



**SPECIAL PROGRAMME
IMPLEMENTATION DEPARTMENT**

**POLICY NOTE
2021-2022**

Demand No.53

**M.K. STALIN
CHIEF MINISTER**



**Government of Tamil Nadu
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Special Programme Implementation Department

POLICY NOTE 2021-2022

1. Introduction

The Government of Tamil Nadu has set its priorities high towards achieving the overall socio-economic development of the State. The "***Vision Document for a New Dawn***" provides the guiding principles with specific programmes and policies that are aimed at building a Welfare State in its true sense. The goals have been set to attain high economic growth rate with no families below poverty line in the State and creating a positive transformation in the important areas ranging from Agriculture, Water Resources, Education,

Health, Urban Development and Rural Infrastructure, with emphasis on Social Justice, within a period of ten years. The Government aims to translate its resolute visions into specific actionable goals which are expeditiously attainable, with maximum benefit reaching all sectors and segments of the Society.

2. Main Functions of the Department

The Department of Special Programme Implementation is primarily entrusted with the task of monitoring the implementation of various flagship programmes and schemes announced by the Government.

The key functions entrusted to the Special Programme Implementation Department are highlighted below:

- ❖ To function as a Monitoring Body of the Government and to provide quality inputs based on the evaluation of ongoing programmes for necessary course correction.
- ❖ To follow up the issue of necessary orders by the Departments concerned and its implementation on the various important policy announcements made on the floor of Assembly and during important Government functions.
- ❖ To ensure inter-sectoral convergence wherever needed, in order to expedite

the programmes and to optimise the outputs.

- ❖ To monitor the 'Flagship Schemes' of the Government in co-ordination with the line departments concerned in order to ensure that the benefit of the schemes reaches the targeted population in a timely manner.
- ❖ To provide feedback on the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the schemes that are being implemented for necessary modifications.
- ❖ To consolidate the reports prepared by the District Monitoring Officers during their field visits and review meetings in the districts and submit the reports to

the office of the Chief Minister through the Chief Secretary to Government.

- ❖ To coordinate with the line departments and recommend improvements and amendments that are required in the operational guidelines of the flagship schemes to ensure that the objectives of the schemes are fully achieved.
- ❖ To study and recommend the best practices in various sectors that are suitable for replication in our State.
- ❖ To undertake any other special assignments that are entrusted to the Department by the Government from time to time.

In tune with the functions assigned as mentioned above, officials with field

experience and domain expertise are drawn from various Line Departments to Special Programme Implementation Department.

3. Monitoring

Monitoring is the systematic process of collecting, analyzing and using information to track a programme's progress towards reaching its objectives and to guide important decisions including decisions to undertake mid-course corrections, wherever necessary.

The Special Programme Implementation Department collects and records the status of the implementation of various schemes that are announced by the Government in co-ordination with the

departments concerned. Progress reports are also prepared for important coordination meetings. It also prepares review reports for the monthly 'All Secretaries Meeting' conducted by the Chief Secretary to Government. The following activities that are related to monitoring are performed by this Department.

3.1. Monitoring of Policy Announcements

The foremost mandate of the Special Programme Implementation Department is to monitor the implementation and fulfillment of all announcements of the Government in Hon'ble Governor's Address, Budget Speech, announcements made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister under

Rule 110 and announcements made by the Hon'ble Ministers on the floor of the Legislative Assembly, the announcements made during the Conference of District Collectors and other official functions.

3.2. Online Monitoring through Secretariat Intranet

This department has designed and developed interactive webpage for recording the status of the announcements by various Government Departments in the Secretariat and hosted in the intranet system of the Secretariat website. Analytical monitoring software has also been designed, developed for generating various types of reports.

Nodal Officers have been nominated by all the Administrative Departments in the Government, to co-ordinate with their respective Heads of Departments and update the status of the announcements in the Intranet webpage.

The status of announcements is categorized based on the progress furnished by the various departments through the online system and consolidated reports are generated for various review meetings conducted from time to time.

3.3. Monitoring of Flagship Programmes

The Schemes that need focused attention of the Government for direct monitoring at high level are identified as

Flagship Programmes. The progress of implementation of these programmes will be reviewed periodically with the Departments concerned to ensure that the implementation outcomes produce the desired impact, quality and outreach. The following schemes have now been identified for focused monitoring:

1. Kalaignarin Anaithu Grama
Orunginaitha Velaan Valarchi Thittam.
2. Chief Minister's Dryland Development Scheme.
3. Programme of distribution of seeds and seedlings (Agriculture and Horticulture).
4. Household Tap Connections in Rural Areas.

5. Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam.
6. Livelihood Promotion Activities.
7. Housing and Community Development Activities by Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board.
8. Green Tamil Nadu Mission.
9. Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust Projects.
10. Singara Chennai 2.0
11. Namakku Naame Thittam (Urban & Rural).
12. Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.
13. Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam.
14. Varum Mun Kaappom.
15. Tamil Nadu Urban Health Care Project.

16. Ennum Ezhuthum Mission.
17. Online Services and Broadband Connectivity.
18. Social Security Schemes.
19. Marriage Assistance Schemes.
20. Development Schemes meant for SC/ST.
21. RIGHTS Programme for Welfare of Differently Abled.
22. Fishing Harbour Schemes.
23. Development works undertaken by Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowment.
24. Advanced Government Land Management System.
25. Tourism Promotion in the State.
26. Sports Talent Identification & Development Schemes.

27. Major Industrial Parks across the State.
28. Expansion of existing Airports and Greenfield Airports.
29. Creation of Mega Clusters for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Sector.
30. Integrated Road Safety Mission.

The Government will periodically modify the list of the above mentioned Flagship Programmes based on the progress and requirements.

3.3.1. High Level Monitoring Committee

To review and monitor the Flagship Schemes of the Government, a High Level Monitoring Committee with the following composition has been constituted.

Sl. No.	Designation	Position
1	The Chief Secretary to Government	Chairperson
2	The Secretary to Government, Finance Department	Member
3	The Secretary to Government, Special Programme Implementation Department	Member Secretary
4	The Secretary to Government of the concerned line Departments	Members

The progress, challenges and issues, if any, in the implementation of the flagship schemes, will be taken up by the High Level Monitoring Committee meetings for detailed deliberation. Policy interventions and updating of guidelines of the flagship schemes will also be taken into account based on the feedback

provided by the District Monitoring Officers.

3.4. Thematic Monitoring and Evaluation

The goals enshrined under the Vision Document come under various Administrative departments and can be better accomplished with mutual collaboration. Hence, to accomplish the goals, a theme based monitoring approach will be followed by the Department, wherein, schemes of various departments for a common goal will be grouped and implementation of the schemes will be monitored in a coordinated and synchronized mode to synergize the outcomes.

This will help in role clarity and provide a coordinated, unified approach with more practical insights on the implementation of schemes and programmes. The following Twelve Thematic areas have been identified which are detailed below:

3.4.1. Augmentation of Water Resources

Increasing the ground water level, surface water storage capacity, Soil moisture, Vegetative covers are utmost essential for ensuring uninterrupted drinking water supply and water for irrigation requirements. Schemes relating to conservation of Water bodies, Rivers, Desilting of Water Harvesting Structures, Soil Conservation, Rain Water Harvesting,

Waste Water Recycling and Reuse, Grey Water Management, Afforestation, etc., are implemented by various departments like Public Works Department (Irrigation), Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Municipal Administration and Water Supply, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries & Fisherman Welfare, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department. Revenue & Disaster Management Department provides a supportive role in survey, identification and protection of Water Bodies from encroachment. Special Programme Implementation Department will co-ordinate with all these stakeholder departments in expeditiously achieving the

vision of this Government in augmenting the water resources.

3.4.2. Agricultural Production, Productivity and Creation of Marketing Linkages

Availability of Water for irrigation, Seeds & Seedlings, Fertilizers, Provision of Crop loan and extension activities for guiding the Farmers are the foremost essential activities for increasing the agricultural productions & productivity. Direct Procurement Centres operated by Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, Sugar Mills under the Industries Department, Farmers Producers Organization, Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees, Agricultural Marketing are the main agencies involved

in Procurement and Marketing at the post-harvest stage.

Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Food & Co-operation Departments are directly involved in providing support to the Farmers in these activities. IT enabled tools like Mobile Applications are also used to improve the quality of services by these departments. Convergent action is required in this sector so that all the above mentioned stakeholder departments contribute significantly in perfect coordination to achieve the vision of the Government to bring an additional 11.75 lakh hectare under cultivation, doubling of double cropped area from 10 lakh hectare at present to 20 lakh hectare and bringing Tamil Nadu within the first three position

in the County in agricultural productivity in Crops like food grains and commercial crops such as Coconut, Cotton, Sunflower and Sugarcane within the next 10 years.

3.4.3. Housing for All

Housing programmes are independently implemented by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Housing and Urban Development – Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department – TAHDCO and Municipal Administration and Water Supply Departments for the targeted urban and rural poor. Revenue Department plays an important role in issues relating to land and Public Works Department also needs to be consulted for adoption of innovative rapid construction technologies. This will

enable information exchange and co-ordination among these Departments which are required for expeditious achievement of the vision of this Government to construct 20 lakh new concrete houses in 10 years in rural areas and 9.75 lakh concrete houses in urban areas.

3.4.4. Improving Educational Standards

School Education and Higher Education Departments have the responsibility of imparting quality education to improve the performance Indicators. Equally an important supportive role is played by the Public Works, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, Municipal Administration and Water

Supply, Health & Family Welfare, Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Departments in creating and maintaining the buildings, sanitation infrastructure, good health and nutrition which are essential for conducive learning of School / College Students and most importantly in improving the Performance Grading Index / NIRF Top positions / NAAC accreditation. Hence, convergent action of all these Departments is important for optimizing the learning outcomes.

3.4.5. Improving Health Indicators

Maintaining Public Health, quality Medical Education combined with Robust Medical Infrastructure are essential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal 3 target of ensuring 'Good health and well-

being'. Sanitation infrastructure, inculcating personal hygiene among all age groups and good nutrition at Anganwadies and Schools are equally important to prevent deficiencies and overcome the challenges of Communicable and Non-Communicable diseases. This is achievable through co-ordinated action of Health and Family Welfare, Social Welfare and Women Empowerment, School Education, Public Works Department, Municipal Administration and Water Supply and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Departments.

3.4.6. Social Inclusion

Social Justice, Gender Equality and inclusive growth through participation of all segments of Society are of paramount

importance to ensure that 'No one is Left Behind'. Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare, Backward, Most Backward and Minority Welfare, Social Welfare and Women Empowerment, Labour Welfare and Skill Development, Welfare of Differently Abled Persons, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj – Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, Public & Rehabilitation and Home are the main stakeholder departments which need to work together to achieve this noble vision of the Government.

3.4.7. Infrastructure & Industrial Development

Availability of basic infrastructure like road, rail and air connectivity, water, power and market infrastructure facilities

are the pre-requisites for hastening the process of industrialization. Transport, Energy, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Municipal Administration and Water Supply, Highways & Minor Ports, Public Works Department, Revenue & Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Forest, Home Department have to work in perfect harmony with Industries and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Department. This co-ordinated effort is essential to attain a double digit economic growth rate, raising the GDP of our State economy to more than Rs.35 lakh crore and raising the per capita income to more than Rs.4 lakh per annum in the next 10 years as envisioned in the Vision Document for a New Dawn.

3.4.8. Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Development

Skilling of the youth is important in not only making them employable in Manufacturing and Services sectors, but also in aiding them in self-employment and setting up of micro-enterprises. Skill Trainings are provided under various schemes by Labour Welfare and Skill Development, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Adi-Dravidar and Tribal Welfare, Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi, School Education, Higher Education, Industries and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Departments. It is important to identify the persons in need of such training and

tracking those trained persons in getting placements or starting their own desired business enterprises. To optimize the efforts of these departments, convergent action needs to be ensured to achieve the important vision of this Government of creating 10 lakh new jobs every year.

3.4.9. Institutional Credit

Making credit available to the rural and urban poor, Farmers, Students and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises at all times with reasonable terms, at lower rate of interest is vital to uplift the poor from below poverty line or to prevent them from slipping to extreme poverty, especially during these difficult times due to COVID19 Pandemic. This is more so important due to unethical lending

practices by unorganized sector. Rural Development and Panchayat Raj – Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, Co-operation, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Finance Departments have to work together to bring about the desired level of credit linkages to achieve the vision of this Government to make Tamil Nadu as the first State with no family below poverty line within the next decade.

3.4.10. Heritage and Culture

The archaeological excavations in the State have yielded a treasure trove of information deepening our knowledge about Tamil Nadu's ancient culture and civilization. These artifacts and excavation

sites need to be preserved and protected with the co-ordinated effort of Public Works Department, Revenue and Disaster Management and Tourism, Culture and Religious Endowments Departments, besides the active participation of the Local Bodies concerned.

3.4.11. Ecological Balance

Increasing the Forest and Tree cover in the State to 33% of the land area is one of the important visions of the Government. This needs participation of multiple stakeholder departments and people's participation to achieve this goal in the next 10 years. Other important Environmental Conservation initiatives of the Government like, Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission, Tamil Nadu Wetland

Mission, Tamil Nadu River Conservation Projects requires effective participation of various line departments like Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Municipal Administration and Water Supply, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Departments to achieve the desired goals.

3.4.12. Data Governance

The Social Sector Departments that are implementing Welfare Programmes under various Government Schemes have independently collected the beneficiary data over a period of time. However, these data source of various departments are not uniform and integrated to provide better understanding of the gaps and Societal needs for future planning and

policy decisions. This calls for a co-ordinated action of all Departments that are in need of citizen data to ensure optimum service delivery.

A holistic development with greater outcomes is expected by adopting Theme based monitoring through “Inter-Sectoral Convergent Approach”.

3.5. District Monitoring Officers

The Government periodically appoints Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries to Government as District Monitoring Officers. The Monitoring Officers undertake inspections and review meetings on the schemes implemented in the districts and provide necessary advice/inputs to the District Collectors and officials for sorting out the bottlenecks to

ensure speedy implementation of the Programme.

The Monitoring Officers review the major schemes of various Departments. The formats for the review of the District Monitoring Officers will be updated on the lines of Theme based monitoring. Monitoring officers will also review the implementation of flagship schemes separately.

The District Monitoring Officers co-ordinate with the Heads of Departments concerned to address inter-departmental issues and recommend required policy interventions at the Government level. The Monitoring Officers submit their report with important observations, follow up action to be taken and recommendations for

necessary changes to improve the schemes. The suggestions of the District Monitoring Officers are consolidated and submitted to the office of the Chief Minister through the Chief Secretary to Government.

3.6 Field Inspections

The Officers of Special Programme Implementation Department who are drafted from various sectoral departments will also undertake periodical field inspections and review the implementation of flagship schemes, implementation of special projects, announcements and submit reports to the Government on the progress and effectiveness of the schemes being

implemented by various departments at the district level.

4. Key Performance Indicators

In order to have effective monitoring of implementation of the development programmes, monitoring based on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) is proposed to be undertaken by the Department. The KPIs for monitoring will be identified in consultation with the respective line departments taking into account other Socio-Economic development indices such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Good Governance Index (GGI), released by various Agencies.

5. Initiatives of the Special Programme Implementation Department

Apart from monitoring the implementation of various schemes, this department spearheads some of the unique initiatives of the Government. The Special Programme Implementation Department will coordinate with line Departments in effective implementation of these initiatives.

5.1. Chief Minister Dashboard

A master dashboard, called Chief Minister Dashboard, showing the status of the implementation of various schemes and projects in real-time will be developed. The dashboard will have role based access and will generate customised

reports and notifications. The KPIs of various development programmes can be monitored through Chief Minister Dashboard. The CM Dashboard will be developed through Information Technology Department.

5.2. Chief Minister Fellowship Programme

The Government strongly believes in the potential of the talented youth of our State. To harness the talent of Young Professionals in the processes of the Governance and to improve the service delivery, it has been proposed to institute a prestigious Chief Minister Fellowship Programme.

This two year fellowship programme with a remuneration package will be open

for qualified individuals from diverse professional and academic background. These Young Professionals will be identified through a transparent selection process. The successful Young Professionals will be involved in the implementation of the various flagship and priority schemes of the State Government and work under Chief Minister's Office/Departments concerned. They will monitor, identify issues and aid decision making in respect of the assigned programmes to address the gaps and to optimise qualitative delivery of services.

The Special Programme Implementation Department will be the Nodal Department to formulate and

implement the programme in consultation with the stakeholder departments.

5.3 Students Internship Programme

Tamil Nadu tops the Gross-Enrolment Ratio in Higher Education in the Country with more than 50% of youngsters completing higher secondary and joining Colleges and Universities. The Government has proposed to provide an opportunity to the most talented students to have a practical experience in the Governmental processes through a short term "Students Internship Programme" with Special Programme Implementation Department as the Nodal Department. This initiative in the State is expected to increase Government – Students – Academic

Institutions Interface in the developmental activities.

Internships will be offered to students of leading Universities and Colleges in the State, preferably, those Universities/Colleges which are in top position as per NIRF ranking. The topics for Internships will be identified by this Department in consultation with the Line Departments implementing Social Sector and Infrastructure Projects.

The Special Programme Implementation Department will formulate detailed guidelines in this regard in consultation with Higher Education and those Departments having administrative control of the Universities.

5.4. Comprehensive Survey for creating a unified database

Data driven Governance is a policy of this Government and in order to strengthen the data, a comprehensive app based survey of all households in Urban and Rural areas will be undertaken for consumption of various Departments implementing welfare programmes. The data to be collected by survey will help the Government departments in effective formulation of policies and schemes. A team of officials will be formed at field level for undertaking this survey. The database will be continuously updated with every transaction. Nodal department will be identified for development of the mobile application for survey and maintenance of database and also for the field survey.

Special Programme Implementation Department will assist the Nodal Department in standardising the questionnaire in consultation with the user departments.

5.5. Field Inspection Monitoring Mobile Software Application

The Government is according high priority for deploying IT enabled tools for quality delivery of benefits of various welfare schemes implemented by the Departments. The Field Officers of these departments undertake Inspections / Extension activities and submit their reports to their respective higher level officers. Taking follow up action of these physical reports and getting action taken / rectification reports becomes quite difficult

due to high volume and number of inspections conducted during the review period. Hence, there is a need to replace this traditional method of monitoring of Inspections / Extension Activities undertaken by field officers, by their superior officers with an IT enabled tool like Mobile Application Software in view of its following advantages:

- ❖ Real-time Monitoring of Inspections / Extension Activities.
- ❖ Inspection areas can be centrally assigned and monitored using geo-coordinates of areas visited.
- ❖ Easy to retrieve inspection reports and photos and can be viewed in any digital device from any location.

- ❖ Tracking of Inspections and Action Taken Reports on the Observations made by Inspection Officers are possible.
- ❖ Inspection Reports can be used as Diaries
- ❖ Can be linked to Department's Web Portal and any kind of Analytical Reports can be generated for review purpose.

The National Informatics Center (NIC), Chennai, has already developed a Mobile Application Field Inspections Monitoring Software which can be customised and deployed by any User Department.

The Special Programme Implementation Department will coordinate with the Line Departments and NIC, Chennai, in suitably customizing this Software as per the needs of the Departments concerned for better monitoring and improving the quality of service delivery.

6. Conclusion

This Government is more sensitive and responsive to the welfare needs of the people. Its commitment to fulfil the aspirations of the people will always continue to be much stronger. It has set its goals and priorities in this direction and it will be achieved with full vigour with untiring efforts of the entire Government

machinery. In the process of achieving our welfare goals, the Government will be receptive to the best practices, ideas and feedbacks that will be duly incorporated to reap the overall beneficial outcomes for the entire community.

M.K. STALIN
CHIEF MINISTER