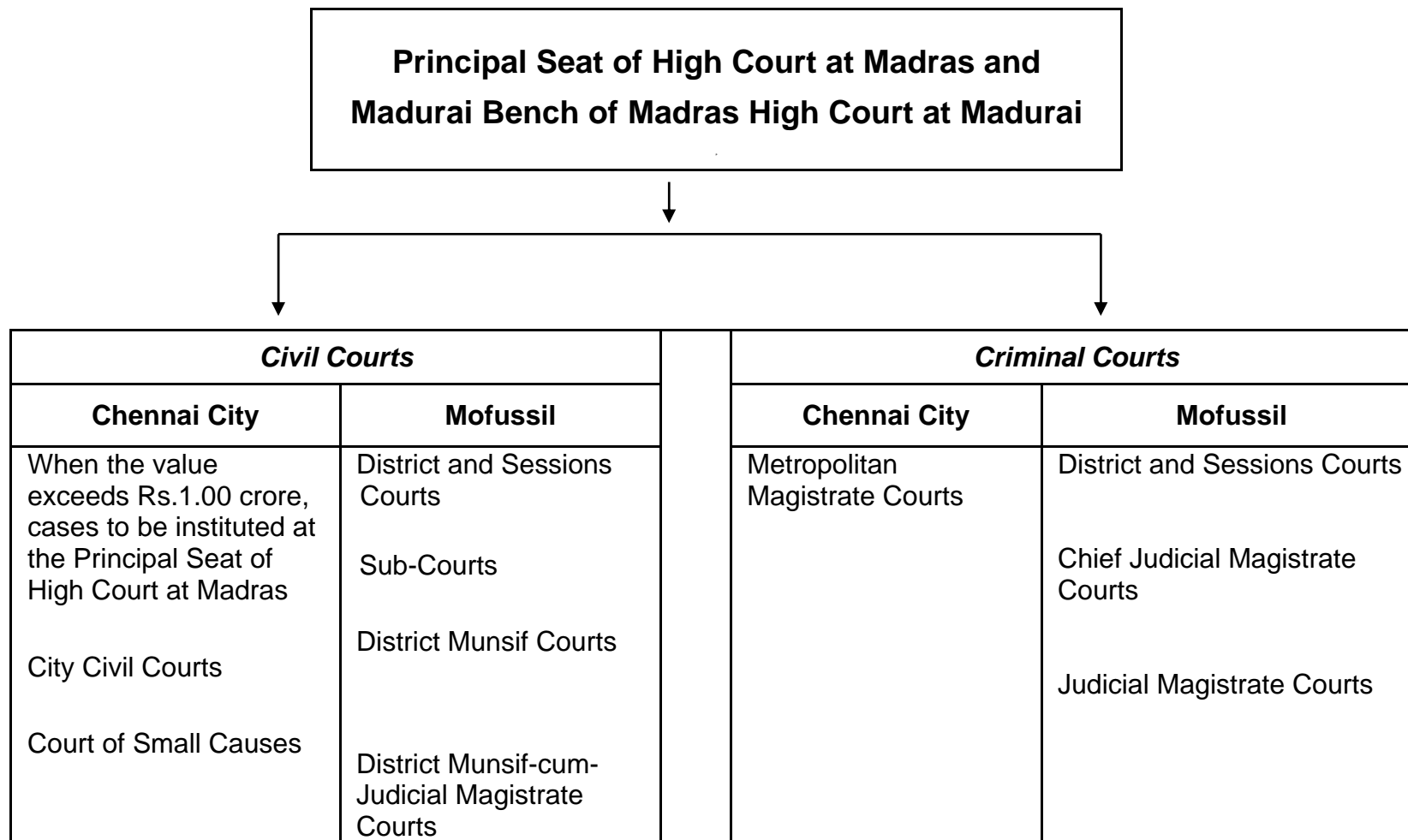
An impartial and independent Judiciary is the cornerstone of the democratic federal structure of the Country. Hence, the Government will provide facilities and create a climate to enable the Judiciary to maintain its independence, render speedy relief and remedy to the litigant public. The Government will continue to strive to realize the goal of justice for all.

**C.Ve. SHANMUGAM**  
**Minister for Law, Courts and Prisons**

**ANNEXURE – I**

*(see para - 2)*

**ORGANISATIONAL HIERARCHY OF THE JUDICIARY IN TAMIL NADU**





## ANNEXURE – II

(see para –3)

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

Sl. No.	Name of Courts / Tribunals	District Judge		Senior Civil Judge		Civil Judge
		District Courts	CBI Courts	C.M.M.	Others	
1.	City Civil Courts	14	6	--	18	1
2.	Court of Small Causes	1	--	--	8	8
3.	Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Courts	2	-	1	26*	7
4.	Labour Courts	4	--	--	--	--
5.	Industrial Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
6.	Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal	1	--	--	1	--
7.	State Transport Appellate Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
8.	Special Court under Essential Commodities Act	1	--	--	--	--
9.	Administrator General and Official Trustee	1	--	--	--	--
10.	Deputy Administrator General and Official Trustee	--	--	--	--	1
11.	Family Courts	8	--	--	--	--
12.	Mahalir Neethimandram	1	--	--	--	--
13.	Special Court under TNPID (in Financial Estt.) Act, 1997	1	--	--	--	--
14.	Additional Special Courts under N.D.P.S. Act	2	--	--	--	--
15.	Sessions Court for trial of Bomb Blast Cases	1	--	--	--	--
16.	Corporation of Chennai, Chennai Taxation Appeals Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
17.	Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority, Chennai	1	--	--	-	--
18.	Deputy Secretary, Tamil Nadu, Legal Services Authority	-	-	-	1	-
19.	Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Chennai	--	--	--	1	--
20.	Special Court under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988	--	--	--	1	--
21.	Special Courts for MCOP cases	--	--	--	2	--
22.	Permanent Lok Adalat	1	-	-	-	-
23.	Chairman, Tamil Nadu, Waqf Tribunal	1	-	-	-	-
24.	Sessions Judge, Spl Court for the trial of Criminal Causes related to elected M Ps and MLAs	1	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Total Number of Courts – 126</b> <b>[District Judges - 50] [Senior Civil Judges - 59] [Civil Judges - 17]</b> <b>* including four Fast Track Courts at Magisterial level, two Mobile Courts, two Special Courts for land grabbing cases and one Additional Mahila Court</b>						





**Annexure – III**

*(See para-3)*

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

SI .No.	Districts	District Judge										Senior Civil Judge							Civil Judge					
		District Courts	PCR/SC&ST Act Courts	Bomb Blast /Communal Clashes Cases	Labour Courts	E.C. Act/N.D.P.S. Act Cases	Special Courts CBI Cases / TNPID Act Cases	Family Courts/Fast Track Courts	Mahalir Neethimandram	Special Courts-MCOP Cases	Permanent Lok Adalat	Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts	Sub Courts	Special Courts MCOP Cases	Special Courts-LAOP Cases	Prevention of Corruption Act Cases	District Legal Services Authority	State Transport Appellate Tribunal	District Munsif Courts	Judicial Magistrate Courts	Fast Track Courts/ Additional Mahalir Neethimandram	Special Courts-Land Grabbing Cases	Mobile Courts	District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1.	Ariyalur	2	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	-	1	1	3	--	2	--	1	--	3	4	--	--	--	--
2.	Coimbatore	5	--	1	2	1	2 <sup>#</sup>	2	1	-	1	1	6	1	--	1	1	2	8	11	3 <sup>#</sup>	1	1	2
3.	Cuddalore	4	--	--	1	--	--	1	1	-	1	1	9	1	1	-	1	--	9	9	1 <sup>#</sup>	1	-	4
4.	Dharmapuri	2	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	--	--	1	--	4	5	1	1	-	1
5.	Dindigul	2	--	--	--	--	--	2 <sup>###</sup>	1	-	1	1	4	1	--	--	1	--	6	6	1	-	1	3
6.	Erode	5	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	7	1	--	--	1	1	7	8	2	1	1	2
7.	Kancheepuram	3	--	--	1	--	--	2 <sup>###</sup>	1	-	1	1	6	-	--	--	1	--	7	7	2 <sup>#</sup>	2	1	3
8.	Kanniyakumari	2	--	--	--	--	--	2 <sup>###</sup>	1	-	1	1	7	-	--	-	1	--	9	7	3 <sup>#</sup>	-	-	2
9.	Karur	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	-	1	1	3	-	--	--	1	--	3	4	1	1	-	-
10.	Krishnagiri	3	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	--	--	1	--	2	4	2 <sup>#</sup>	1	-	3
11.	Madurai	5	1	1 <sup>**</sup>	1	3 <sup>*</sup>	2 <sup>#</sup>	1	1	1	1	2	8	1	--	1	1	2	7	11	3 <sup>#</sup>	1	1	2
12.	Nagapattinam	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	-	1	1	3	-	--	--	1	--	4	5	2	-	-	1



**Continuation of Annexure-III**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
13.	Namakkal	2	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	-	1	1	5	-	--	--	1	--	6	5	2#	1	1	-
14.	The Nilgiris	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	-	1	--	3	-	--	--	1	--	3	3	2#	1	-	2
15.	Perambalur	1	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	--	--	1	--	2	1	1#	1	-	-
16.	Pudukottai	2	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	-	1	1	3	-	--	--	1	--	3	4	-	1	-	2
17.	Ramanathapuram	2	--	--	--	--	--	1###	1	-	1	1	3	-	--	--	1	--	3	4	-	1	-	4
18.	Salem	4	--	--	1	1	--	2###	1	1	1	1	7	2	--	1	1	1	10	13	3#	1	1	1
19.	Sivagangai	1	1*#	--	--	--	--	1	1	-	1	1	2	-	--	1	1	--	4	3	1	-	-	4
20.	Thanjavur	3	1	--	1	1	--	1###	1	1	1	2	5	1	--	--	1	--	5	7	2	1	-	2
21.	Theni	2	--	--	--	--	--	1###	1	-	1	1	3	-	--	--	1	--	5	5	2	1	-	-
22.	Thoothukudi	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	-	1	1	3	-	--	--	1	1	6	8	2	1	-	1
23.	Tiruchirappalli	3	1	--	1	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	6	1	--	1	1	1	10	10	1#	1	1	-
24.	Tirunelveli	4	1	--	1	--	--	2###	1	-	1	1	7	1	--	1	1	1	13	11	1#	1	1	3
25.	Tiruppur	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	7	-	-	-	1	1	6	10	1	1	-	-
26.	Tiruvallur	5	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	--	1	--	8	9	3	1	-	2
27.	Tiruvannamalai	2	--	--	--	--	--	1###	1	-	1	1	4	1	--	--	1	--	8	7	1	-	-	-
28.	Tiruvarur	1	-	--	--	--	--	--	1	-	1	1	2	-	--	--	1	--	3	4	1	-	-	3
29.	Vellore	4	--	--	2	--	--	2###	1	-	1	1	7	***1	2	--	1	1	10	15	1	-	-	4
30.	Villupuram	4	1*#	--	--	1*	--	2###	1	1	1	1	8	2	--	1	1	--	15	11	1	1	1	1
31.	Virudhunagar	2	1*#	--	--	--	--	1	1	-	1	1	5	-	--	--	1	--	6	8	1	1	-	2
	<b>Total</b>	85	7	2	11	8	4	33	31	9	31	32	149	17	6	7	31	11	195	219	47	24	10	54
		<b>District Judge- 221</b>										<b>Senior Civil Judge- 253</b>						<b>Civil Judge- 549</b>						
		<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COURTS - 1023</b>																						
	<p>* including Special Courts under N.D.P.S. Act Cases                  # including one Additional Mahalir Neethimandram (Magisterial level)                  ** Special Court for Communal Clashes                  ## including one Special Court for TNPID Act Cases                  *** Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal                  ### Fast Track Court in the cadre of District Judge                  *# SC/ST (POA) Act Court</p>																							



**ANNEUXRE – IV***(see para-10(xxiv))***DETAILS OF SPECIAL COURTS FOR LAND GRABBING CASES**

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Name of the District</b>	<b>Name of the place</b>	<b>No. of Courts</b>	<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Name of the District</b>	<b>Name of the place</b>	<b>No. of Courts</b>
1.	Chennai	Chennai City	2	13.	Ramanathapuram	Ramanathapuram	1
2.	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	1	14.	Salem	Salem City	1
3.	Cuddalore	Cuddalore	1	15.	Thanjavur	Thanjavur	1
4.	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	1	16.	The Nilgiris	Udhagamandalam	1
5.	Erode	Erode	1	17.	Theni	Theni	1
6.	Kancheepuram	Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu	2	18.	Thiruchirappalli	Trichy City	1
7.	Karur	Karur	1	19.	Thoothukudi	Thoothukudi	1
8.	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri	1	20.	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli City	1
9.	Madurai	Madurai City	1	21.	Tiruppur	Tiruppur	1
10.	Namakkal	Namakkal	1	22.	Tiruvallur	Tiruvallur	1
11.	Perambalur	Perambalur	1	23.	Villupuram	Villupuram	1
12.	Pudukottai	Pudukottai	1	24.	Virudhunagar	Virudhunagar	1
						<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>



**ANNEXURE -V**

*(see para -11)*

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

Sl. No.	Year	<i>Civil Cases</i>				<i>Criminal Cases</i>				Total Pendency of Civil & Criminal Cases
		Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	
1.	2014	*148451	56701	42580	<b>162572</b>	**18624	39572	38454	<b>19742</b>	182314
2.	2015	162572	65344	52252	<b>175664</b>	19742	36291	35751	<b>20282</b>	195946
3.	2016 #	175664	63598	54922	<b>184309</b>	20282	33145	32984	<b>20454</b>	204763
4.	2017 #	184309	53860	53066	<b>188262</b>	20454	34776	34108	<b>21122</b>	209384
5.	2018	188262	55540	60699	<b>183103</b>	21122	36154	36366	<b>20910</b>	204013

\* 218705 Miscellaneous civil cases not taken into account as per the directions of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee of High Court of Madras.

\*\* 24274 Miscellaneous criminal cases not taken into account as per the directions of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee of High Court of Madras.

# After physical verification

Note: As per direction of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee dated 10.11.2014, main cases ( civil and criminal) alone taken into account for institution, disposal and pendency of cases.





**ANNEXURE - VI**

*(see para-11)*

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

Sl. No.	Year	Civil Cases				Criminal Cases				Total Pendency of Civil & Criminal Cases
		Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	
1.	2014	*59850	30527	24035	<b>66342</b>	**13351	26447	24885	<b>14913</b>	81255
2.	2015	66342	32545	24418	<b>74469</b>	14913	27833	28733	<b>14013</b>	88482
3.	2016	74469	34124	30317	<b>78276</b>	14013	27346	26783	<b>14576</b>	92852
4.	2017	78276	33596	33835	<b>78037</b>	14576	21554	21075	<b>15055</b>	93092
5.	2018	78037	34622	34465	<b>78194</b>	15055	26293	30551	<b>10797</b>	88991

\* 63377 Miscellaneous civil cases not taken into account as per the directions of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee of High Court of Madras.

\*\* 10847 Miscellaneous criminal cases not taken into account as per the directions of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee of High Court of Madras.

Note: As per direction of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee dated 10.11.2014, main cases (civil and criminal) alone taken into account for institution, disposal and pendency of cases.



**ANNEXURE - VII**

*(see para-11)*

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

Sl. No.	Year	<i>Civil Cases</i>				<i>Criminal Cases</i>				Total Pendency of Civil & Criminal Cases
		Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	Opening Balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency	
1.	2014	*560382	345882	291512	<b>614752</b>	445111	1332774	1353817	<b>424068</b>	1038820
2.	2015	614752	335867	298922	<b>651697</b>	424068	859455	852427	<b>431096</b>	1082793
3.	2016 #	651697	305192	333912	<b>620808</b>	431096	704008	683199	<b>450558</b>	1071366
4.	2017 #	621039	327844	338994	<b>609947</b>	451033	681227	676328	<b>455932</b>	1065878
5.	2018 #	609947	340021	332950	<b>616179</b>	455931	585706	573234	<b>468107</b>	1084286

\* 282822 Miscellaneous civil cases not taken into account as per the directions of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee of High Court of Madras.  
2016, 2017 and 2018 - # After physical verification

Note: As per direction of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee dated 10.11.2014, main cases (civil and criminal) alone taken into account for institution, disposal and pendency of cases.

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