



RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT

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1. Introduction

"கிராமப்புற வளர்ச்சி என்பது தமிழ்நாட்டின் செழிப்பை உறுதி செய்யும் முக்கிய தூணாகும். அனைத்து பிரிவுகளுக்கும் சமநிலை மற்றும் சரியான வழிகாட்டுதலுடன் நாம் எதிர்காலத்தை கட்டியெழுப்புவோம்."

- M. K. Stalin

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

The Government of Tamil Nadu has consistently focused on creating inclusive, equitable and sustainable development across the State. With a deep understanding that rural prosperity directly impacts overall State progress, the Government of Tamil Nadu has, under the guidance of the visionary Chief Minister Thiru M.K. Stalin, conceived and implemented many comprehensive Rural Development schemes which are aimed at perennially uplifting the Socio-Economic condition of the rural population.

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Schemes have, across the years, enabled the State to usher in comprehensive development in terms of providing dignified housing for the needy, robust infrastructure in the villages including roads, bridges, water supply, public utility buildings and rural employment for the masses.

Kalaigharin Kanavu Illam Scheme, which was started last year, with the construction of One lakh houses for the rural poor, with a massive outlay of Rs.3,500 crore, sets out to fulfil the dream of the common man to own a permanent house. Further, the State Government's Scheme of Repairs to Rural dilapidated Houses constructed years ago, has given the much-needed respite to all such households who got houses in the yesteryears, but who still continue to be poor and vulnerable.

Construction of Houses for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) under PM-JANMAN, Houses for Sri Lankan Refugees and for other Tribal population are also being taken up with comprehensive funding.

Samathuvapurams created in the past and planned now, help in fulfilling the ideals of Social Justice and harmony envisaged by Thanthai Periyar and this Government is committed to making such inroads into the society's moral fabric to help achieve Social Justice, a basic tenet of the Indian Constitution.

Creation of Assets benefitting the community by the community themselves through their personal contribution under the Namakku Namme Thittam has always been a welcome initiative and much sought after by the general public to fulfil the gaps in the needs of the people.

Tamil Nadu has been at the forefront of constructing All weather Road connectivity to 99% of the Habitations through the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. As a next step, roads have been upgraded through the Mudhalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam. Individual streets and lanes are taken up through various Schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) or funds from the State Finance Commission or Central Finance Commission.

Tamil Nadu is striving to fulfil the legal right granted to its citizens for 100 days of wage employment through MGNREGS to further the livelihood opportunities of its rural poor. The Government has been able to create durable Natural Resource Management as well as Individual Assets as envisaged under the Scheme. The inflow of funds from the Government of India

on a continuous basis is, however, a matter of concern.

With economic growth of its villages, Waste Management plays a critical role in the interface for its economic development. Efforts have been taken to bring in efficiency in Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities across all Village Panchayats through Community involvement and this Government is committed to enable Sustainable behavioural change to help protect the environment.

2. PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTIONS IN TAMIL NADU

2.1 History of Panchayat Raj Institutions

Local governance systems in Tamil Nadu have a long-standing history, as evidenced by inscriptions found in Uthiramerur Block of Kanchipuram District. During ancient times, the community groups in Tamil Nadu were responsible for various developmental activities in their respective regions, and these institutions may be considered as Village Republics. This tradition reached its peak during the Chola dynasty in the 10th and 11th centuries. During this period, Village Councils had the responsibility of imposing taxes, promoting social welfare, and administering justice within their demarcated areas. These Village Councils maintained close administrative relations with the Chola rulers. The election of members to these councils were carried out using a secret ballot method called the "Kudavolai" system.

After the decline of the Chola Empire, the administrative system in Tamil Nadu transformed to a feudal land-based centralised governance model. This system continued until the introduction of modern local governance by the British colonial administration.

After India gained independence, the first legislation aimed at decentralizing democratic powers was the "Madras Panchayat Act of 1950." Following the publication of the "White Paper on Local Administration Reforms" in 1957, the "Madras Panchayat Act of 1958" and the "Madras District Development Councils Act of 1958" were enacted, which introduced the following significant features:

- a) A two-tier Panchayat system comprising both Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions.

- b) Formation of Community Development Blocks corresponding to Revenue Taluks.
- c) Village Panchayat leaders were incorporated as members of the Panchayat Unions. Panchayat Union Chairman was indirectly elected by Village Panchayat Presidents.
- d) Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions were assigned various developmental and welfare responsibilities.
- e) The District Boards were abolished.
- f) Establishment of the District Development Council as an advisory body.

This two-tier system functioned effectively until 1975, till regular elections were held. Subsequently, the term of office for Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats were extended until 01.02.1977 and later until 12.09.1979. After this period, the rural local bodies were managed by Special Officers of Rural Development

Department, namely, Divisional Development Officers for all Panchayat Unions in the Division and by Block Development Officers for all Village Panchayats in a Block, until the next elections in 1986. The newly elected rural local bodies remained in office until March, 1991.

Subsequently, due to the lack of elections until October, 1996, Rural Local Bodies continued to be managed by the aforementioned special officers.

The 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India, enacted in 1992, brought about significant changes in the structure of the Panchayat systems. In line with this, the 'Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994,' came into effect on 22.04.1994, bringing the following key reforms in the Panchayat system based on the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

- a) Introduction of a three-tier Panchayat system, comprising Village Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats.
- b) Conduct of local body elections once in every five years.
- c) Implementation of a rotational reservation system for members and office-bearers in each Panchayat body, based on the proportion of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population.
- d) Introduction of one third reservation of seats to Women in both member and office bearer positions. The reservation was subsequently increased to 50% for Women.
- e) Establishment of a State Election Commission as an independent body to conduct elections for Rural and Urban local bodies.
- f) Establishment of a State Finance Commission once in every five years to

allocate the financial resources of the State Government to Rural and Urban local bodies.

2.2 Elected Representatives in Rural Local Bodies

In accordance with Article 243 K of the Constitution of India, the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission was established in 1994. The State Election Commission operates as an independent and autonomous constitutional body and is responsible for conducting elections to both Urban and Rural local bodies.

Based on the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, and the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, elections for Urban and Rural local bodies in Tamil Nadu were held in the following years:

1996	First ordinary Local Body Elections
2001	Second ordinary Local Body Elections
2006	Third ordinary Local Body Elections
2011	Fourth Ordinary Local Body Elections
2019	Fifth Ordinary Local Body Elections (27 Districts)
2021	Fifth Ordinary Local Body Elections (9 Districts)

The fifth ordinary local body elections were conducted in 27 districts during the year 2019, while elections for the reorganised nine districts were held during the year 2021.

Nagapattinam District has been bifurcated into Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai districts after the Local Body Elections during the year 2019. Hence, Elected Representatives of the District Panchayats for Mayiladuthurai District will be elected during the next Local Body Elections.

The tenure of the elected representatives from the 28 districts including newly reorganised

Mayiladuthurai District elected during the year 2019 ended on 5th January 2025. A major exercise to re-organise the Urban & Rural Local bodies across the State is at present taken up. It will soon be followed up by appropriate delimitation of the wards at various levels under the purview of the State Election Commission. Hence, as an interim measure, Special Officers have been appointed for the administration of the Panchayats.

2.2.1 Rules for the Bifurcation, Merger and Reorganization of Rural Local Bodies

The Reorganisation of Rural Local Bodies refers to the process of Restructuring or Redefining the administrative boundaries, functions, powers and responsibilities of local governance in Rural areas.

Reorganisation will aim to improve administrative efficiency, enhanced service delivery and ensure better representation of rural masses.

Section 4 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1994, explains about the formation of Village Panchayat. The notification will be done by the Inspector of Panchayats/ District Collector at the District level.

Section 4 of the Act states as follows: -

"The Inspector

(a) shall, by notification, classify and shall declare every local area comprising a revenue village or villages or any portion of a revenue village or contiguous portion of two or more revenue villages as a Panchayat Village for the purposes of this Act; and

(b) shall, by notification, specify the name of such Panchayat Village”.

Section 15 of Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 explains about the formation of Panchayat Unions as under: -

- (1) "The Government may, from time to time, publish a notification of their intention,-*
- (a) To declare any local area forming a development block for the purposes of the National Extension Service Scheme or Community Development, to be a Panchayat Development Block; and*
 - (b) To constitute for every such Panchayat Development Block, a Panchayat Union”.*

The Government has issued guidelines for the separation, merger and reorganization of rural local bodies as per Government Order No. 131,

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (C-1)
Department, dated 16.03.2007 as follows: -

1. The reorganization notification for Village Panchayats shall be issued by the District Collector, and the reorganization notification for Panchayat Unions shall be issued by the Government.
2. In accordance with this, after issuing the relevant public notice, a consultation meeting will be held under the chairmanship of the District Collector with all the concerned representatives, including elected representatives of the local bodies concerned.
3. Following this, a second session shall be convened by the District Collector to review the suggestions received.

4. The District Collector shall send the draft opinion to the Head of the Department after considering the two hearings. These details shall be displayed for public view in prominent places of the local bodies.
5. Thereafter, if necessary, the Head of the Department may convene a third session. If such a meeting is not required, the final opinion shall be sent to the Government for approval. Following this administrative procedure, the merger, bifurcation and reorganization of the rural local bodies shall be undertaken.

2.2.2 Bifurcation, Merger and reorganization of Panchayat Unions and Village Panchayats.

During the year 2024, the Government has issued Orders for merging 43 Village Panchayats fully and 3 Village Panchayats partially with 4

Corporations namely, Tiruvannamalai, Namakkal, Pudukkottai and Karaikudi.

Hence, 43 Village Panchayats are fully merged and 3 Village Panchayats are partially merged and handed over to the four Corporations.

At present, in the **37 Rural districts of Tamil Nadu, there are 388 Panchayat Unions and 12,482 Village Panchayats comprising 79,026 habitations.** This structure has been established administratively in accordance with the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act and is governed through the duly elected representatives.

During December 2024, the Government has issued Orders to upgrade or expand the area of Corporation, Municipalities and Town Panchayats by merging the Village Panchayats with Corporations/ Municipalities/ Town Panchayats

and also to upgrade the Village Panchayats to Town Panchayats.

Furthermore, Government Orders have been issued by Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department on 31.12.2024 regarding the intention for the merger of some Village Panchayats with the adjacent Urban Local Bodies. This order proposes the merger of 83 Village Panchayats in part and 295 Village Panchayats in full with Urban Local Bodies. The remaining parts of 83 Village Panchayats are to be restructured and will continue to operate as distinct Village Panchayats. Final decision will be taken up by the Government after following due procedure.

Across the 388 Panchayat Unions in Tamil Nadu, the minimum number of Village Panchayats in a Union is five (5), and the maximum is Seventy three (73). Some of these Panchayat Unions have a large number of Village

Panchayats, and due to the large number of habitations, population, and area, difficulties have been identified in the implementation of schemes, management of Village Panchayats, and in fulfilling basic needs of the people in a timely manner. Therefore, there is a need for bifurcation, merger and reorganization of these Panchayat Unions.

There have been requests to establish new Village Panchayats by combining the Village Panchayats or reorganising the existing Village Panchayats, as this would facilitate the Rural local bodies to implement Government Schemes to reach the people in an easier manner. By following the due process, the Bifurcation, Merger and Reorganisation of Rural Local Bodies will be done during the year 2025-26.

2.3 Three-Tier Panchayat Raj System

2.3.1 Village Panchayats

In Tamil Nadu, there are 12,482 Village Panchayats across 37 rural districts, encompassing 79,026 habitations. The Village Panchayat President of each Village Panchayat acts as the Executive Officer of the Panchayat. Each Village Panchayat has a term for a five-year period.

2.3.1.1 Grama Sabha

Historical records from Tamil Nadu indicate that during the Chola period, the terms "Ur" (village) and "Sabai" (assembly) were used to refer to administrative bodies. These assemblies were established to manage the administration of the village and to ensure public participation in policy making.

As per Article 243 A of the Constitution of India, provisions regarding the Grama Sabha are outlined. The Grama Sabha which consists of all voters within a Village Panchayat, is vested with specific powers and responsibilities.

The Grama Sabha is mandated to meet four times a year on the following dates: January 26, May 1, August 15, and October 2. Additionally, to highlight the importance of World Water Day on March 22 and Local Self-Government Day on November 1, these two days have been included and now the Grama Sabha is required to convene on six occasions annually.

To ensure the proper functioning of the Grama Sabha, a mobile application named "Namma Grama Sabai" has been introduced. This app records details such as the attendance of the Assembly, resolutions passed, the details of the

visits by the District officials and photographs related to these events.

2.3.1.2 Village Panchayat Development Plan

As per Section 240 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, every Village Panchayat is required to prepare a development plan for the respective Village Panchayat every year. The Village Panchayat Development Plan for the upcoming financial year is prepared from 2nd October to 31st December, based on public participation and in co-ordination with other departments, as per the guidelines issued by the Government.

The Village Panchayat Development Plan is prepared based on nine objectives, centered around Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs). Furthermore, the goal has been

set to transform Village Panchayats into developed entities by the year 2030.

To finalize the Village Panchayat Development Plan, special Grama Sabha meetings are conducted in all Village Panchayats. Details of the Village Panchayat Development Plan are uploaded on the Union Government's Panchayati Raj Ministry website, www.gpdp.nic.in.

All planned activities in the upcoming financial year must align with the approved Village Panchayat Development Plan.

2.3.1.3. Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs)

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations have been adopted for local governance through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), and are recategorized into 9

thematic areas called the "Localization of Sustainable Development Goals" (LSDGs), which include:

- i. Poverty-free and Enhanced livelihoods Panchayat
- ii. Healthy Panchayat
- iii. Child-friendly Panchayat
- iv. Water sufficient Panchayat
- v. Clean and green Panchayat
- vi. Self-Sufficient Infrastructure Panchayat
- vii. Social Just and Socially Secured Panchayat
- viii. Panchayat with good Governance
- ix. Women friendly Panchayat

To implement these Sustainable Development Goals, the Panchayat systems have adopted a thematic approach, allowing local goals to align with national targets and enabling the

implementation of these sustainable goals at the local level.

2.3.2. Panchayat Unions

Tamil Nadu has 388 Panchayat Unions at intermediate-level. Each Panchayat Union is a development unit consisting of 6,471 union wards with a minimum population of 5,000. The members of Panchayat Union wards are directly elected by the people of their respective wards. The Panchayat Union Chairperson is indirectly elected by the ward members.

2.3.2.1 Finance

1. Panchayat Unions do not have the authority to levy taxes.
2. Part of the proposed revenue from fees, rents, lease, fines, and penalties is allocated to Panchayat Unions as their revenue.

3. The State Finance Commission allocates funds to the Panchayat Unions as Population Grant and Minimum Grant.
4. Based on the 6th State Finance Commission's recommendations, each Panchayat Union receives a minimum grant of Rs.40 lakh per year.
5. As per the recommendations of the 15th Central Finance Commission, 15% of the total allocation is earmarked for Panchayat Unions.

2.3.2.2 Infrastructure Facilities for Panchayat Unions

All 388 Panchayat Unions in Tamil Nadu have permanent office buildings. To replace old, dilapidated buildings that had been in use for an extended period, new buildings have been constructed using Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue (SCPAR) funds. Till date, new

office buildings have been constructed for 224 Panchayat Unions at an estimated cost of Rs.453.70 crore.

2.3.3. District Panchayats

There are 36 District Panchayats in Tamil Nadu. As per Section 24 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, a District Panchayat is established in every district. A new District Panchayat for the recently created district of Mayiladuthurai will be formed after the next local body elections.

District Panchayat ward members are directly elected by the public, while the Chairperson is indirectly elected by the ward members. There are a total of 655 District Panchayat wards. An officer from the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, in

the rank of Assistant Director, is appointed as the District Panchayat Secretary in each district.

2.3.3.1. Finance

District Panchayats do not have the authority to levy taxes. The primary source of income for these panchayats is the grant provided by the State Finance Commission. In specific areas, income is also derived from land and buildings owned by the District Panchayat. The State Finance Commission has recommended 6% allocation for District Panchayats. This grant is released to the District Panchayats monthly. As per the 15th Finance Commission recommendation, 5% of the total allocation is earmarked for District Panchayats.

2.3.3.2 Financial Resources of Rural Local Bodies

In Tamil Nadu, among the three tiers of rural local bodies, the Village Panchayat is the only body authorized to levy and collect taxes. The Village Panchayats derive their revenue from the following sources:

- i) Grants
- ii) Tax revenue
- iii) Non-tax revenue

2.4. Grants for Rural Local Bodies

2.4.1. State Finance Commission Grant

In accordance with the 73rd Amendment Act, 1992 of the Indian Constitution and Section 198 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, Tamil Nadu is one of the states that regularly constitutes a State Finance Commission (SFC)

once every five years. The key functions of the State Finance Commission include:

- i. Distributing the net revenue from taxes, duties, tolls, and fees levied by the government between the State and the local bodies.
- ii. Determining the share of taxes, duties, tolls, and fees allocated to local bodies.
- iii. Allocating grants to local bodies from the State's Consolidated fund.
- iv. Recommending measures to improve the financial status of local bodies.

Since the year 1994, six State Finance Commissions have been established.

2.4.1.1 Sixth State Finance Commission (2022-23 to 2027-28)

To review the financial position of Rural and Urban Local Bodies, the Government constituted the Sixth State Finance Commission on 06.03.2020. The recommendations of the Commission were submitted to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 13.01.2023. Most of the recommendations of the Commission have been accepted by the Government.

2.4.1.2 Accepted Recommendations of the Sixth State Finance Commission

1. The award period of the Sixth State Finance Commission will be from 2022-23 to 2027-28.
2. The Sixth State Finance Commission recommended the allocation of 10% of the State's own tax revenue to local bodies.

3. The vertical distribution ratio between Rural and Urban Local Bodies will be 51:49.
4. The Government has directed the allocation of the financial share between District Panchayats, Panchayat Unions, and Village Panchayats in the ratio of 6:39:55, respectively.
5. The allocation for the three tiers will be distributed based on a formula recommended by the Sixth State Finance Commission.
6. The Commission categorized grants into two major types:

- i. Special Grants
- ii. Devolution Grants

2.4.1.3 Special Grants

Special grants are provided to sectors and activities identified in the recommendations for

priority areas. These grants are further divided into Capital Grant Fund (CGF) and Operations, Maintenance, and Deficit Grant Fund (OMDGF). Grants are allocated at the State and District levels.

I. Capital Grant Fund (CGF)

Under the Sixth State Finance Commission, the Capital Grant Fund (CGF) continues under the Sixth State Finance Commission's award period. As per the Sixth State Finance Commission's recommendations, Rs.1,319 crore has been allocated under the capital grant for the year 2025-26. The CGF is further divided into state-level and district-level components.

- **State-level Capital Grant Fund (CGF State)**

For the year 2025-26, Rs.780 crore has been allocated for strengthening rural infrastructure, with priority given to weaker

local bodies. Rs.156 crore has been allocated for converting Panchayat roads into other district roads (ODR), Rs.1 crore for upgrading infrastructure in Rural Training institutions, and Rs.182 crore for upgrading infrastructure in schools located within Rural Local Bodies (RLBs).

- **District-level Capital Grant Fund (CGF District)**

Rs.200 crore has been allocated for District-level Capital Grants.

II. Operations, Maintenance, and Deficit Grant Fund (OMDGF)

The Operations, Maintenance, and Deficit Grant Fund (OMDGF) addresses the deficit funding for Rural Local Bodies (RLBs). For the year 2025-26, Rs.964.60 crore has been allocated under OMDGF. The details are as follows: -

1. Rs.130 crore has been allocated to settle the long-standing water charge arrears of the TWAD Board.
2. Rs.260 crore has been allocated to settle the electricity consumption arrears with TANGEDCO.
3. Based on the Sixth SFC's recommendations, Rs.364 crore has been allocated annually for deficit funding of RLBs.
4. Rs.69 crore has been allocated for the infrastructure of Peri-Urban Panchayats and Rs.30 crore for the infrastructure of Hilly Panchayats.
5. Rs.36 crore has been allocated as advance library Cess.
6. Rs.5 crore has been allocated for the welfare activities of Sanitary workers through Tamil Nadu Sanitary Workers Welfare Board.

7. Rs.60 lakhs have been allocated for capacity building among elected representatives and officials through Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Regional Institutes.
8. Rs.60 crore has been allocated for the improvement of School infrastructure, and Rs.10 crore has been awarded for implementing the Forest Rights Act in rural areas as a reward.

2.4.1.4 Devolution Grant

Devolution Grants are allocated to the District Panchayats, Panchayat Unions, and Village Panchayats in the ratio of 6:39:55 among the three tiers of rural local governance structures. For the year 2025-26 the Government will allocate Rs.7,904.60 crore as devolution grants.

2.4.2. 15th Central Finance Commission Grants

The tenure of the Fifteenth Central Finance Commission is from 2021-22 to 2025-26. The ratio for Tied and Untied grants has been fixed at 60:40.

- Out of the Tied grants, 30% is allocated for water supply, water security, rainwater harvesting, and waste recycling, and the remaining 30% is for sanitation.
- The Untied grants are to be used for specific local needs as per the guidelines, excluding salary and institutional expenses.

As indicated in Fifteenth Central Finance Commission's recommendation, the grants are distributed among the respective tiers of Panchayats based on the recommendations of the State Finance Commission (SFC). The

vertical distribution ratio for the three tiers of rural local governance is as follows: -

District Panchayat	5%
Block Panchayat	15%
Village Panchayat	80%

The details of the three-tier distribution for the entire tenure of the Fifteenth Finance Commission are tabulated below: -

Table 2.1
Devolution of 15th Central Finance Commission Grants

[Rs. in crore]

Year	Village Panchayats	Block Panchayats	District Panchayats	Total
2020-21	2885.60	541.05	180.35	3607
2021-22	2132.80	399.90	133.30	2666
2022-23	2208.80	414.15	138.05	2761
2023-24	2232.80	418.65	139.55	2791
2024-25	2365.60	443.55	147.85	2957
2025-26	2307.20	432.60	144.20	2884
Total	14,132.80	2,649.90	883.30	17,666

2.4.2.1 Health Grants under the 15th Finance Commission for the Construction of Health Infrastructure

Health grants are provided under the Fifteenth Finance Commission to strengthen health infrastructure at the grassroots level.

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department implements these projects to ensure better delivery of health services to rural population in the State.

The grants are used for constructing three types of health buildings: Health Sub-Centers, Block Public Health Units and Primary Health Centers.

The details of the health buildings sanctioned for the years 2021-22 to 2024-25 are as follows: -

Table 2.2
Health Buildings under 15th Central Finance
Commission

Year	No. of Works sanctioned			
	HSC	BPHU	PHC	Total
2021-22	169	68	13	250
2022-23	120	68	13	201
2023-24	122	38	64	224
2024-25	133	54	53	240
Total	544	228	143	915

2.5 Own Revenue Sources

2.5.1 Tax Revenue

- Section 172 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, empowers Village Panchayats to levy house tax. This section has been amended to replace the term "House tax" with "Property tax."
- Section 198-B of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, allows Panchayats to collect professional tax from employees based on their salaries or wages, which

must be deducted by the employer and sent to the respective Village Panchayats.

2.5.2 Non-Tax Revenue

Village Panchayats have the right to collect non-tax revenue from the following sources: -

- i) Approval fees for building plans and layout approvals
- ii) Charges and fees for establishing industrial permission as per the Sixth Amendment to the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, in 2024.
- iii) Market fees
- iv) Water charges
- v) Trade License
- vi) Vehicle parking fees
- vii) Social forestry auctions

- viii) Fishing lease revenues
- ix) Income from markets and exhibitions
- x) Boat charges
- xi) Penalties and fines
- xii) Mining and mineral extraction fees and rental amounts.

2.5.3 Pooled Assigned Revenue (PAR)

Revenue from Stamp Duty, additional taxes collected by the various Departments are allocated to rural local bodies, both at the State level and distributed among Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions. Accordingly, one-third ($1/3^{\text{rd}}$) of the total allocation is distributed between the Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions, while the remaining two-thirds ($2/3^{\text{rd}}$) is earmarked for Priority Projects in rural areas.

2.6 New Initiatives

a) Panchayat Development Index (PDI)

The progress in Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDG) in rural areas through Panchayats is measured at the local level. To monitor and assess this, the Panchayat Development Index (PDI) has been established. The index includes 574 local indicators, 138 local targets, and 638 unique data points to track the progress of local sustainable development. Each data point is identified for the Village Panchayats to assess their achievement based on the index structure.

Local Indicator Framework (LIF) Scores

Village Panchayats receive scores in the following categories based on local indicator framework for the LSDGs:

- **A+ Achiever** (Above 90)

- **A Leading Performer** (75 to 90)
- **B Performer** (60 to 75)
- **C Aspirant** (40 to 60)
- **D Starter** (0 to 40)

The Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Government of India, has released a report titled "Status of Devolution to Panchayats in States" - An Indicative Evidence Based Ranking. The report provides in-depth analysis at how well the Panchayats are equipped to fulfil their constitutional roles in each State and measures the overall performance of the States in devolving powers and resources to Panchayats. Tamil Nadu has topped in the functional Devolution and ranked third in overall rating index. According to the study, Tamil Nadu has the highest score in the 'functions dimension', Second in 'Capacity Building and functionaries' and Third in 'finances'. The report highlights that the involvement of

Panchayats in Tamil Nadu with regard to the implementation of schemes is at the highest level in comparison to other States.

The above report of Government of India stands evidence to the continuous efforts of the Government of Tamil Nadu in empowering the Panchayat Raj Institutions for the grassroot democracy and local self- Governance.

b) Providing Services to the Public through the Website

Services provided by Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions to the public are now to be handled through an online platform to ensure transparency and accountability. The Web portal address are given below:

- www.vptax.tnrd.gov.in
- www.onlineppa.tn.gov.in
- www.tndrdpri.indianbank.in

These services, previously based on manual record-keeping and receipts, are now offered digitally, ensuring efficiency and accessibility for the public.

c) Online Tax Payments

A new portal www.vptax.tnrd.gov.in has been developed by the National Informatics Centre for online payment of property taxes, professional taxes, and water charges to Panchayats. The portal launched in 2022-23 across Tamil Nadu, facilitates online tax payments. The portal is now having data of 1.5 crore households, and Point of Sale (POS) machines have been distributed to 12,482 Village Panchayats to ease tax collection.

d) Tamil Nadu Panchayat Accounts Simplified System (TN PASS)

To streamline the financial transactions in Village Panchayats, Tamil Nadu has introduced the Simplified Panchayat Account system. This system simplifies accounting procedures, enabling faster transactions and better service delivery at the grassroots level.

e) Payment of Service Charges through TN PASS

Providing drinking water and maintaining street lights are key responsibilities of Village Panchayats. Previously, Service Charges for these services were paid via demand drafts to the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (TANGEDCO) and the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage (TWAD) Board. This created difficulties in coordinating the collection and

payment of electricity charges, as well as issues in delivering quality services. Therefore, the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, in co-ordination with other departments, has integrated these payments through electronic transactions, and action is being taken to clear outstanding dues.

f) Providing Layout and Building plan Approval

Through the Online PPA portal, (www.onlineppa.tn.gov.in) layout approval and building plan approval in rural areas are granted by the concerned Village Panchayats with the prior technical approval of the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) or Director of Town and Country Planning (DTCP). This portal, which was launched in the year 2024-25, operates transparently across all Village Panchayats in the State.

g) Simplifying the Procedure for Starting Industries in Rural Areas

To promote industrial development in rural areas, building plan approvals for factories, business licenses and permits can now be easily obtained. Specific guidelines have been issued. A Single Window Portal is being developed to coordinate with various departments and facilitates the immediate issuance of the necessary permits.

2.7 Special Awards and Recognition for Outstanding Village Panchayats and Institutions

a. National Panchayat Awards

The National Panchayat Awards are granted by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj in recognition of the performance of Panchayats under various

priority sectors/themes. These awards also include financial incentives for the awarded Panchayats. The following categories of awards are granted for outstanding Panchayats: -

1. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashakt Vikas Puraskar (DDUPSV) – For performance under specific Local Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs).
2. Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Sashakt Vikas Puraskar (NDSPSV) – For overall performance across all 9 LSDG themes.
3. Special Categories related to Green Initiatives:
 - a) Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh Panchayat Puraskar (Village Energy Self-reliant Special Panchayat Award)

b) Carbon Neutral Vishesh Panchayat
Puraskar (Carbon Neutral Special Panchayat
Award)

For the year 2023-24, under the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashakt Vikas Puraskar category, Pichanoor Village Panchayat from Madukkarai Union, Coimbatore District, won the National-level first prize under the theme of Good Governance. For the year 2024-25, the Keeranatham Village Panchayat from S.S. Kulam Union, Coimbatore District, won the first prize under the category of self-Sufficient infrastructure in Village Panchayats. The Varakanoor Village Panchayat from Kuruvikulam Union, Tenkasi District, won the third prize under the theme Women friendly Village Panchayat.

3. State Schemes

3.1 Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT – II)

Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam was a comprehensive development scheme implemented during the years 2006 to 2011 aimed at improving the overall basic infrastructure facilities in all Village Panchayats in a phased manner over a span of five years with an annual allocation of Rs.20 lakh per Village Panchayat. Rejuvenation of Ponds, formation of a Rural Library with provision of furniture and books, Creation/Improvement of Burial Grounds/Cremation sheds and establishment of Community/School Sports Centre were the major Scheme components of the Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT) Scheme during that period.

Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam was reintroduced in the year 2021-22 and is

being implemented with the main goal of equal distribution of resources to all Village Panchayats and to ensure holistic development including Human Development, Social Development, Economic Development, Environmental Development, Social Security and Good Governance in all the Villages. It is being implemented in a phased manner over a period of five years from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

3.1.1 Selection of Village Panchayats

Under AGAMT-II, equal numbers of Village Panchayats (around 20%) are selected every year at the Block level, thereby consequently at District and State levels.

1) Fund Allocation

In Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam-II, a minimum basic grant of Rs.30 lakh is provided to all Village Panchayats, Rs.5 lakh to each Village Panchayat as Performance Incentive

Fund, Population Grant and Habitation Grant have been assessed by giving weightage of 50% for number of Habitations and 50% for Population.

For Performance Incentive Fund, the Village Panchayats are assessed based on certain criteria and it is sanctioned by the District Collector in proportion to the number of parameters achieved.

2) Comprehensive Habitation Survey

The Infrastructure Gap Survey was conducted in all the habitations by a survey team consisting of officials, PLF members and Village Panchayat Presidents. Based on the Gap survey, the works are taken up under three broad categories (1) Funded by AGAMT, (2) Dovetailing with other Rural Development Schemes and (3) through other Department Schemes.

3) Scheme components

Sl. No.	Work Category
1.	Rejuvenation of Ponds and Ooranies
2.	Public Utility buildings
3.	Infrastructure facilities to Samathuva Burial Ground
4.	Upgradation of Streets and Lanes
5.	Street Lights
6.	Livelihood /Marketing facilities

A minimum of 30% of the fund is allocated to SC/ST habitations/areas.

For the year 2021-22, 2,657 Village Panchayats were selected with an outlay of Rs.1,455 crore. During the year 2022-23, 2,544 Village Panchayats have been selected with an allocation of Rs.1,155.20 crore, for the year 2023-24, 2,504 Village Panchayats have been selected with an allocation of Rs.1,148.69 crore, for the year 2024-25, 2,482 Village Panchayats have been selected with an allocation of Rs.1,147.28 Crore and for the Year

2025-26, 2,329 Village Panchayats are proposed to be taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.1,087.33 crore.

4) Type of works

(i) Rejuvenation of Water Bodies

Ponds/Ooranies and MI Tanks under the control of Panchayats/ Panchayat Union which are not taken up under any other schemes over the past five years are taken up for renovation. Along with renovation, additional facilities like, inlet and outlet channels, Sluice and Weir, Repair and Construction of channels, desilting, Encroachment removal, Creation of Baby Pond and Provision of bathing ghats, Survey and Fixation of Boundary Stones, lining wall etc., are also carried out.

From the years 2021-22 to 2023-24, 5,508 works were taken up at a total cost of

Rs.518.25 crore. During the year 2024-25, 497 works have been taken up at a total cost of Rs.28.68 crore.

(ii) Creation and Upgradation of Streets and Lanes in Habitation

Streets having higher residential units on both sides of the pavement and streets or lanes in most vulnerable areas notified by Revenue and Disaster Management Department must be given top priority for laying Paver Blocks and Cement Concrete roads with provision of cross drainage works wherever necessary.

From the years 2021-22 to 2023-24, 23,721 works were taken up at a total cost of Rs.1,181.80 crore. During the year 2024-25, 9,536 works have been taken up at a total cost of Rs.503.82 crore.

(iii) Creating Infrastructure facilities for the burial ground, which is proposed as Samathuva Burial Ground

In Village Panchayats where the burial ground works were not covered earlier and there is dire necessity, they can be taken under AGAMT-II as Samathuva Burial Ground provided that the Village Panchayat Council and Grama Sabha passes a resolution that their Burial Ground/Cremation Shed will be used by all households of that Village Panchayat without any caste and religious discrimination. Approach Road, Construction of cremation shed/waiting shed, Water Supply provision to burial ground, Pathway to burial ground, Lighting facility and Compound Wall are the various sub-components taken up.

From the years 2021-22 to 2023-24, 2,033 works were taken up at a total cost of Rs.110.36 crore. During the year 2024-25, 522

works have been taken up at a total cost of Rs.33.14 crore.

(iv) Infrastructure Development in Schools and Creating Public Utilities

Facilities like construction of Cycle shed, Kitchen shed, Toilets for school students and teaching faculty are taken up in Panchayat Union and Government Schools.

Public Utility Infrastructure facilities like Village Panchayat Office, Anganwadi Centres, Public Distribution Shop, Additional facilities to existing Public Distribution Shop and Facilities to Bus Stands are taken up.

From the years 2021-22 to 2023-24, 10,159 works were taken up at a total cost of Rs.768.81 crore. During the year 2024-25, 1,457 works have been taken up at a total cost of Rs.250.72 crore.

(v) Clean and Green Villages

Nutri garden nurseries, OSR Plantation, Facilities to nursery like Fencing, Walking Track, Grey Water Management and Construction of Drains with Horizontal and Vertical filters are taken up.

From the years 2021-22 to 2023-24, 6,629 works were taken up at a total cost of Rs.272.55 crore.

(vi) Livelihood and Marketing Facilities in Convergence

Marketing facilities such as Construction of Shandies/Village Haats/Fish Markets/Storage Godowns with galvalume shelters, Cement platform, Drinking water facilities, Toilet facilities (for men and women separately), Paver block pavement etc., are taken up.

Threshing floor/Fish Drying Yard, Livelihood related infrastructure works like

Artisan Work sheds, Mushroom Cultivation Sheds, Sericulture Rearing Sheds, Milk Procurement Centers etc., are also taken up.

From the years 2021-22 to 2023-24, 6,018 works were taken up at a total cost of Rs.428.82 crore. During the year 2024-25, 1,828 works have been taken up at a total cost of Rs.159.47 crore.

(vii) Street Lights

Street Lights have been taken up separately as one of the components during the year 2024-25. Installation of street lights with LED lamps in new habitations, IAY/PMAY Housing colonies and pathways to Burial Grounds have been taken up.

During the year 2024-25, 1,859 works have been taken up at a total cost of Rs.22.50 crore.

3.2 Revival of Rural Libraries established under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam

Article 243-G, along with the XI Schedule of the Constitution of India and Section 111 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, empowers the Village Panchayats to open and maintain libraries/reading rooms in the Villages. Accordingly, 12,618 Rural Libraries were established from the years 2006-07 to 2010-2011 under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam. Due to lack of periodical maintenance, these libraries have not been functioning to its optimum capacity.

The Government has issued orders to revive all the rural libraries established under AGAMT in the Village Panchayats. The library buildings will be repaired and renovated with provision of a ramp and toilet, replacement of

damaged furniture and improved collection of additional books.

So far, 7,924 libraries have been renovated at a total cost of Rs.176.02 crore. Balance 2,660 libraries will be renovated during the year 2025-26.

The renovated libraries are functioning very well with school and college going children too availing all the facilities provided. These libraries have helped the rural youth to prepare for competitive exams. In certain libraries e-books are also available, in keeping with the new trends.

Since the books supplied earlier have become old due to usage, action is being taken to supply new books.

3.3 Rejuvenation of 5000 Minor Irrigation Tanks

The Minor Irrigation (MI) tanks, Ponds/Ooranies are under the purview of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. 22,051 MI Tanks and 69,777 ponds and Ooranies exist in the rural areas. The MI tanks are owned by the Panchayat Unions and the Ponds/Ooranies are owned by the Village Panchayats. The rejuvenation of these water bodies will increase the storage capacity, ground water recharge, prevent surplus run off etc.

The objectives of the scheme is to restore the MI Tanks to their original capacity, to ensure increase in ground water recharge and increase in Ground Water Level (GWL), to put in place flood mitigation measures by preventing surplus runoff and breaches in the water bodies, to regulate storage of water for

drinking and agricultural purposes, thereby ensuring sustainable drinking water supply and increasing the crop productivity and area irrigated.

The components of this work are desilting and deepening of the water spread area using earth moving machinery, including removal of the Jungle in the water spread area, Strengthening and consolidation of the bund using the excavated Earth, and to restore the bund to the required cross section including provision of protective works, wherever required. Repair or reconstruction, if required, of all structures like surplus weir, sluice(s) etc., and desilting of Linking Supply channels will be taken up.

3.3.1 Allocation of Funds

In order to ensure public involvement fully in the Scheme, it has been decided to explore the funds sourced through Non-

Governmental Organisations (NGOs), community-Based Organisations (CBOs), CSR funding and through Educational Institutions. Priority is to be given to works taken up with their own funds or through CSR funds. During the year 2024-25, 806 tanks have been taken up under NGO / CSR funding at an estimated cost of Rs.51.20 crore. In addition to the above, the rejuvenation of Minor Irrigation Tanks will be further taken up at a cost of Rs.500 crore, provided by the Government.

If required, the reconstruction of inlet, surplus weir, and sluice(s) of MI Tanks will be taken up under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

3.3.2 Participatory Approach

The rejuvenation of MI Tanks is being taken up through NGOs, CBOs and CSR Funding and from NNT and SFC grants,

wherever, such organizations are not available or not active etc. Irrespective of funding, participatory approach is the core theme and Farmers Organizations, Farmer Councils, Ayacutdars or User Associations will be involved. In case there are no existing User Groups or Ayacutdar Associations, it can be formed newly with the inclusion of the farmers benefited by the MI tank.

3.4 HOUSING SCHEMES

3.4.1. Kalaigharin Kanavu Illam

The construction of permanent houses for hut dwellers was started as a pioneering initiative in 1975 itself in Tamil Nadu. To achieve the goal of "Hut Free Tamil Nadu", Kalaighar Veedu Vazhangum Thittam (KVVT) was launched during the year 2010. In continuation to that, the Government of Tamil

Nadu has conducted survey and identified that approximately eight lakh huts still exist in Tamil Nadu.

Hence, to replace those huts with safe and permanent concrete houses in rural areas, an announcement has been made in the Budget 2024-25 that approximately eight lakh concrete houses will be constructed in rural areas to achieve “Hut Free Tamil Nadu” by 2030. In the first phase, i.e., during the year 2024-25, one lakh new houses have been taken up for construction.

3.4.1.1 Unit Cost and Target

The unit cost per house is Rs.3.50 lakh, including convergence with MGNREGS to facilitate 90 persondays for house construction and another 10 persondays for the construction of Individual Household Latrine (IHHL). IHHL will be provided under Swachh

Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) at the cost of Rs.12,000 if toilet is not already provided under the scheme for the beneficiaries.

3.4.1.2 Salient features

Salient features of the scheme are as follows:

- The minimum plinth area of the house will be 360 Sq.ft including kitchen.
- 300 Sq.ft should be covered with Reinforced Cement Concrete (RCC) roofing. Remaining 60 Sq.ft may be RCC or any other type of roofing with non-flammable materials as per the choice of the beneficiary.
- Roof with thatches and asbestos sheet are prohibited under any circumstances.
- In case of hilly areas, roof can be laid as per the preference of the beneficiary.
- It may be of RCC or Poly Urethane

Foam (PUF) panels for hilly areas.

- The walls of the houses should be constructed by using country bricks/ Fly ash bricks/ solid blocks/ interlocking blocks/ Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) blocks with framed structure using cement mortar.
- Under no circumstances should mud mortar be used. Construction of mud wall is completely banned.
- Cost effective technologies and fast-track construction will also be permitted under the Scheme.
- Houses can be constructed by the beneficiaries.
- **Supply of Materials** - Required quantity of cement and steel will be supplied to the beneficiaries by the department and the cost supplied shall be deducted from the payment due to

the beneficiaries.

- Payment to the beneficiaries will be made directly to their bank account through State level Single Nodal Accounts (SNA) in four instalments.
- Loan ranging from Rs.50,000 to Rs.1,00,000 from District Central Co-operative/Commercial Banks for needy beneficiaries will be arranged.

3.4.1.3 Eligibility Criteria

The following are the eligibility criteria under the Scheme: -

- Households that still continue to live in huts and found eligible under KVVt Resurvey, till the entire list is exhausted.
- If the Village Panchayats are having lesser number of houses or no eligible households in the KVVt resurvey are available, the households listed in the

New Hut Survey and huts in Housing for All survey databases will be considered.

- Only households with patta or ownership document for their house sites will be eligible.
- Huts constructed on poramboke lands shall not be replaced with permanent houses under the scheme “Kalaigharin Kanavu Illam” unless the poramboke land is of unobjectionable nature and the encroachments are regularised by Revenue Department.

The following types of huts will not be eligible for conversion into permanent houses under the scheme.

- Huts occupied by tenants, Huts used for commercial purposes or for animals, Huts that have part RCC / Tiled / AC sheet / metal sheet roof and part thatched roof

and Huts that have thatch roof over RCC / Tiled / AC sheet / metal sheet roof.

- Huts whose occupants also own a pucca house elsewhere and
- Huts, if any, owned by retired or serving Government servants and huts owned by elected representatives.

3.4.2 Repairs to Houses Constructed under various Government Schemes in Rural Areas

As per the announcements made by Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in the Legislative Assembly, houses constructed before 2000-01 in the rural areas are taken up for repair under this scheme during the year 2024-25.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department has conducted a survey through a

mobile app to ascertain present condition of the houses which were sanctioned till the year 2011 under various Government housing schemes.

In the survey undertaken, 2,57,006 tiled and sloped RCC roof houses which were constructed prior to 2000-01 were identified as eligible houses. As these houses were constructed more than 20 years back, it became necessary to carry out repairs. During the year 2024-25, 42,837 Minor repairs and 56,613 Major repairs works in Tiled and sloped houses have been sanctioned.

3.4.2.1 Salient Features

- The house to be taken up for repair, should have been allotted under a Government scheme in the name of the person residing in the house or occupied by the legal heir of

the person in whose name the house was originally allotted.

- The beneficiary under this scheme should not have received any Government grant or aid for repair of houses / group houses under Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS) or any other schemes within a period of 10 years.
- The beneficiary selected should not own any house constructed either on his/her own or benefitted under any of the Government housing schemes in his/her name other than the house taken up for repair.
- The beneficiary should not be a Government Employee.
- The actual estimate cost of repair to the houses is subject to the ceiling prescribed for Minor and Major repairs.

- The Minor and Major repair works should be carried out by the beneficiaries themselves.
- The funds will be released in two instalments.
- In case of houses taken up for major repairs, materials like steel and cement will be supplied departmentally and the cost of the materials will be deducted while making payment to the beneficiaries.

3.4.2.2 Unit cost assistance

Under this Scheme, financial assistance is provided for Minor and Major repairs as detailed below: -

For Tiled Roof Houses

Sl. No	Type of Repair	Maximum Permissible cost	
		For plains	For hilly areas
1	Minor Repair	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.32,000 whichever is less.	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.42,000 whichever is less.
2	Major Repair	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.70,000 whichever is less.	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.92,000 whichever is less.

For Sloped RCC roof houses

Sl. No	Type of Repair	Maximum Permissible cost	
		For plains	For hilly areas
1	Minor Repair	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.55,000 whichever is less.	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs. 72,000 whichever is less.
2	Major Repair	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.1,50,000 whichever is less.	Actual estimate cost or a maximum of Rs.1,85,000 whichever is less.

Payment to the beneficiaries and vendors for supply of materials is made directly into their bank account from the State Level Single Nodal Account (SNA).

3.4.3. Construction of New Samathuvapuram

The purpose of implementation of the scheme is to promote Social justice and to spread Thanthai Periyar's message of Social equality. The Government has issued orders for the construction of 8 New Samathuvapurams under "**Periyar Ninaivu Samathuvapuram**" scheme for the year 2023-24.

3.4.3.1 Salient features

The salient features of the scheme are as follows: -

- Samathuvapuram is established on a land area of 9-10 acres adhering to the guidelines.
- Each Samathuvapuram will consist of 100 houses (each house having plinth area of 300 sq. ft),
- Common infrastructure viz., Roads, Water supply, Street lights and other basic infrastructure facilities such as Public Distribution shop, Community Hall, Library building, School building, School toilet, Anganwadi, Playground and Park will be provided in the Samathuvapuram.
- Apart from the above facilities, Arch and Periyar statue will be provided in the Samathuvapuram.
- Houses will be allotted to all communities in the ratio of 40:25:25:10 to Adi dravidars / Tribals, Most Backward

Classes, Backward Classes, and Others, respectively.

3.4.3.2 Financial Sanction

Under this Scheme, Rs.50.00 crore has been sanctioned for Construction of eight New Samathuvapurams.

3.4.3.3 Establishment of New Samathuvapuram

As per orders of the Government, New Samathuvapuram works are under progress in the following eight Districts: -

Table 3.1
List of Samathuvapurams being Constructed

Sl. No	Name of the District	Name of the Assembly Constituency	Name of the Block	Name of the Panchayat / Habitation
1	Cuddalore	Kurinjpadi	Kurunjpadi	Poovanikuppam/ Melpoovanikuppam
2	Tenkasi	Sankarankoil	Melaneelithana Ilur	Kurukkalpatti/ Kurukkalpatti
3	Pudukkottai	Thirumayam	Arimalam	Kadaiyakudi/ Kuravar Colony

Sl. No	Name of the District	Name of the Assembly Constituency	Name of the Block	Name of the Panchayat / Habitation
4	Ramanathapuram	Ramanathapuram	Thiruppullani	Kothakkottai/ Vallimadanvalasai
5	Tiruvannamalai	Chengam	Chengam	Periyakolapadi/ SIPCOT Backside
6	Virudhunagar	Tiruchuli	Tiruchuli	Sennilaikudi/ Sennilaikudi
7	Tiruchirappalli	Thuraiyur	Uppilliayapuram	Thalugai/ T.Mangapatti Pudur
8	Dindigul	Ottanchatiram	Thoppampatti	Kolumankondan/ Kolumankondan

All the Samathuvapurams are in progress and will be completed during 2025-26.

3.4.4. Repair and Reconstruction of Houses in 7 Flood-Affected Districts -2023

In order to help the rural poor who were rendered shelterless due to the effect of Michaung Cyclone in Chengalpattu, Kanchipuram and Tiruvallur Districts and due to unprecedented rains in Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Tenkasi and Kanniyakumari, Government has permitted to reconstruct fully

damaged houses at the rate of Rs.4.00 lakh per house and repair the partially damaged houses at at the rate of Rs.2.00 lakh per house.

Repairs to 1,067 houses and reconstruction of 3,599 houses were taken up in the seven flood affected districts at an estimate cost of Rs.168.14 crore.

3.4.5 Housing Schemes of Other Departments

Apart from the housing schemes of RD&PR Department, the construction of houses for specialised groups, such as Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees and Scheduled Tribes, are also being undertaken by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

a) Housing for Sri Lankan Tamils

The Department for the Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils has

sanctioned 3,510 houses in 32 refugee camps located in 19 districts at an estimated cost of Rs.185.57 crore under Phase-I. All 3,510 houses were completed. Under Phase-II, 3,919 houses in 36 refugee camps located in 15 districts at an estimated cost of Rs.233.70 crore have been sanctioned. Out of these, 500 houses have been completed and remaining 3,419 houses are in various stages of progress.

b) Housing for Scheduled Tribes

Tribal Welfare Department has sanctioned 3,881 houses during the year 2022-23 at an estimated outlay of Rs.176.46 crore in 23 Districts. Out of 3,881 houses, as on date, 3,248 houses have been completed, and remaining houses are in various stages of progress.

3.5 Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS)

The Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme was launched during the year 1997-98 with Rs.25 lakh per constituency.

3.5.1 Objectives of the Scheme

This Scheme enables the Member of Legislative Assembly to take up works to bridge the critical infrastructural gap in respective MLA constituencies. This Scheme is a 'Plan Scheme' fully funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu. This Scheme is being implemented in both rural and urban areas in the State.

3.5.2 Special Features

In order to give special attention for the infrastructure development in such areas, each MLA should recommend every year, at least 22% (SC-21%, ST-1%) of the total MLACDS works sanctioned for Scheduled Castes (SC)/Scheduled Tribes (ST) habitations and areas predominantly inhabited by SC/ST population in rural areas and for persons living in slums in urban areas. If Scheduled Tribe (ST) population is not available in certain districts, works costing 22% should be allocated to the areas predominantly inhabited by Scheduled Caste (SC) persons.

3.5.3 Fund Allocation

For the implementation of the Scheme, the Government is sanctioning a sum of Rs.702 crore every year as total allocation for

a financial year. At present, the fund allocation under the Scheme is Rs.3 crore per constituency per annum for all the 234 MLA constituencies in the State.

3.5.4 Types of works to be taken up under the Scheme

Out of Rs.3 crore allocated for each Legislative Assembly Constituency, the MLA can choose one or more works identified as important works and can give preference to them according to his/her choice. The following categories should also be given preference in rural and urban areas: -

- Construction of New Buildings/Class Rooms in the Panchayat Union Primary & Middle Schools, Government High Schools, Higher Secondary Schools and Toilet facilities to Government Girls High Schools and Higher

Secondary Schools, Construction of Anganwadi Buildings / Anganwadi Baby Friendly Toilets and Noon Meal Centres / Noon Meal Kitchen Sheds in Government Schools and construction of Public Distribution Shop.

- Purchase of furniture and equipment for Government Primary, Middle, High, Higher Secondary Schools and for Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools, Kallar Reclamation Schools, Government Colleges, Government Hostels, Government Hospitals, Government ITI, Government Polytechnic Colleges not exceeding Rs.25 lakh per year.
- Purchase of aids and appliances for differently abled persons for the value of Rs.5 lakh and Cerebral Palsy (CP) chair for Polio and stroke attacked persons and purchase of Learning Kits for Mentally challenged children in Government special schools.

3.5.5 Achievement

A total of 28,956 works were taken up under this Scheme from the year 2021-22 to 2023-24 at an estimate cost of Rs.2,022.73 crore.

During the year 2024-25, the Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.702 crore for implementation of the Scheme, and accordingly, 7,512 works were taken up under this Scheme at an estimate cost of Rs.608.67 crore.

For the year 2025-26, this Scheme will be implemented with an allocation of Rs.702 crore.

3.6 Namakku Naame Thittam (Rural)

Dr. Kalaighnar M. Karunanidhi, former Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, during the Budget Speech 1997-98, announced the Namakku Naame Thittam (NNT) to encourage

people's participation in the creation of public assets.

3.6.1 Objectives of the Scheme

The Scheme aims to promote and strengthen the self-reliant attitude of the rural community. The Scheme involves the participation of the community directly in the development process, beginning from planning stage through resource mobilization till execution. State Government's financial support supplements the efforts of the community besides technical support. This Scheme gives enough scope for covering all the felt needs of the public.

3.6.2 Public Participation

The minimum public contribution for any of the identified works should be atleast one-third of the estimate amount for the work. In

respect of SC/ST habitations, the minimum Public Contribution should be 1/5th of the estimate amount of the work.

3.6.3 Special Features

Individuals, groups, institutions, companies or the local community can choose work by accepting to contribute a minimum of one-third of the cost for the works under this Scheme. If the public contribution is 50% or more of the estimated value of the work, the District Collector can permit the contributor or the agency to undertake the work without tender.

3.6.4 Fund Allocation

For the implementation of the Scheme, the Government sanctions a sum of Rs.100 crore every year as total allocation.

During the year 2023-24, the Government has also sanctioned a sum of Rs.50 crore as additional Government Grant for implementation of the Scheme making the total allocation during the year 2023-24 as Rs.150 Crore.

3.6.5 Types of works to be taken up under the Scheme

- Construction of Buildings for Smart class rooms, Laboratories, Toilets, Cycle stands and Compound walls/fencing to Government Schools, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Schools, Panchayat Union Schools and Kallar Reclamation Schools, Government Colleges and Government Hostels, Indoor auditorium for Government Schools, Government Polytechnic Colleges and Government College Buildings for working Women Hostels run by Government.

- Construction of Compound walls and fencing to Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centers, Health Sub-Centers, Veterinary Dispensaries, Livestock Centers and Libraries, Construction of Compound walls and other common facilities in Burial grounds and Libraries in Rural areas, Noon Meal Centers, Anganwadis, School Kitchen Sheds and Public Distribution Shops in rural areas.
- Repair / Renovation of Government Schools, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Schools, Panchayat Union Schools and Kallar Reclamation Schools and Repair / Renovation of Noon Meal Centers.
- Installation of low mass lights with energy efficient lamps at important public places and junctions in rural and Peri-urban villages.
- Creating Community assets like Community

Buildings, Drinking Water Supply, Cement concrete roads and Threshing floors in rural areas.

- Construction of Bridges, Culverts, upgradation of Gravel/WBM roads to BT standard, renewal of worn-out BT roads, improvement of Streets and Lanes with paving stones, paver block or Cement concrete pavement.
- Solid and Liquid Waste Management works and works related to improve environmental hygiene including purchase of E-Carts and construction of segregation sheds.

3.6.6 Achievement

A total of 5,582 works were taken up under this Scheme from the year 2021-22 to 2023-24 at an estimate cost of Rs.500.60 crore. Accordingly, a sum of Rs.144.69 crore

was collected as Public Contribution under this Scheme.

During the year 2024-25, the Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.100 Crore for implementation of the Scheme and accordingly, 986 works were taken up under this Scheme at an estimate cost of Rs.142.08 crore including Public Contribution.

For the year 2025-26, this Scheme will continue to be implemented in rural areas.

3.7 Rural Roads

There is a direct link between investment in rural roads and the improved well-being of the Rural poor. The connectivity and status of the rural roads is an indicator of the living standard of the rural people. Roads also push the pace of growth through changes in socio-economic attitude of people by facilitating the dispersal of

knowledge and reduction of inequalities. The improvement of rural roads is one of the main objectives of Rural Development Department.

Better road connectivity not only increases the income levels of villagers but also provides access to health, education and other services. Improved infrastructure of roads and transport services would make trading in rural areas more efficient thereby reducing cost of inputs and contributing to increased agricultural output and rural development. Thus, this Government has accorded special focus for the improvement of the rural roads through the introduction of "Mudalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam". Some of the related measures on the road sector are described below: -

1. Prioritization based on roads connecting unconnected habitations, Link roads

connecting amenities like Markets, Shandies, Schools, Colleges, Hospitals, Bus plying roads and interconnecting link roads etc.,

2. Consolidation of road network data by updating all the missed-out roads in rural areas and periodically updating newly formed roads and also assigning each Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Road with a unique 'Road Code'.
3. Increased allocation of funds for the improvement of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads from various State and Centrally sponsored schemes.
4. Construction of roads using various Green and Alternate technologies.

Considering the continuous evolution of the rural road network, the updating of the list of

Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads is a continuous process. The complete updated details of the Village Panchayat and Panchayat union roads are available on the www.tnrd.tn.gov.in website. The current status of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads are given below: -

Table 3.2 Road Network in Rural Areas

Sl. No.	Type of Surface	Village Panchayat Roads	Panchayat Union Roads	Total
		Length in Km		
1	Black Topped	74,813	22,684	97,497
2	Cement Concrete	3,347	387	3,734
3	Double layer WBM	1,472	68	1,540
4	Single Layer WBM	9,944	305	10,249
5	Gravel	2,570	66	2,636
6	Earthen	24,377	737	25,114
Total		1,16,523	24,247	1,40,770

About 177 Km of earthen roads have been upgraded to BT standards during 2024-25.

The funds required for the improvement Rural Roads were met by channeling funds from various schemes like MGSMT, NABARD-RIDF, PMGSY, General Funds of Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions and other State schemes.

The Scheme-wise details of roads and bridges taken up during the last 4 years are given below: -

Table 3.3
Roads & Bridges taken up in last 4 years

Sl. No.	Schemes	Roads			Bridges	
		Nos.	Length (Km)	Amount (Rs. in crore)	Nos.	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1	MGSMT	9,421	12,088.00	5,000.00	-	-
2	NABARD-RIDF	1,033	2,004.73	1,287.44	342	1,129.19
3	PMGSY	935	4,122.82	2,692.29	83	320.97
4	State Fund	-	-	-	34	177.85
5	Peri-Urban	2,547	708.49	390.24	-	-
6	TNRRIS	1,360	1,990.00	627.23	-	-
Total		15,296	20,914.04	9,997.20	459	1,628.01

3.7.1 Mudalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam (MGSMT)

The Government has introduced a new scheme named as “Mudhalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam” and Rs.4,000 crore has been sanctioned for the improvement of 10,000 Km length of Panchayat Union roads and Village Panchayat roads for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24. The objectives of the “Mudalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam (MGSMT)” is to Upgrade/ Strengthen/Maintain Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads. Further, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced that another 10,000 km of rural roads will be improved

at an estimated cost of Rs. 4,000 crore during the years 2024-25 and 2025-26.

3.7.1.1 Priority

Priority has been given for Bus plying roads, roads providing single connectivity to habitations, roads connecting National Highways, State Highways and Major District Roads, By-pass roads, roads connecting important tourism, pilgrimage and heritage places, socio economic utilities etc.

3.7.1.2 Salient Features of MGSMT

- Road Safety measures like road Intersection improvement have been made mandatory aspect for the roads merging into National

Highways, State Highways and Major District Roads under MGSMT scheme. In case of roads with accident spots, black spots, unsafe geometry etc., necessary road safety measures including speed calming works, protective barriers, reflective road marking have been made.

- Provision has been given for road marking using Thermoplastic compound with reflective rising glass beads on Bituminous surface.
- The quality of the works is verified through independent State Quality Monitors and/or other Third-party agencies for the works taken up under MGSMT.

Table 3.4
Roads Sanctioned under MGSMT

Sl. No.	Year of Sanction	No. of road works	Length (in Kms)	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1	2022-23 & 2023-24	7,458	9,653.00	4,000.00
2	2024-25	2,709	3,888.00	1,805.00
	Total	10,167	13,541	5,805.00

During the year 2024-25, an amount of Rs.1,805 crore was provided for MGSMT including Rs.805 crore through NABARD Loan Assistance.

Similarly, during the year 2025-26, it is proposed to take up 6,112 Km at a cost of Rs.2,557 crore under MGMST with Rs.1,195 crore sourced from NABARD Loan Assistance.

3.7.2 NABARD - Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)

Union Government instituted the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) under

NABARD for financing the implementation of rural infrastructure projects by the State Government. 20% of the fund is directly allotted by the State Government and the remaining 80% is borrowed by the State Government as loan from NABARD.

The objectives of the scheme is to improve damaged Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads, upgradation of non-BT roads to BT standard and construction of bridges, so as to ensure all weather road connectivity in rural areas.

Under this Scheme,

- Priority is given to roads providing connectivity to unconnected habitations, Bus/minibus plying roads, roads used for agricultural purposes, roads leading to industrial clusters and marketing centres, roads leading to tourism and pilgrimage centres, roads

linking hospitals, schools and other amenities.

- Roads having minimum length of 1 Km are taken up in this scheme.

From the years 2006-07 to 2023-24, 8,433 roads to a length of 19,615 Km and 659 high level bridges were taken up at a cost of Rs.5,271 crore under this scheme.

Further, during the year 2024-25, improvement of 746 Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union roads to a length of 1,452.97 Km were sanctioned at a cost of Rs.863 crore under NABARD RIDF XXX.

During the year 2025-26, 2,400 Km length of Village Panchayat and Panchayat Union Roads will be taken up for improvement at a cost of Rs.1,195 crore.

3.7.3 Improvements of Roads in Peri–Urban Panchayats

The Panchayats within 5 km radius of cities and town area have more influx of population leading to increased usage of roads, streets & lanes. The roads, streets and lanes of these areas play a crucial role, contributing to various aspects of society and daily life and the improvement of these streets & lanes will provide better living standards.

Government has identified 690 Village Panchayats as Peri–Urban Panchayats.

The Government has sanctioned Rs.390.24 crore for the improvement of 2,547 roads, streets & lanes for a length of 708.49 Km during the year 2023-24 by assigning the funds from Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), Infra structure & Amenities Fund(I&AF) and Local Planning Authority (LPA).

Table 3.5

Improvements of Roads in Peri-Urban Panchayats

Year of Sanction	No. of road works	Length in Km	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2023-24	2,547	708.49	390.24

3.7.4 Flood Restoration

During the year 2023 North East monsoon period, the tropical cyclone named Michaung, made heavy downpour in Northern coastal areas of Tamil Nadu. Similarly, the torrential rain combined with the excess water flow from Thamiraparani river has severely damaged the Southern coastal districts.

The above natural calamities have caused catastrophic damages in Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Tenkasi and Kanniyakumari Districts. In order to provide immediate access to affected

people, the damaged rural roads were temporarily restored to motorable condition in the above 7 Districts. In addition, permanent restorations have been taken up for severely damaged 981 roads at an amount of Rs. 175.71 crore in Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli Districts.

3.7.5 State Special Assistance for the Construction of High-Level Bridges

Sanction has been accorded for a sum of Rs.177.85 crore for the construction of 34 High Level Bridges in 18 districts fulfilling the long pending demands through requests received through Ungal Thoguthiyil Muthalamaichar, and to provide perennial access to flood-affected areas under State Special Fund for the year 2024-25.

3.8 School Infrastructure - Child-Friendly School Infrastructure Development Scheme (CFSIDS)

The Government of Tamil Nadu has introduced various welfare Schemes and measures to improve the quality and standard of school education. This has resulted in the increase in student enrolments in Government schools.

There are 22,249 Panchayat Union Primary Schools (PUPS) and 6,316 Panchayat Union Middle Schools (PUMS) in the State. The infrastructural development and maintenance of the above school buildings are under the control of the respective Panchayat Unions.

3.8.1 Objectives of the Scheme

In order to bridge the critical gap for new classrooms, the Government introduced the Child

Friendly School Infrastructure Development Scheme (CFSIDS) during the year 2022-23 for the construction of child friendly New/Additional class rooms in Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools located in rural areas.

3.8.2 Provisions

The following are the provisions to be made in the classrooms: -

- Height of the class room should not be less than 3.30 mts.
- Necessary provisions for enabling smart class room in the future, cupboards with sliding shutter shall be provided for keeping student's records, student's activity corner and Library books corner and Magnetic Steel ceramic green writing board of required size with aluminum sheet back covering.

- Building as Learning Aid (BaLA) paintings may be adopted all along the Walls and ceiling of the class room with water-based Plastic emulsion paint and Floors to be paved with Shahabad stones/Kotta stones for anti-slippery effect.
- In hilly areas, Poly Urethane Foam Panel (PUF panel) roofing may be proposed for thermal proof and noise insulation.
- Provision of lights, fans, plug points, Ramp with handrail facilities in school building/toilets at entry/exit points and Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) structure.

3.8.3 Achievement

A total of 3,109 works were taken up under this Scheme during the years 2022-23 and 2023-24 at an estimate cost of Rs.1,008.71 crore.

During the year 2024-25, Construction of 568 new and additional classrooms have been taken up at an estimate cost of Rs.168 crore under this Scheme.

3.9 School Infrastructure Development/ Upgradation Scheme (SIDS/SIUS)

The School Infrastructure Development Scheme was reintroduced in 2021-22, with the objective of ensuring maintenance and renovation of existing infrastructure facilities in the Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools located in rural and urban areas.

3.9.1 Objectives of the Scheme

This Scheme aims to provide basic infrastructure facilities and to ensure maintenance and renovation of existing infrastructure facilities like Classroom buildings, Kitchen sheds, Toilets and Water supply facilities etc., in Panchayat Union Primary and Middle Schools in rural areas.

3.9.2 Types of Repairs and Renovation works to be taken up

A. Repairs to existing school classroom

- Repair/ new/ replacement of ramp and steps with hand rails to all buildings, repairs of RCC Roof along with provisions of rainwater harvesting, Repair/ replacement of wiring, electrical fittings, wiring and electrical provision to be given for future upgradation with smart classroom facility.
- Painting of Black boards and provision of Magnetic Steel ceramic green writing board of required size with aluminum sheet back covering.
- Colour washing of the buildings with interiors using oil bound distemper and exterior using emulsion

B. Repairs to existing Kitchen sheds

- Existing kitchen shed buildings can be repaired and renovated.

C. Repairs to existing toilets

- i. Repairs and renovation of the roof, walls, floors, drains, squatting pans, washbasins, septic tanks etc., Floors may be paved with Anti-skid tiles.
- ii. Provision of Water supply facility to the toilets and whitewashing and colour washing of the toilets.

D. Repairs to existing water supply works

- Repairs to be carried out to provide water supply to the school. Water supply facilities are mandatory in all toilets in PUPS and PUMS.
- Provision of new drinking water supply connection.

3.9.3 Achievement

A total of 21,478 repair and renovation works were taken up under this Scheme from the year 2021-22 to 2023-24 at an estimate cost of Rs.380.28 Crore.

During the year 2024-25, 2,829 repair and renovation works have been taken up at a cost of Rs.60 Crore in Panchayat Union Primary Schools and Middle Schools located in AGAMT-II villages.

3.10 Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue (SCPAR)

From the year 2007-08 onwards, the State Government has been pooling the assigned revenue due to the Rural Local Bodies from the proceeds of surcharge on Entertainment tax and Stamp duty and other local taxes at the State level and apportioning the same, to the Rural Local Bodies and as fund for Priority schemes.

After the GST was introduced, surcharge on Entertainment Tax was abolished.

One-third ($1/3^{\text{rd}}$) of the total allocation of the Pooled Assigned Revenue is apportioned to the Village Panchayats and Panchayat Unions and two-thirds ($2/3^{\text{rd}}$) are allocated for taking up Priority Schemes in rural areas as the Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue.

Various essential infrastructure works like, Integrated Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Office Complex buildings, Panchayat Union Office buildings, Gasifier Crematoria, Roads, Bridges, Bus Stands, Maha Kavi Bharathiyar livelihood Park have been taken up under the Scheme Component of Pooled Assigned Revenue.

From the year 2021-22 onwards, 175 infrastructure works have been taken up under the scheme. This includes the construction of 98

Panchayat Union Office Buildings. Further, 22 Gasifier Crematoriums have been taken up under the Scheme, which helps in establishing the concept of 'Samathuvam' in densely populated Village Panchayats.

Moreover, Vehicles are sanctioned for the officials of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department under the Scheme to undertake effective monitoring of the works allotted to the officials. So far, 874 Vehicles at a total cost of Rs.79.75 crore have been sanctioned under the Scheme.

3.11 Infrastructure Schemes of other Departments

Iyothee Thass Pandithar Habitations Development Scheme

The Department of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare provides funds to Rural Development

Department to provide basic amenities like water supply, streetlights, improvement of roads / internal streets, community toilets, cremation sheds / waiting sheds, pathways to burial grounds, improvements to play grounds and repair and renovation of existing infrastructure. Adi Dravidar habitations are selected based on their population.

A total of 1322 works have been taken up during the year 2023-24 and 1609 works have been taken up during the year 2024-25. An amount of Rs.115 crore has been allocated for the year 2024-2025.

4. Union Government Sponsored Schemes

4.1 Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)

4.1.1 MGNREG Scheme Implementation in Tamil Nadu

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was launched on 02.02.2006. It guarantees 100 days of employment in a financial year to any rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

The core objectives of this scheme have been reoriented as follows: -

- a) Providing not less than one hundred days of unskilled manual work as a guaranteed employment in a financial year to every household in rural areas on demand, resulting in creation of productive assets of prescribed quality and durability;

- b) Strengthening the livelihood resource base of the poor;
- c) Proactively ensuring social inclusion;
- d) Strengthening of institutions of Panchayat Raj

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was first notified on 02.02.2006 as Phase One in 6 districts, namely Cuddalore, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Nagapattinam, Dindigul and Sivagangai.

In the Second phase, the scheme was introduced in another four Districts namely Thanjavur, Tiruvallur, Tirunelveli and Karur.

From 01.04.2008 onwards, the scheme was further extended to the remaining Districts.

4.1.2 Salient Features of the Scheme

1. Ten major entitlements of the scheme are:

- a. Right to a Job Card
- b. Right to demand and receive work within 15 days
- c. Right to un-employment Allowance
- d. Right to plan and prepare a Shelf of Projects.
- e. Right to obtain work within a radius of 5 km
- f. Right to work-site facilities
- g. Right to notified wage rate
- h. Right to receive wages within 15 days
- i. Compensation for delay in payment of wages
- j. Right to time-bound redressal of grievances and right to conduct concurrent social audits of all MGNREGS expenditure

2. MGNREGS 'work week' starts every Thursday and ends on next Wednesday. Works are taken up in clusters within a village.
3. The wages for unskilled labour have been fixed based on the Rural Schedule of Rates (RSoR). As per the revised Schedule-I of MGNREG Act, the Schedule of Rates for wages of unskilled labour is so fixed that an adult unskilled labourer working for eight hours which includes an hour of rest (i.e., 7 hours of effective work), will earn wages as per the wage rate.
4. Government Order for a Special Rural Schedule of Rates (RSoR) for the Differently-abled was adopted, which provides either special activities for the Differently-abled workers or special

provisions for undertaking earthwork-related activities.

5. No contractors or labour displacing machinery is allowed.
6. For all civil construction works, RSoR should be adopted for unskilled labour and PWD SoR in respect of materials and skilled labour.
7. Every individual worker in a household is entitled to a job card so that they can apply for and receive work. Renewal of job cards are done once in 5 years. New job cards were issued from 01.04.2022 to all active workers after 100% verification and it will be valid for 5 years.
8. From the year 2017-18, e-MR has been adopted in all 12,524 Village Panchayats where MGNREGS is implemented.
9. The wage rate has been revised to

Rs.319 per day with effect from 01.04.2024 for Tamil Nadu for both men and women without any difference.

10. If the distance to the worksite exceeds 5 Kms, an additional wage of 10% of the wage rate is paid. However, in Tamil Nadu, worksites are being selected in such a way that works are available within a radius of 2 kms.
11. Facilities such as drinking water, first-aid kit, shade etc., are provided in all work sites.
12. Grama Sabha conducts the Social Audit in respect of MGNREGS works through Social Auditors, i.e. Community Resource Persons trained from among SHG members.
13. All workers shall have a right to participate in the Grama Sabha and decide

the Shelf of Works along with the order of priority of works to be taken up under MGNREGS in their Village Panchayat.

14. Citizen Information Boards depicting the details of work i.e., name of the work, sanctioned amount, duration of work etc., are installed in all worksites.
15. 73.32 lakh workers have been provided employment out of the 64.59 lakh rural households during the year 2024-25.

4.1.3 Funding Pattern

The funds for MGNREGS is divided into three main components:

1. Wage Component for Unskilled Labour (100% funded by Union Government).
2. Material component for civil works, including use of materials (75% by Union Government and 25% by State

Government).

3. Administrative Component for Salary and other expenditure (100% by Union Government).

As per guidelines, the overall material expenditure should not be more than 40% of the total expenditure.

4.1.4 Labour Budget

- (A) **2024-25:** The initially approved Labour Budget was of 20 Crore persondays. However, due to better response to the Scheme, 29.93 crore persondays were achieved as on 12.03.2025 with total expenditure of Rs.10,528.19 crore. Additional Labour Budget proposal of 20 crore persondays has been submitted to the Union Government. This decision is still pending. Wages of over Rs.2,839

crore and material cost of over Rs.957 crore are yet to be released. In total, over Rs.3,796 crore is due to Tamil Nadu as on 12.03.2025.

- (B) **2025-26:** The Labour Budget was prepared for 35 crore persondays through a 'bottom-up' approach by each Village Panchayat. Cluster-wise analysis was undertaken for the preparation of the Labour Budget and finalization done for the year 2025-26. Labour Budget Committee meeting for the FY 2025-26 was held on 18.02.2025 at Ministry of Rural Development, Union Government and in this Empowered Committee meeting, 12 crore persondays have been approved as of now for the financial year 2025-26.

4.1.5 Timely Payments and Payments through Banks

During the financial year 2024-25, 100% of wage payments to workers have been made within 15 days. The revised timely payment norm for Stage I is T+8 days and Stage II is T+15 days.

100% of wages are credited to the workers' bank accounts. All transactions under MGNREGS are made through Ne-FMS.

4.1.6 Permissible Works

MGNREG Act provides a list of permissible works categorized into 3 parts. Based on the various works mentioned in the Schedule I, the Management Information System (MIS) has listed 266 types of works permissible under the Programme. Of these, 58 works are related to

Natural Resource Management, 150 works are related to Agriculture and allied activities and 58 works are related to Rural Infrastructure.

4.1.6.1 Natural Resource Management Works (NRM) / Agriculture and Allied works

The focus under MGNREGS has been on Natural Resource Management works, which include drought-proofing activities like afforestation, avenue tree plantation and artificial recharge of groundwater through water harvesting structures like check dams, recharge shafts, percolation ponds, trenches, soak pits, farm ponds, etc. Also, works for increasing the storage capacities of surface water sources through desilting of supply channels / field channels, rejuvenation of traditional water bodies, etc., are permitted.

Union Government (MoRD) has issued the

Water Conservation Mission framework. Based on that, 60% of expenditure on Agriculture and Allied works should be achieved in all the Blocks and 65% of expenditure should be made on Natural Resource Management works in the MWC Blocks. Tamil Nadu has been focusing on Natural Resource Management (NRM) works for individuals and communities, particularly in the water-stressed blocks.

Productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities are taken up and at least 60% of expenditure is ensured for agriculture and allied activities. Accordingly, Formation and Widening of Supply and Distributary Canals, Raising of Nursery and Plantation Works, Development of Meikkal Land, Development of Community Barren Land etc., are being taken up.

During the year 2024-25, a total of

73,875 NRM works have been taken up, out of which, 38,884 works were completed at an expenditure of Rs.3,125.73 crore, which is 33% of the total expenditure on all works.

4.1.6.2 Individual Works

All the individual beneficiaries as per Para 5 of Schedule I of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Act should be surveyed for assessing the requirement of the individual assets. The creation of individual assets should lead to sustainable increase in their incomes. These works will include Shelters, farm ponds, plantations, dug wells, fish drying yard, land development activities to Individuals.

During the year 2024-25, 1,30,120 Individual Assets have been created.

4.1.6.3 Rural Infrastructure works

Tamil Nadu has always been a pioneer in creating durable and sustainable assets.

Construction of Compound Wall to Schools, Panchayat Office Building, Kitchen Shed, Food Grain Godown, Anganwadi Building, Milk Collection Centre, Construction of Check Dam, Culverts, Minor Bridge, Laying of Single layer WBM Road (Rural Connectivity), Interlocking of Paver Block Pavement, Cement Concrete Pavement, have been taken up under this scheme. Construction of Makkal Santhai has also been taken up during the year 2024-25 in convergence with Co-operative Department.

During the year 2024-25, 7,088 Rural Infrastructure works have been completed.

4.1.7 Special Initiative:

(i) Plantation:

Under MGNREGS, Plantation activities have been taken up as a key intervention for sustainable rural development, environmental

conservation, climate change mitigation and livelihood generation. These activities, including afforestation, agroforestry, and horticulture on public and community lands, help enhance green cover, sequester carbon, and reduce the adverse effects of climate change.

(ii) Nursery:

Under MGNREGS, Nursery establishment plays a key role in supporting afforestation, rural livelihoods, and ecological sustainability.

To meet the seedling requirements for plantation activities, the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department has established 895 block-level nurseries across all blocks. Currently, 157.84 lakh saplings are available, and a Village Panchayat-wise plantation plan is being formulated based on the existing stock. These saplings are being nurtured to grow up to six feet

to improve their survival rate and will be utilized for plantation initiatives.

(iii) Convergence of MGNREGS with Green Tamil Nadu Mission:

The Government of Tamil Nadu has undertaken the raising of seedlings in nurseries and the plantation of saplings through the convergence of MGNREGS under the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and the Green Tamil Nadu Mission under the Forest Department

Under this initiative, 306 nurseries have been established in convergence with the Forest Department. As on date, 33.23 lakh saplings are being raised. These saplings will be utilized for plantation activities by the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department (RD&PR) and the Forest Department to enhance green cover,

support afforestation, and promote ecological sustainability.

4.1.8 Monitoring

(i) National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS)

Union Government has launched the National Mobile Monitoring System App on 21st May 2021 and mandated its daily use by all States.

New features of eye blinking facility, Head count facility, Mapping of mate Id with the muster roll, relaxation in proximity range of linear types of works were given by MoRD, GoI.

The NMMS App enables transparent monitoring of daily attendance by logging attendance details at the site, twice a day. The field level implementing officers have to monitor and ensure that everyday attendance of MGNREGS workers is taken through NMMS

App for all ongoing works across the State. Proper training has been given to all worksite facilitators and field Officials at the Block and District levels to monitor the progress on a daily basis.

(ii) Area Officer Inspection App

Area Officers Monitoring Visit Application was launched on 21.05.2021 by the Union Government for the effective implementation of Rural Development schemes. This app will facilitate the officials of the State to record their field visit findings through online mode. The App will also allow the officials to record time-stamped and geotagged photographs for all the schemes launched by the Department of Rural Development. This App will help with hassle-free reporting of field visits with a provision to view the field visit report by the senior officials through the rural.nic.in portal.

4.1.9 Transparency

4.1.9.1 Social Audit

As per Section 3 (1) of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011, the State Government shall facilitate the conduct of Social Audit of the works taken up under the Act in every Gram Panchayat at least once in six months by the Gram Sabha. Social Audit is a comprehensive audit done by the people with the guidance of the Social Audit staff. Apart from financial aspects, it looks at processes, social equity and performance. It is an Information, Education and Communication (IEC) tool, which enforces transparency and accountability and promotes the participation of stakeholders in all stages (planning, design, implementation and evaluation) of Development initiatives.

Institutional arrangements for Social Audit

As per the guidelines issued by Government of India, the Social Audit Society of Tamil Nadu (SASTA) has been constituted under the Tamil Nadu Societies Act, 1975.

District Resource Persons assisted by Block Resource Persons are placed in all Districts and Blocks to facilitate Village Panchayat Resource Persons (VPRP). VPRPs are selected by Gram Sabha and randomly allocated Villages where they facilitate the process of Social Audit by Gram Sabha.

Impact of Social Audit

The beneficiaries / stakeholders themselves are conducting Social Audits and the impact of Social Audits is seen both among the beneficiaries and the implementing agencies. Deliberations that take place during the Special

Gram Sabhas convened to discuss the Social Audit report are akin to public hearings. The process of Social Audit also helps the workers become aware of their rights and entitlements. Rectifications of the findings of the Social Audit take place in the Special Gram Sabhas. As a result of Social Audits, the practice of proper maintenance of records at Village and Block levels has been streamlined.

Social Audit Activities during the year 2024-25

Regular Social Audit of financial year 2024-25, for the Expenditure year of 2023-24 of MGNREGS has been completed in all the 12,524 Village Panchayats.

Social Audit has now been extended to other Schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana–Grameen (PMAY-G) and 15th Finance Commission Funds.

4.1.10 Ombudsperson

Ombudspersons have been selected and placed in all the 37 districts for the redressal of grievances and disposal of complaints relating to MGNREGS. Out of this, tenure period of 14 Ombudspersons have ended. Additional charge were provided through existing Ombudspersons for the above vacant districts. Appointment of 14 new Ombudspersons are under process. Now the services of Ombudspersons have also been extended to PMAY(G).

4.1.11 Delay Compensation and Unemployment Allowance

The MGNREG Act provides for compensation to workers in case of delayed payment and payment of unemployment allowance to workers where work is not provided within 15 days of its demand. The Government of Tamil Nadu in the year 2022 notified Delay

Compensation rules and Unemployment Allowance rules.

4.1.12 Convergence with KAVIADP

The Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department has launched a State flagship scheme – **KAVIADP (Kalaighar All Village Integrated Agricultural Development Program)**. This Scheme is being implemented in the same villages as Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT-II), thereby ensuring geographical convergence.

Similarly, a substantial portion of KAVIADP has been planned in convergence with components of MGNREGS, particularly with respect to water conservation works such as construction of check dams (CC/Gabion), farm ponds, trenches, sunken ponds, recharge shaft arrangements etc., In addition, soil conservation works such as the construction of

earthen bunds, stone bunds and other land development activities are undertaken for agriculture farmers.

Thus, both KAVIADP and AGAMT-II are converged both geographically and programmatically to achieve the objectives of Natural Resource Management and Water conservation for the benefit of farmers. Special thrust under MGNREGS will be given for convergent components in KAVIADP villages. Such a holistic approach to rural development will ensure substantial improvement in Quality-of-Life indices on a saturation mode in rural areas.

During the year 2024-25, 49,135 earthen bunds, stone bunds and other land development activities are provided for agriculture farmers.

4.1.13 Convergence with Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission

During the year 2022-23, 388 Block Nurseries, 3,500 Dedicated Moringa Seedling nurseries, and 1,500 Horticulture nurseries have already been established in addition to the existing 388 Block Nurseries to improve the livelihood of women in the Village Level Federation and Cluster Level Federations formed by the Women's Self-Help Groups.

During the year 2024-25, 910 SHG sheds have been completed under this scheme.

4.1.14 New Technologies under this scheme

(i) Drone technology

Union Government has requested to utilize the drone technology for monitoring of works under MGNREGS. Accordingly, monitoring of MGNREGS works using drones have been

implemented on pilot basis in Chengalpattu, Tiruvallur and Namakkal Districts during FY 2023-24 and then extended to Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai and Krishnagiri districts during the year 2024-25. Now, it is proposed to extend the drone monitoring to all remaining rural districts.

(ii) Yuktdhara portal

Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India had launched Yuktdhara portal, a platform for preparation of GIS based Gram Panchayat (GP) planning using GIS and Remote Sensing tools which enables to make informed decisions in identifying the best location for Integrated Natural Resource Management (NRM) works under MGNREGS.

Uploading of Village Panchayat boundaries in Yuktdhara portal have been completed. Further as per the instructions of MoRD, GoI, 388 Village

Panchayats (one Village Panchayat per Block) has been identified for the implementation of Yuktdhara portal under Phase I.

(iii) e –Measurement book

All measurements of work done shall be recorded in the Measurement Book (MB) duly authorized and issued by competent authority. The relevant entries are to be entered in NREGASoft to determine the valuation of work done. All payments shall be made only after measuring the value of work done and after check measurement by the Assistant Engineer/ Assistant Executive Engineer / Executive Engineer.

A web-based **e-MB module** has already been developed and enabled in NREGASoft to upload activity-wise details of work done. Now, MoRD, GoI has made web-based **e-MB module** as mandatory. e-MB has been implemented in Tamil

Nadu for all works from the MGNREGS week starting from 13.02.2025

4.2 Housing for All - Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin

The Union Government sponsored Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana–Gramin (PMAY-G) is being implemented from the year 2016-17 replacing the erstwhile Indira Awaas Yojana. As per the guidelines issued by Union Government, the funding pattern under this scheme is in the ratio of 60:40 between Union and State Governments. In Tamil Nadu this ratio is 39:61. i.e., the State provides 61% of the funds under the scheme Housing for All – PMAY-G.

4.2.1 Objectives

Providing permanent houses with basic amenities to all poor houseless households and households living in huts and dilapidated houses

in rural areas to achieve “Housing for All” is the objectives of the scheme.

4.2.2 State Support to Housing

The unit cost of a house under PMAY-G in Tamil Nadu is Rs.2.83 lakh which is inclusive of State support cost for RCC roofing, convergence with MGNREGS and SBM(G) as detailed below: -

Table 4.1 Unit cost of a PMAY(G) house in Tamil Nadu with State Government additional funding.

Details	Union Share (in Rs.)	State Share (in Rs.)	Total (in Rs.)
Unit cost	72,000	48,000	1,20,000
State RCC Roofing cost and additional fund	-	1,20,000	1,20,000
Construction of Individual Household Latrine	7,200	4,800	12,000
100 persondays (90 for house and 10 for Toilet under MGNREGS)	31,900	-	31,900
Total	1,11,100	1,72,800	2,83,900

4.2.3 Salient Features

- i. Minimum unit (house) size is 25 sq.m. (269 Sq. ft.), including a dedicated area for hygienic cooking.
- ii. Out of the total target, 60% is earmarked for SC/ST, 40% for others (including 15% for minorities subject to the availability of eligible households). In all categories, 5% of allocation is made for Differently Abled persons.
- iii. Socio-Economic Caste Census-2011 (SECC-2011) database was used to identify the beneficiaries through the Grama sabha by arriving at a Permanent wait list (PWL) using exclusion and inclusion criteria mentioned in the Framework for Implementation of PMAY-G up to the year 2019-20. For the year 2021-22,

“Awaasplus” database is used as a basis for sanction of houses.

- iv. As approved by GoI, for the year 2024-25, sanction of houses is being made from “Awaas plus” database.
- v. Payment to the beneficiaries is being made directly to their bank account.
- vi. New/alternative technology initiatives such as Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) panels, interlocking bricks, Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) blocks/panels, fly ash bricks, rat trap bond with filler slab technology, etc., are being followed by the Department for cost-effective and speedy construction of houses.
- vii. Needy beneficiaries are assisted with collateral free Bank loan from Rs.50,000/- to Rs.70,000 at below 9% rate of interest to complete their houses.

Table 4.2 Number of Houses Constructed Under PMAY-G

Year of sanction	Sanctioned	Completed			Pending	% of Completion
		Up to 31.3.24	From 1.4.24 to 18.3.25	Total		
2016-17 to 2019-20 and 2021-22 (Excluding Remand and Recovery)	6,43,254	5,96,931	32,168	6,29,099	14,155	98%

From the year 2021-22 to till date, 3,35,912 houses have been completed. In total 6,29,099 houses have been completed. Remaining pending houses will be completed during 2025-26. Likewise, during the year 2024-25 under PMAY-G 17,142 houses have been sanctioned and all houses are in various stages of progress.

4.2.4 Fund Allocation

Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has released Rs.4,631.42 crore and corresponding State matching share of

Rs.3,087.62 crore has been released by the State Government. Out of the total amount of Rs.7,719.04 crore, expenditure to the tune of Rs.7596.16 crore has been incurred under PMAY(G). Balance amount will be paid to the beneficiaries through SNA corresponding to the stages of construction. Likewise, under PMAY-G 2024-25, an amount of Rs.205.70 crore has been received from the Government. Out of this, an expenditure of Rs.40.77 crore has been incurred so far.

4.2.5 RCC Roofing Cost and Additional State fund

Government of Tamil Nadu is providing Rs. 50,000 per house for RCC roofing and Rs.70,000 per house as additional fund to minimize the burden of the beneficiaries due to the increased cost of materials and labour. So far, State Government has released a sum of Rs.4,803.73

crore and expenditure incurred to the tune of Rs.4,701.57 crore.

4.3 Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)

4.3.1 Objectives

The Ministry of Tribal Welfare, Government of India has introduced a scheme named PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan) to improve the socio-economic condition of the particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) to provide PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihood opportunities on saturation mode.

Housing scheme for the PVTGs similar to PMAY-G with slight scheme specific modifications, have been approved by the Ministry of Rural Development, GoI. As per the guidelines, Six Tribals communities viz., Irular, Kattunayakkan, Kota, Kurumba, Paniyan and Toda, residing in 21 Districts of Tamil Nadu are eligible to get house under this scheme.

Based on the list of PVTG Villages provided by the Ministry of Tribal Welfare, the Ministry of Rural Development, GoI has mapped the PVTG Villages in Awaas portal and eligible households are identified through Village level survey carried out through Awaas App. After completion of surveys, houses have been sanctioned to PVTG households by following due procedures.

4.3.2 Exclusion Criteria

Owning a pucca house and having a Government Employee as a member in the family are the two exclusion criteria under this scheme.

4.3.3 Period of Implementation

The scheme was launched during December 2023, and will be implemented for a period of three years, i.e., upto 2025-26.

4.3.4 Unit Cost Fixed by GoI

The unit cost fixed by GoI is Rs.2.00 lakh per house, to be shared between Union and State Governments in the ratio of 60:40.

4.3.5 Unit Cost and Plinth Area in Tamil Nadu

Apart from the unit cost sanctioned by Union Government, the Government of Tamil Nadu has fixed the unit cost for the construction of houses for the PVTGs under this scheme as

Rs.5.07 lakh for plains and Rs.5.73 lakh for hilly areas with the increased plinth area of 300 Sq.ft.

Table 4.3 Unit Cost of PM-JANMAN houses with State Additional Assistance in Tamil Nadu

(in Rs)

PVTG Villages in	Unit Cost fixed by GoI	State Additional Financial Assistance		Convergence		Total cost per house
		RD & PR Share for RCC Roofing Cost	AD & TW Department share	MGNREGS	SBM	
Plain Areas	2,00,000	1,20,000	1,48,540	26,460	12,000	5,07,000
Hilly Areas	2,00,000	1,20,000	2,14,540	26,460	12,000	5,73,000

The target for PM-JANMAN is 11,947 houses.

4.3.6 Financial Allocation

Unit cost allocation by Government of India for 11,947 houses is Rs.238.94 crore at the cost of Rs.2.00 lakh per house to be shared between

Union and State in the ratio of 60:40. Apart from this, Government of Tamil Nadu will provide Rs.335.95 crore at the rate of Rs.2,68,540 per house for Plains and Rs.3,34,540 per house for households in Hilly areas. In addition to this, convergence with MGNREGS and SBM G will be ensured.

4.4 Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

4.4.1. PMGSY I

The objectives of PMGSY I was to provide all-weather road connectivity to unconnected habitations with a population of more than 500. The upgradation of existing single connectivity roads was also permitted under PMGSY I. In Tamil Nadu, 1,986 unconnected Habitations with population more than 500 were provided connectivity through PMGSY I.

For Tamil Nadu, PMGSY I was sanctioned under XI phases from the years 2000-01 to 2018-19. Totally, 7,678 rural roads for a length of 16,296 Km and 98 bridges were taken up at a cost of Rs.4,586 crore and have been completed.

4.4.2. PMGSY II

The Union Government introduced PMGSY II in the year 2013 for upgrading rural roads leading to Growth Centres and Rural Hubs. Tamil Nadu obtained sanction for 860 roads to a length of 2,940 Km and 34 bridges at a cost of Rs.1,434 crore.

In Tamil Nadu, works sanctioned under both PMGSY I and II have been completed.

4.4.3. PMGSY III

The Union Government introduced PMGSY III, during the year 2019, to upgrade

existing Through Routes and Major Rural Links that connect habitations to Gramin Agricultural Market (GraMs), High/Higher secondary Schools and Hospitals. Government of India has allocated an overall target of 7,375 Km length of roads to Tamil Nadu under PMGSY-III.

From the years 2019-20 to 2023-24, Tamil Nadu has obtained sanction for 1,814 roads to a length of 7,318 km and 83 bridges at a cost of Rs. 4,828 crore.

For the year 2024-25, Proposals for improvement of 15 roads for a length of 74.20 km at a cost of Rs.57.32 crore has been submitted to Government of India.

4.4.4 PMGSY IV

PMGSY-IV focuses on providing connectivity to unconnected Habitations with a population of 500 and above in Plain areas as

per census 2011 and 250 and above Population in hilly states.

Out of 2014 eligible unconnected habitations, 1,986 unconnected Habitations of population more than 500 were provided connectivity through PMGSY I, 21 unconnected habitations were provided connectivity under State Schemes.

Tamil Nadu has only 7 unconnected habitations with 500 and above population which are under various stages of obtaining Forest clearance. So far, Forest Clearance has been obtained for 1 habitation.

Necessary steps are being taken to obtain Forest Department clearance for remaining unconnected habitations.

Since, Tamil Nadu has provided almost 100% connectivity to habitations with population more than 500, there is a limited

scope of fund sanction under PMGSY-IV. Hence the State has represented to Government of India to provide funds for upgradation of existing link roads under PMGSY-IV. The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India is yet to give a favourable reply on the representation of the State.

4.4.5. Funding

PMGSY was initially introduced with 100% funding of Union Government. However, the Union Government revised the funding pattern as 60% Union Government and 40% State Government from the year 2015.

4.4.6. Maintenance of PMGSY roads

The maintenance of PMGSY roads is being monitored through a dedicated portal of Union Government called e-MARG (Electronic Maintenance of Rural Roads under PMGSY).

For the year 2023-24, an amount of Rs.54.37 crore and for the year 2024-25, an amount of Rs.46.76 crore was allocated by the State Government for routine maintenance of PMGSY roads.

In addition to this, the State also takes up periodic renewal of PMGSY roads, which have completed 5 years routine maintenance under State schemes.

4.4.7. Performance Incentive Grant

Government of India had introduced Incentive Grant to States for best performance under PMGSY during the year 2016-17.

Tamil Nadu was awarded incentive grants of Rs. 294.99 crore from the year 2016-17 to 2023-24. The State has provided its share of Rs.196.65 crore.

The incentive grant has been utilised

for periodic renewal of 4,356 Km length of PMGSY roads which have completed 5 years routine maintenance.

4.4.8. PMGSY - PM - JANMAN

The objective is to provide road connectivity to the unconnected Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) households and habitations with population more than 100.

Under PM-JANMAN 2023-24, proposal to connect 11 tribal habitations through 8 roads for a length of 18.085 km and at a cost of Rs.15.42 crore has been submitted to Government of India.

4.4.9 Quality Control Mechanism

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department has a separate Quality Control unit headed by State Quality Co-ordinator

(SQC), in the rank of Superintending Engineer, at State level. The National Quality Monitors (NQMs) deputed by the Government of India and the State Quality Monitors (SQMs) are carrying out Quality tests of works periodically at all stages of execution. To improve the skills of field Engineers in the Department, various capacity building and quality control training have been imparted through reputed training institutes at National Level and State level.

There are 39 State Quality Monitors (Roads) and 25 State Quality Monitors (Schemes) for Quality monitoring of Roads and Scheme works.

49 reputed Engineering Institutions have been empanelled for Design and Vetting of major buildings and bridges, and Quality Control Testing, and Quality monitoring for roads, bridges and buildings.

4.4.10 Quality Control Labs

A State level QC lab has been established in SIRD, Maraimalai Nagar. District-level Quality control laboratories have been established in all the Districts by the department to conduct required quality control tests. Further, the Department has established 7 mobile Quality Control laboratories to enable real time onsite Quality control testing of various works. In addition, basic Quality control equipment is available in the Vehicles of Department Officials to test the quality of works during their field inspection. The Quality Control Registers are being maintained for all the works. Payment for all works are made only upon satisfactory Quality Control results and after verification by Quality Monitors / Executive Engineers/Assistant Executive Engineers concerned.

4.5 Jal Jeevan Mission

Jal Jeevan Mission is being implemented in Tamil Nadu with the vision that “Every Rural Household to be provided with Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) to supply water with adequate quantity (55 lpcd) of prescribed quality on regular and long-term basis at affordable service delivery charges leading to the improvement in living standards of rural communities”. Community participation in planning, monitoring of water supply, ensuring sustainability of sources through source-strengthening, water recharge and re-use are the other main objectives of the scheme.

4.5.1 Implementation of JJM:

In Tamil Nadu, out of 1,25,28,183 rural households, 1,10,71,560 (88.37%) households

have been provided with Functional Household Tap Connections. 96,899 works have been taken up under Single Village Schemes (SVS) (including JJM & Convergence), and 12,792 works have been taken up under in-village infrastructure of Multi Village Schemes (MVS), respectively. So far, 13 Districts viz., Kanniyakumari, Coimbatore, Kanchipuram, Ariyalur, Tiruvallur, Theni, Thanjavur, Vellore, Mayiladuthurai, Cuddalore, Ranipet, Namakkal & The Nilgiris, 165 Blocks and 8322 Village Panchayats have achieved the status of Har Ghar Jal i.e., 100 % provision of FHTCs.

4.5.2 Components of Jal Jeevan Mission

- i. Development of in-village piped water supply infrastructure to provide water supply through tap connections to every household.

- ii. Development of reliable drinking water sources and or augmentation of existing sources to ensure long-term sustainability of water supply system.
- iii. In water-stressed areas, development of bulk water transfer systems like CWSS (Combined Water Supply Schemes), treatment plants, and distribution networks to cater to every rural household.
- iv. Retrofitting of completed and ongoing Single Village/ Multi Village schemes (Combined Water Supply Schemes).

4.5.3 Funding Pattern:

The fund-sharing pattern for implementation of works under the Jal Jeevan Mission is shared by the Union

Government (50%) and the State Government (50%).

4.5.4 Implementation Mechanism

The State Nodal Department for the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Tamil Nadu is Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department. The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board is the Mission Director for Jal Jeevan Mission in Tamil Nadu.

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department undertakes the design, estimates preparation, and implementation of Single Village Schemes provided the source is within the concerned Village Panchayat and also the In-Village infrastructure of Multi Village Schemes (MVS).

TWAD Board implements **Multi Village Schemes (MVS)**, to provide water supply to more than one Village Panchayat.

4.5.5 Salient features

The other Salient features of the scheme are: -

- Third-party verification and quality check.
- Functionality Assessment based on the Quality, Quantity, and regularity of the water supplied.
- Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) to monitor the implementation, operation, and functionality of water supply schemes.
- Water Quality Test is conducted using Field-Test Kits supplied to Village

Panchayats by well-trained Self-Help Group women.

4.5.6 Community Contribution towards Capital cost

JJM guidelines specifies collection of community contribution from the rural households to the extent of 5 percent of the capital cost in cash/kind/labour in villages having 50 percent SC or ST population, hilly and forested areas, and 10 percent of the capital cost in other village Panchayats for in-village piped water supply infrastructure works including source development.

4.5.7 Operation & Maintenance

The Village Panchayat will be responsible for the Operation and Maintenance of the Water Supply.

- i. A Minimum User Charge of Rs.30 is being collected.
- ii. The Bulk water transfer charges to the TWAD Board has to be paid by the Village Panchayats at the tariff rate fixed by the Government.
- iii. Water Supply Works under Jal Jeevan Mission are monitored by Village Water Supply and Sanitation Committee– (VWSC) and the Village Panchayat.

4.5.8 Convergence from Other Funds

The water supply infrastructure in the Village Panchayats are developed through a convergence of funds under various schemes viz., the 15th Union Finance Commission Tied Grant (30%), State Finance Commission

Grant, District Mineral Fund and other scheme funds.

4.5.9 Pilot for Monitoring

Automatic sensor-based Monitoring & control system improves the efficient usage of electricity and public water supply systems. This prevents unwarranted wastage of water through controlled usage of the motor. The sensor-based automatic monitoring systems have been installed on a pilot basis and subsequently this automatic monitoring system for water supply will be extended to all Village Panchayats in a phased manner.

4.6 Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

During the year 1993, the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme

(MPLADS) was launched by the Union Government.

4.6.1 Objectives of the Scheme

The Scheme's objective is to enable the Members of Parliament to recommend works of a developmental nature with an emphasis on creating durable community assets based on the felt needs of the people in their Constituencies.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is the nodal department for implementing this Scheme. The District Collectors accord Administrative Sanction for the works proposed by the MPs. The guidelines contain 'permissible works' and a 'negative list of works' not permitted under the Scheme.

4.6.2 Special Feature

In order to give due attention to the development of infrastructure in the areas

inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Member of Parliament have to recommend every year, works costing at least 15 percent of the total MPLADS entitlement for the year for areas inhabited by Scheduled Caste population and at least 7.5 percent of the total MPLADS entitlement for the year for areas inhabited by Scheduled Tribe population.

4.6.3 Funding

This Scheme is 100% funded by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MPLADS) Division of GoI. The annual allocation under this Scheme is Rs.5 crore per constituency. At present the funds are released from Central Nodal Account through GoI's eSAKSHI portal.

4.6.4 Permissible works under MPLADS

a) Public and Community Building

- i. Construction of community centers, community halls, public libraries and reading

rooms.

- ii. Purchase of books for public libraries.
- iii. Crematoriums or structures on burial/cremation ground, Construction of night shelters for the homeless.
- iv. Construction of Government office buildings (Post office, Police station, Police chauki, etc.)

b) Public conveniences, safety, and security

- i. Purchase of motor boats for flood and cyclone-prone areas
- ii. Setting up of electric vehicle charging stations.
- iii. Construction of bus sheds or bus stops.
- iv. Providing CCTV camera system for security of public areas.

c) Education

- i. Construction of rooms, halls and toilet blocks in school and colleges.

- ii. Purchase of smart boards, visual display units and projectors
- iii. Setting up of laboratories.
- iv. Purchase of School vans, buses.
- v. Development of playground and purchase of sports equipment.
- vi. Purchase of books and periodicals for libraries.
- vii. Purchase of equipment for crèches and Anganwadis.

d) Public health

- i. Construction of rooms and facilities for hospitals, family welfare centers, public health care centers and ANM centers.
- ii. Purchase of hospital equipment, ambulances, hearse van, vehicle for mobile dispensaries and wheel chairs.

e) Drinking water and sanitation

- i. Installing tube-wells, bore wells, and

hand pumps.

- ii. Construction of water tanks, public toilets and bathrooms.
- iii. Providing garbage collection and disposal systems.

f) Irrigation, drainage and flood control systems

- i. Construction of public irrigation facilities.
- ii. Establishing public lift irrigation projects and public ground.
- iii. water recharging facilities.

g) Animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries

- i. Construction of veterinary hospital, dispensaries, veterinary aid centers, artificial insemination and breeding centers

h) Agriculture and farmer's welfare

- i. Setting up of farmers' training and assistance centers and soil testing laboratories.

- ii. Installation of a fixed weighing scale machine for agriculture and horticulture produce.

i) Energy supply and distribution systems

j) Railways, roads, bridges and pathways

k) Environment, wild animals, forest and other natural resources

- i. Creation of new ponds, renovation ponds and lakes.
- ii. Setting up of Early Warning Systems.
- iii. Purchase of bio digesters for community use.

l) Public recreational facilities, sports, and parks

- i. Development of Public parks, play fields and sports grounds.
- ii. Purchase of immovable sports equipment.
- iii. Construction of Stadiums.
- iv. Installation of multi-gym equipment and fixed garden gym
- v. Equipment.

4.6.5 Achievement during 17th Lok Sabha:

To implement the Scheme during the period of 17th Lok sabha (2019-20 to 2023-24) the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MPLAD Division) of GoI, has allocated a sum of Rs.663 Crore for Lok Sabha Members and Rs.311 Crore for Rajya Sabha Members. Accordingly, 10,684 works have been taken up at an estimate cost of Rs.806.95 crore.

4.6.6 Implementation of the Scheme during 18th Lok Sabha:

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MPLAD Division) of GoI has allocated Rs.5 Crore per Member of Parliament constituency for the year 2024-25. During the year 2024-25, 1,316 works have been taken up under this Scheme.

For the year 2025-26, this Scheme will be implemented with an allocation of Rs.5 crore per MP constituency.

4.7. Biogas Programme

4.7.1 Objectives of the Scheme

This Scheme under Ministry of Non-conventional Energy funds the setting up of small and medium biogas plants from 1 m³ to 2500 m³ biogas generation per day for individual users, farmers, poultry farms, goshalas, slaughter houses, diaries/ co-

operatives/industries/organisations and others. The Beneficiaries are given subsidies based on claims.

4.7.2 Target

For the year 2024-25, 28 biogas plants have been fixed as the target by the Government of India.

4.8 Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)-SBM(G)

Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) was launched with the objective of bringing about behavioral change among the people to end open defecation and focus on construction of Individual Household Latrines and Community Sanitary Complexes. Under SBM-Phase I, (2014-2019) Tamil Nadu has achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) status in the year 2019 as 12,525 Village Panchayats have declared themselves as 'Open Defecation Free' (ODF)

Villages.

The Phase –II of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) launched in the year 2020-21 emphasises on ODF Plus which includes important components like sustaining the ODF status and effective Solid and Liquid Waste Management and are visually clean Villages.

As per the SBM (G) operational guidelines for Phase II, all the programme components, except for the IHHL and Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) components, are implemented in convergence with the 15th Finance Commission grants and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

4.8.1 Components of SBM (G) -II

Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase II have four important components.

A. ODF sustainability

100% access to Safe Sanitation to all

through construction of Individual Household Latrines, Community Sanitary Complexes and IEC activities.

B. Solid Waste Management

Coverage of at least 80% of Households and all Public Places, Bio-degradable Waste Management and Plastic Waste Management in operation and construction of GOBAR-dhan plants.

C. Liquid Waste Management

Coverage of at least 80% of Households and all Public Places with Grey Water Management and Black Water Management (Waste water containing faecal matter).

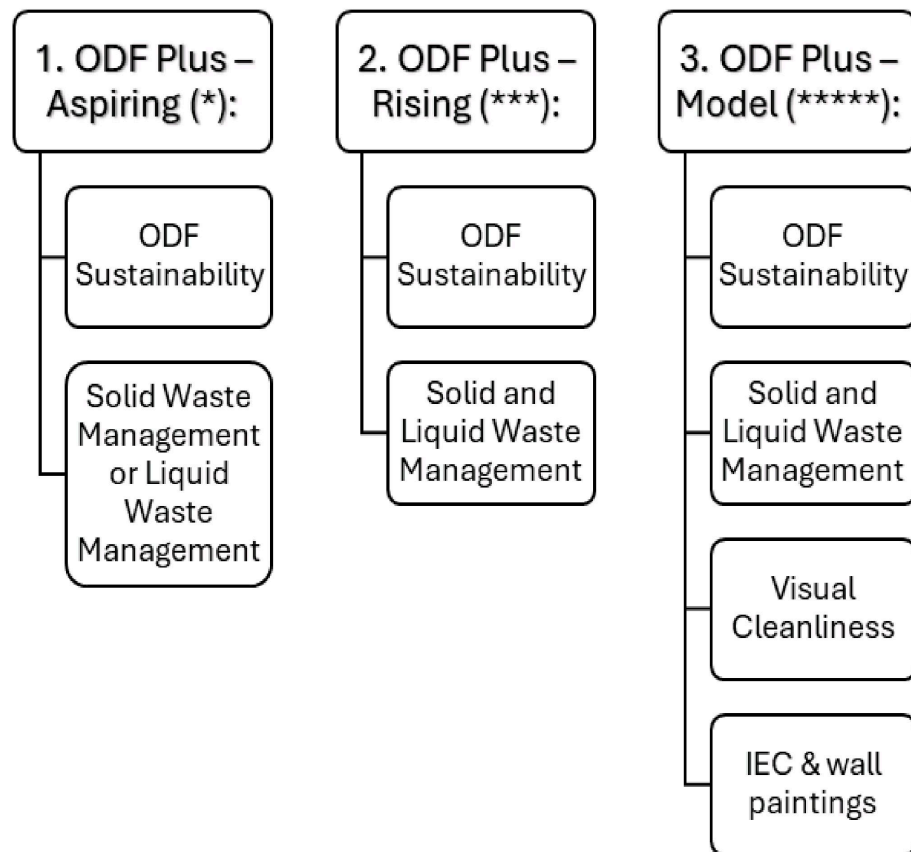
D. Visual Cleanliness of the villages

Villages are visually clean with minimal litter, minimal Stagnant Water and No Plastic

dump.

4.8.2 Categorisation of Village Panchayats

The Village Panchayats are categorized under SBM-G Phase II based on the achievement of above components.



4.8.3 Individual Household Latrines

The Mission aims to ensure that all rural

families can access safe toilets. A duly completed IHHL shall consist of a sanitary substructure, a superstructure, and a water storage facility to ensure proper hygiene. Identified eligible households are given an incentive of Rs.12,000 for constructing IHHLs. So far, in phase II, 5,03,113 IHHLs have been taken up with an outlay of Rs.603.74 crore under SBM (G) for those who have not been covered under earlier schemes.

4.8.4 Community Sanitary Complexes (CSC)

An ODF Plus village is expected to have at least one Community Sanitary Complex, which may cater to the sanitation needs of the floating population. The CSCs have separate facilities for men and women and consist of an appropriate number of toilet

seats, including one for the physically challenged, bathing cubicles, running water and wash basins. It should be built in a place in the village that is acceptable and accessible. 9,564 Community Sanitary Complexes were taken up with an outlay of Rs.389.25 crore under SBM(G) Phase II in convergence with 15th Finance Commission Tied Grant earmarked for sanitation and MGNREGS.

4.8.5 Solid Waste Management

Solid Waste Management (SWM) systems have been established in all the Village Panchayats by engaging 84,651 Sanitary workers and 'Thooimai Kaavalars' for door-to-door collection, transportation, segregation and safe disposal of solid waste. The required infrastructure facilities like Segregation-cum-Storage shed, Compost Pits, Street Garbage

Bins, Tricycles/ Pushcarts, e-carts, pickup vehicles, etc., have been provided for collection, segregation and safe processing of waste.

287 Micro-Composting Centres (MCCs) have been established, for effective management of Bio-degradable waste generated in Peri-urban/ Bigger Village Panchayats.

To implement this scheme effectively, solid waste is being collected from door to door using battery operated vehicles. A solid waste awareness song is being played in battery-powered vehicles to create awareness among the public about the door-to-door garbage collection to separate the solid waste into biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste at their homes.

The Village Panchayats are classified into three categories, i.e., A, B, and C, for better

operation of Solid Waste Management (SWM). In the category A village, which is rural in nature, dry waste is being collected on alternate days and composting wet waste in their premises. In Category B village in Peri-Urban area, generation of waste is more like urban and it is being collected on a daily basis. In Category C village, daily collection is being done and taken for own composting facilities in the village.

4.8.6 Plastic Waste Management

Under SBM (G) Phase-II, Rs.16.00 lakh is provided to set up block-level Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs). The plastic waste processed from these units run by SHGs will be used to lay BT roads by mixing the plastic with bitumen. A 'Direct Plastic Buyback Policy' has been adopted to encourage households to segregate

recyclable plastic at source. So far, total of 362 PWMUs were set up.

4.8.7 Liquid Waste Management

(a) Grey Water Management

To saturate the Village Panchayats under Grey Water Management (GWM), detailed plans have been made in the VSSPs. To prevent the stagnation of grey water on roads/streets and public places and to ensure efficient handling of grey water, community soak pits and horizontal/vertical filters are constructed under SBM (G) phase-II in convergence with the 15th Finance Commission Grants. As an innovative practice, new technologies like rootzone, Dewats, Constructed Wet Land, Phytotrid, etc. have also been taken up under SBM (G).

(b) Faecal Sludge Management

Cluster mapping was conducted for all Panchayats and ULBs for decanting the faecal sludge from rural areas in the existing and proposed sewage treatment plants (STP) and Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTP) in urban areas. 9,344 Panchayats will be clustered in four phases, with the nearest treatment facility on a cost-sharing basis. Where clustering is not feasible with urban local bodies, Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants are being constructed under SBM (G) after mapping the left-out village panchayats. During the year 2024-25, Administrative Sanction has been given to 10 FSTPs.

4.8.8 Amendments to the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994, and subsequent Rules

An enabling legal framework is necessary to prevent manual scavenging, ensure the safety and dignity of core sanitary workers, and enable the scientific management of faecal sludge in rural areas. For this, the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fourth Amendment) Act, 2024, was passed by the Legislative Assembly. Faecal Sludge Management Rules will also be adopted shortly to operationalize the Amendment to the Act.

Similarly, the existing provisions of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 were insufficient to enable the Panchayats to regulate and manage the solid waste generated by households, commercial

establishments, and institutions in rural areas. To rectify this, the Legislative Assembly adopted new provisions vide The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Fifth Amendment) Act, 2024. Solid Waste Management rules will be adopted shortly to operationalise the new provisions.

4.8.9 GOBARDhan

GOBARDhan aims to improve rural sanitation by transforming agro-waste into a valuable resource, converting animal waste, kitchen leftovers, crop residue, and market waste into biogas and bio-slurry. Under SBM (G) phase- II, the Project is eligible for a one-time grant of up to Rs.50.00 lakh per district for the entire Project period. There are 119 operational Gobardhan plants currently in 22 districts of Tamil Nadu, with future plans to establish them in all rural

districts during the project period.

4.8.10 IEC Campaigns

Approximately, 12,000 motivators selected from SHGs/PLFs are trained to engage in effective interpersonal communication (IPC) at the grassroots level to promote behavior change towards better sanitation practices.

5. Establishment of Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

5. Establishment

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department has separate gazetted officers in the cadre of Additional Director, Joint Director and Assistant Director who are governed by Tamil Nadu Panchayat Development Service Rules. Block Development Officers are governed by Tamil Nadu Panchayat Development Subordinate Service rule.

5.1 Gazetted Establishment

Following are the details of cadre strength in RD&PR Department as on 01.01.2025 as per the posts sanctioned vide various Government orders.

Table 5.1

Details of Gazetted Officers' Sanctioned Strength

Sl. No .	Name of the Post	State Level posts	District / Regional Level posts	On Deputa tion in other depart ments	Total
1.	Additional Director	13	-	4	17
2.	Joint Director	10	79	10	99
3.	Assistant Director	18	393	6	417
4.	Block Developm ent Officer	45	1068	4	1117
	Total	86	1,540	24	1,650

5.2 Engineering Establishment

Under Engineering Establishment, the posts of Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineer, Assistant Executive Engineer and Assistant Engineer are governed by Tamil Nadu Panchayat Development Service Rules and the posts of Senior Draughting Officer, Junior Engineer, Overseer / Junior Draughting Officer, Road Inspector are governed by Tamil Nadu Panchayat Development Engineering Subordinate Service Rules.

Table 5.2
Details of Technical Officers' Sanctioned Strength

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	State Level posts	District Level posts	On Deputa tion in other depart ments	Total
1.	Chief Engineer	2	-	-	2
2.	Superintending Engineer	3	-	-	3
3.	Executive Engineer	2	37	14	53
4.	Assistant Executive Engineer	4	179	20	203
5.	Assistant Engineer	11	916	16	943
6.	Senior Draughting Officer	-	37	-	37
7.	Junior Engineer	-	315	-	315
8.	Overseer / Junior Draughting Officer	3	2619	-	2622
9.	Road Inspector	-	1151	-	1151
Total		25	5,254	50	5,329

Followings are the details of Officers on Deputation from other Department: -

Table 5.3
Officers on Deputation from other Departments to RD & PR

Name of the Department	Post Name	Sanctioned Strength	
		Directorate	District
Finance	Financial Adviser & Chief Accounts Officer.	1	-
	Accounts Officer	3	37
Statistics	Deputy Director of Statistics	1	-
	Statistical Inspector	2	-
	Assistant Statistical Investigator	1	36

5.3 Non-Gazetted Establishment

The Non-Gazetted officials are covered under various Service Rules, i.e., Tamil Nadu

Basic Service Rules, Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service Rules, Panchayat Development Subordinate Service Rules and Village Panchayat Secretary Service Rules.

Under Non-Gazetted Establishment, 251 staff are working at state level offices and 98,326 staff at district level and other offices.

The sanctioned strength in each category of staff in Non-Gazetted Establishment is furnished below: -

TABLE 5.4
Details of the Employees under Non- Gazetted
Establishment

Sl. No	Designation of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	
		Directorate	District / Other Office
Government Employees			
i)	Deputy Block Development Officer	47	3936
ii)	Assistant	49	5642
iii)	Junior Assistant	38	3171
iv)	Steno Typist	17	185
v)	Typist	26	1054
vi)	Driver	11	934
vii)	Record Clerk	7	149
viii)	Office Assistant	54	670
ix)	Night Watchman	2	135
	Total	251	15,876
a) Panchayat Union Employees			
i)	Driver	-	776
ii)	Record Clerk	-	390
iii)	Office Assistant	-	1533
iv)	Night Watchman	-	380
	Total	-	3,079
b) Village Panchayat Employees			
i)	Panchayat Secretary	-	12525
ii)	Thooimai Paniyalar	-	26404
iii)	OHT Operator	-	40419
	Total	-	79,348

6. Training and Capacity Building

6.1 Capacity Building

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department plays a vital role in the Socio-economic development of the rural masses through implementation of the various schemes of State and Central Governments. Therefore, Capacity Building and Training programmes are critical to improve capability, capacity, productivity, performance and effectiveness of officials, staff and rural local body representatives entrusted with the responsibility of implementing Government schemes. The training programmes not only enhance skills, knowledge, competencies but also contribute to better attitude and behavioural change.

The following 3 categories of Training Institutes are available in Tamil Nadu.

Table 6.1
Training Institutes

Sl. No	Name of the Institution	Name of Districts Covered
I	State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	All Districts
II	Regional Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	
	S.V.Nagaram	Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Tiruvallur, Cuddalore, Tiruvannamalai, Kallakurichi, Chengalpattu (7 districts)
	Krishnagiri Dam	Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Salem, Dharmapuri, Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupathur (7 districts)
	Pattukottai	Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Pudukottai, Mayiladuthurai, Sivagangai, Tiruchirappalli (7 districts)
	Bhavanisagar	Erode, Coimbatore, Dindigul, The Nilgiris, Karur, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Tiruppur (8 districts)
	T.Kallupatti	Madurai, Theni, Tirunelveli, Virudhunagar, Tenkasi, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari (8 districts)
III	District Resource Centres for Panchayats (DRCPs)	One each at District headquarters (37 Nos)

6.2 State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SIRD&PR)

State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is the apex institution at the State level, organizing training programmes for various target groups to update their knowledge and skills and bring about attitudinal change for successful implementation of the various schemes of the department effectively and efficiently. It is also vested with the responsibility of developing course content and training of trainers for various courses. SIRD&PR has been registered as a Society under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act of 1975. Since the year 1991, the Institute is functioning in a 25-acre campus at Maraimalai Nagar near Chennai.

6.2.1 Resource Pattern

SIRD&PR receives grants-in-aid to meet the salary and non-salary expenditure from the recurring grant of the State Government. Under RRGSA, the Ministry of Panchayat Raj supports SIRD&PR in conducting various Training programmes throughout the year.

It also receives financial support for conducting training programmes from other sources. The Ministry of Rural Development also provides 100% assistance to upgrade the infrastructure facilities on need basis.

6.2.2 Centres in SIRD&PR

The following four Centres have been established at State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

1. Centre for Panchayat Raj/ State Panchayat Resource Centre.
2. Centre for Programme Implementation and Co-ordination.

3. Centre for Livelihood, Women Empowerment.
4. Centre for Rural Engineering and Technology.

6.3 Training Methodology

The participants in the training at SIRD&PR are exposed to various participatory training methodologies like group discussions, role play, experience sharing, exposure visits, etc., 'Cascading model' is adopted by creating master resource persons, who in turn build the capacity of the stakeholders at Regional, District, Block and Community levels.

This Apex Institute conducts residential programmes in its campus and off-campus programmes at District, Block and Village Panchayat levels through District Administration and Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

6.4 Training Performance

During the year 2024-25, SIRD&PR conducted 18 programmes in which 3,436 persons participated in in-campus training under RRGSA fund. During the year 2024-25, SIRD&PR conducted 12 venue programmes for 3036 participants. 152 participants have been trained on a three months Certificate Course on Rural Development and Panchayat Raj. 210 participants have been trained in off-campus training for a three months Certificate Course on Volunteerism and Social Service for Rural Youth.

NIRD&PR has conducted 2 off-campus training programmes to 105 officers and Technical officials on "Use of Geo-Spatial Technologies in real time Monitoring and Implementation of WDC-PMKSY 2.0 Scheme" and to DPMUs, Computer

operators and Panchayat Secretary on “ToT on Capacity building (hands on) for State level master trainers on e-gramswaraj portal”.

6.5 Hand holding support from academic institutions and NGOs for Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP)

The Panchayats have been devolved with 29 functions in the 11th Schedule of the Indian Constitution. As per the Annual Action Plan of SIRD & PR for 2024-25, handholding support to 500 Village Panchayats in the preparation of VPDPs at the rate of Rs.20,000/- per Village Panchayat have been provided by the Academic Institutions/NGOs.

6.6 Panchayat Learning Centres:

It is a great way to gain knowledge from Exposure visits to well performing Panchayats in Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDG) and other Village Panchayats which are awarded or nominated for award where one can learn from elected representatives and functionaries of PRIs. Such Village Panchayats are being developed as Panchayat Learning Centres. During the year 2024-25, SIRD &PR had selected 36 Village Panchayats as Panchayat Learning Centres covering 13 Districts.

Table 6.6**Panchayat Learning Centres**

Sl. No	Name of the District	Name of the VP chosen as Panchayat Learning Centre
1.	Chengalpattu	Kovalam, Padur, Mannivakkam, Vellaputhur
2.	Coimbatore	Odanthurai, Keeranatham, Arasur
3.	Erode	Bynapuram
4.	Madurai	Poonsuthi
5.	Namakkal	Muthukapatti
6.	Nagapattinam	Prathamaramapuram, Ayyakaranpulam
7.	Pudukottai	K. Chettypatti
8.	Tiruchirappalli	Vaiyampatti, Keelanbil, Paithamparai, Kalingappatty, Thiruvasi, Kanakillyanallur
9.	Krishnagiri	Ittigal Agaram
10.	Tenkasi	Keelaveeranam, Maranthai, Melaveeranam, Kurippankulam, Nettur, Anchakuttam, Keelakalangal, Melakaangal, Varaganoor, Sivalarkulam
11.	Tiruvarur	Amoor
12.	Villupuram	Parayanthangal
13.	Virudhunagar	Sethupuram, Kottaiyur, Naranapuram, Thonugal

6.7 Networking with other Academic Institutions

Memorandum of Understanding have been signed with Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, Gandhi Gram Rural Institute, Institute of Rural Management, Anand, Gujarat, Madras School of Social Work, National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Avinashilingam University, SRMIST University, Bharathiar University etc., to undertake joint training programmes, share resources and resource persons.

This networking is aimed at bringing in expertise in the areas such as Faculty Development, Research, Exposure visit, Skill Development, Field placements, Publications etc. Similarly, Organizations may benefit through Internship, Orientation, Training for

Students, Joint Research and Evaluation Projects, Faculty Support, Documentation of best practices etc.

6.8 Regional Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj are headed by Principals in the cadre of Additional Director/Joint Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

6.8.1 Activities

Based on the course content and modules developed by SIRD, the RIRDs directly train various stakeholders like officials and functionaries of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, elected representatives of Panchayat Raj Institution such as Ward Members of Block Panchayats, Village Panchayat Presidents,

Panchayat Secretaries and Government functionaries, Self Help Group Members, CBOs, line Department Officials on Government schemes and programmes. Each Regional Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has got capacity to train a minimum of 6,000 persons (in campus) and to a maximum of 25,000 (including off campus) during a year.

6.8.2 Fund

State Government is providing Rs.7 crore every year for the five Regional Institutes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj. The Government of India provides Rs.20 lakh every year to each RIRD&PR as a recurring grant for the training programmes. It also provides 100% non-recurring grant on a need basis to improve the infrastructure facilities and training

equipment. Besides these, the RIRD&PRs receive funds under schemes of Revamped RGSA and SFC to conduct training.

6.8.3 Training Performance

During the year 2024-25, RIRDs & PR have conducted 14 programmes in which 19,901 participants have been trained.

6.9 District Resource Centres for Panchayats (DRCPs):

District Resource Centres for Panchayats (DRCPs) have been established under Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan to focus exclusively on training and capacity building for the PRIs and Grassroots level functionaries at District level. It functions under the administrative control of the District Collector. They train Village Panchayat Ward Members, Road Inspectors, Panchayat Secretaries, Village Panchayat

staff, including OHT operators, Thooimai Paniyalargal, Community based Organizations and Village Panchayat level Committees.

6.9.1 Training Performance

During the year 2024-25, totally 47,179 persons have been trained by DRCPs.

6.10 Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RRGSA)

Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan has been launched in the year 2022 to strengthen the capacities of Panchayat Raj institutions to become more responsive towards local developmental needs. It also aims to facilitate participatory planning, leveraging technologies for effectively utilizing available resources and realizing sustainable solutions to local problems which are linked to

Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs). The Panchayats have, therefore, been designated as a key player for implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved by the year by 2030.

Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan is executed with a fund sharing pattern of 60:40 (Union and State Government) have the following components viz., Training and Capacity Buiding, Infrastructure and Human Resources, Distance Learning, Innovative activities, Technical Support to Panchayat Raj Institutions, Panchayat Buildings, E-enablement of Panchayats, Project based support for Economic Development and Income enhancement, IEC (2%) and Programme Management (1.5%).

During the year 2024-25, Capacity Building & Training and other activities have been approved for Rs.211.42 crore based on the Annual Action Plan.

70,524 persons have been trained at an expenditure of Rs.13.53 crore. Infrastructure facilities at Panchayat level have been developed at an expenditure of Rs. 37.21 crore, and Rs. 9.02 crore has been incurred as expenditure for Human Resources.

During the year 2025-26, RRGSA will focus on the localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) by Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) through convergence of Government schemes, Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), training to Women Elected Representatives and Women Friendly Panchayats and various activities for the Development of Panchayats infrastructure.

7. Budget

2025-2026

7. Budget Estimate for 2025-2026

A sum of Rs.29,465 crore is provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2025-26, out of which, the Revenue Expenditure is Rs.24,667 crore and Capital Expenditure is Rs.4,798 crore.

8. Conclusion

8. Conclusion

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is committed to ensuring the fulfilment of the basic needs of the rural masses such as Drinking Water, Sanitation, Housing, Livelihood, Rural connectivity, other rural infrastructure like Street lighting, Schools, Community Halls etc., The current perspective is not merely the provision of infrastructure and amenities in a target-based approach, but to embed the concept of sustainability through Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals.

This Government has always been in the forefront in its efforts to fulfil the aspirations of the poor and the vulnerable, especially with regard to their aspirations of a permanent house. Apart from the provision of a reasonable unit cost, timely supply of

Cement and Steel at subsidised rates are planned meticulously to help the people construct their dream houses. Further, additional support in the form of Bank loans to the housing beneficiaries are also provided.

Over the past few years, the Government, through its officials and local body representatives, has certainly come closer to the people through schemes like Makkaludan Mudalvar and Mudalvarin Mugavari. There is an increased focus on better Standards of Service delivery and Transparency.

The orientation of the Government has already changed from the provider of Community Assets to the provider of Community well-being. These changes are evident through the construction of Child-

Friendly classrooms and, Clean and hygienic School environment with provision of potable drinking water of good standards to the school students. Further, the change is not only evident in laying of all-weather durable roads to increase connectivity but also to the laying of Cement Concrete or Paver Block Streets and lanes to enhance the last mile comfort to People's doorsteps.

Under the visionary leadership of the **Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, remains steadfast in its mission to drive sustainable growth across Rural Tamil Nadu. With a strong focus on enhancing rural infrastructure, uplifting livelihoods, and fostering inclusive development, the State continues to set benchmarks in rural

transformation. Committed to progress and innovation, Tamil Nadu is poised to remain a leader in rural development, ensuring a brighter and more prosperous future for its people.

I.PERIYASAMY

Minister for Rural Development

Government of Tamil Nadu



The Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M.K.Stalin, inaugurated 17 New Panchayat Union Office buildings constructed at a cost of Rs.64.53 crore in 11 Districts at the Secretariat on 12.11.2024 through video conference.



The Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M.K.Stalin, flagged off the services of 95 vehicles worth Rs.8.46 crore for the use of field officials of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department at the Secretariat on 23.12.2024.



The Fourth State-level Committee Meeting on District Development Co-ordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) was held under the chairmanship of Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M.K.Stalin at the Secretariat on 15.02.2025.



New House Construction under Kalaigharin Kanavu Illam Scheme in Moolakkadu Village Panchayat, Kolathur Block, Salem District, Estimate Rs.3.50 lakh



Repairs to Rural Houses in Kodikkalpudur Village Panchayat, Erumapatty Block, Namakkal District, Estimate Rs.70,000/-



Construction of 48 Houses in Vellakalpatti Narikuravar Colony under Tribal Housing Scheme in Arurpatti Panchayat, Tharamangalam Block, Salem District, Estimate Rs.221.76 lakh



Rejuvenation of Thalakari Eri under Rejuvenation of MI Tank Scheme in Kolaram
Village Panchayat, Paramathy Block, Namakkal District.
Estimate Rs.5.15 lakh



Strengthening of the road from Lakshmi Amman temple to
Sirukalanthai under Mudalvarin Grama Salaigal Membattu Thittam in
Kappalankarai Village Panchayat, Kinathukadavu Block, Coimbatore District,
Estimate Rs. 82.30 lakh



Construction of bridge across Manakondan river under PMGSY-III in Aadhanur Village Panchayat, Vedaranyam Block, Nagapattinam District, Estimate Rs. 549.20 lakh



Construction of Check dam under MGNREGS in Sundakkampalayam Village Panchayat, Nambiyur Block, Erode District, Estimate Rs.38.63 lakh



Massive tree plantation under MGNREGS in Kallipalayam Village Panchayat,
Sarkarsamakulam Block, Coimbatore District, Estimate Rs.2.30 lakh



Construction of New Panchayat Union Office Building at Rajapalayam Block under SCPAR in Rajapalayam Block, Virudhunagar District, Estimate Rs. 358.75 Lakh



Construction of 60,000 litres Over Head Tank under Jal Jeevan Mission in
Karanthaneri Village Panchayat, Nanguneri Block, Tirunelveli District.
Estimate Rs.27.25 lakh



Construction of Rural Sports Centre in Paadi Panchayat, Palacode Block, Dharmapuri District.

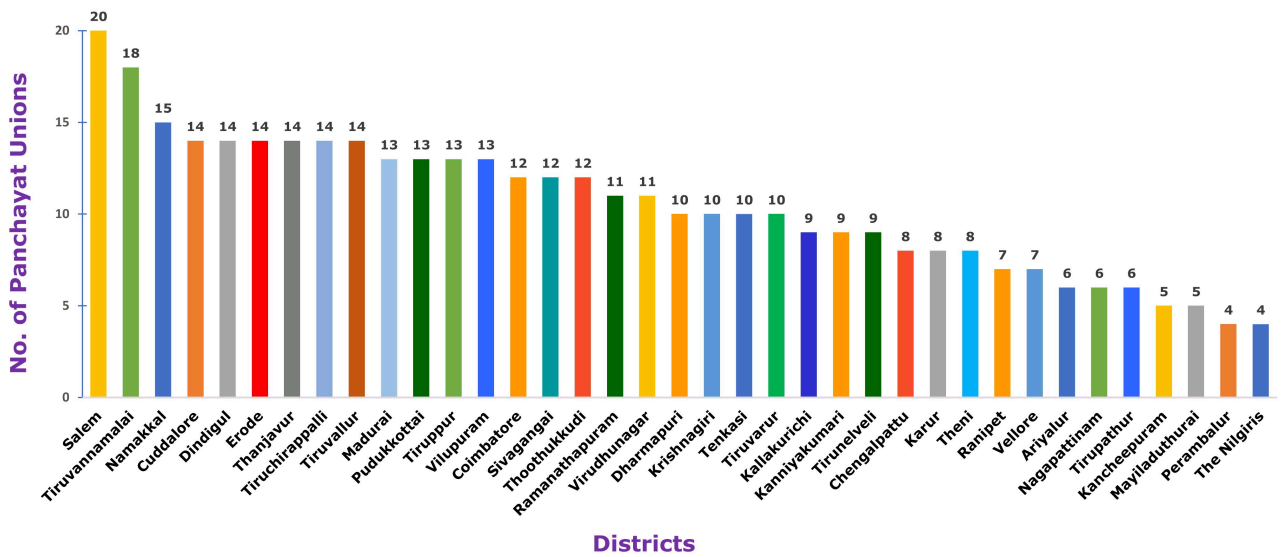


Construction of two class room building under Child Friendly School Infrastructure Development Scheme in Saragapalli Village Panchayat, Thally block, Krishnagiri District, Estimate Rs.32.80 lakhs

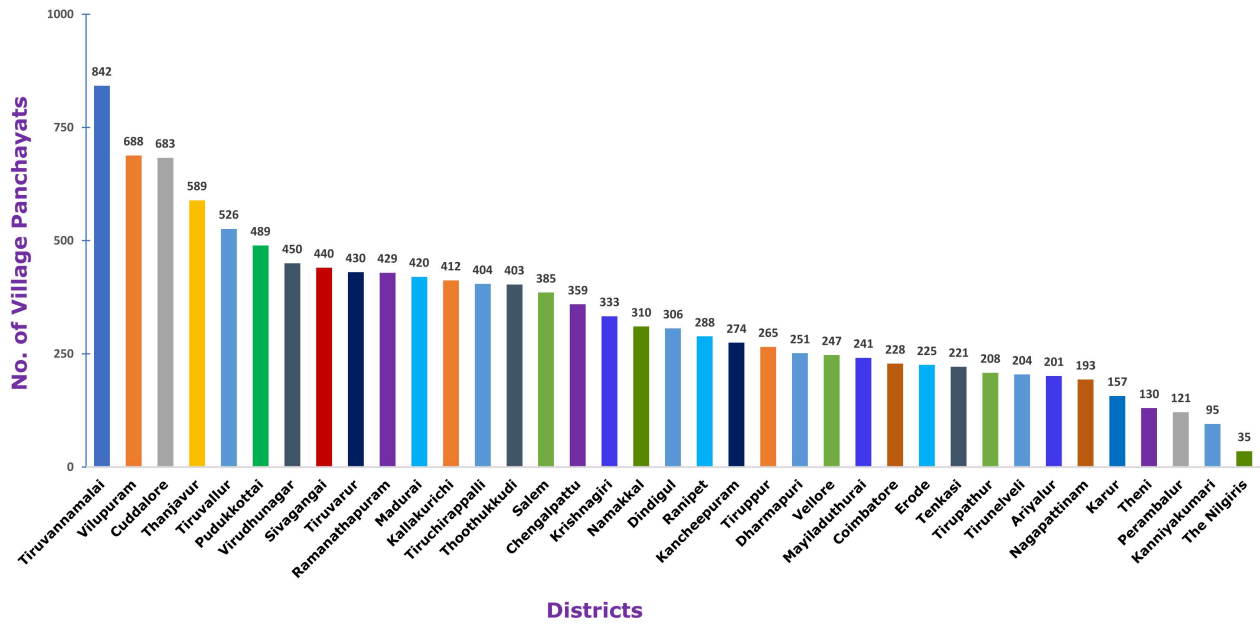


Construction of Anganwadi building under AGAMT-II in Chathrappatti Village Panchayat, Rajapalayam Block, Virudhunagar District, Estimate Rs.14.31 lakh

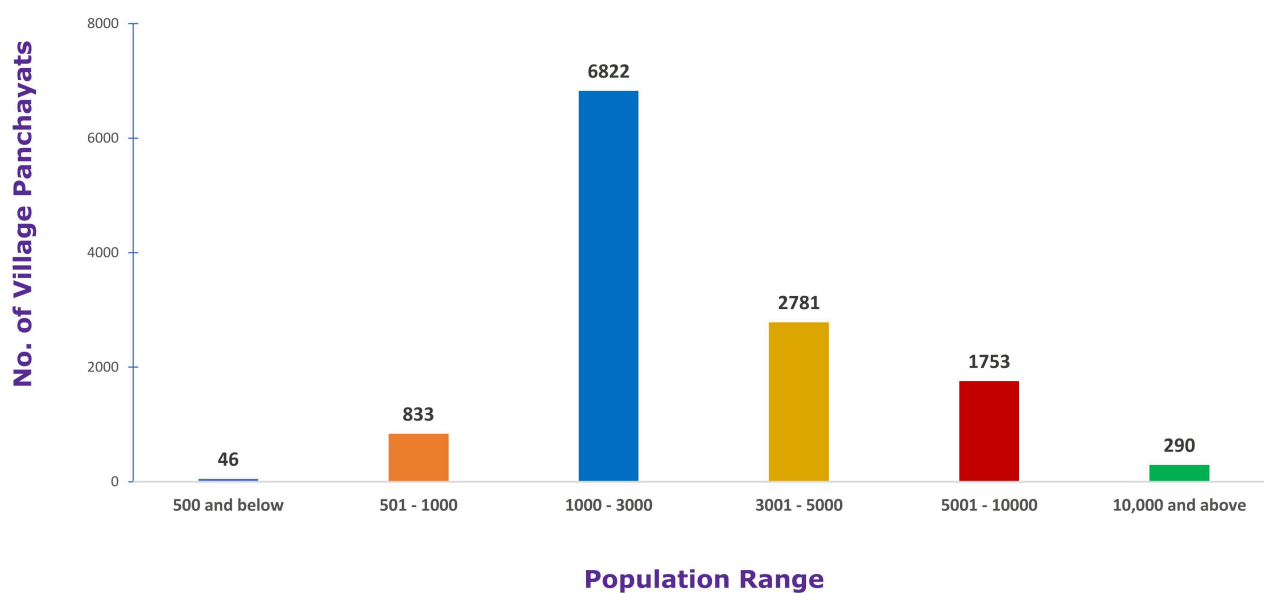
District-Wise Number of Panchayat Unions



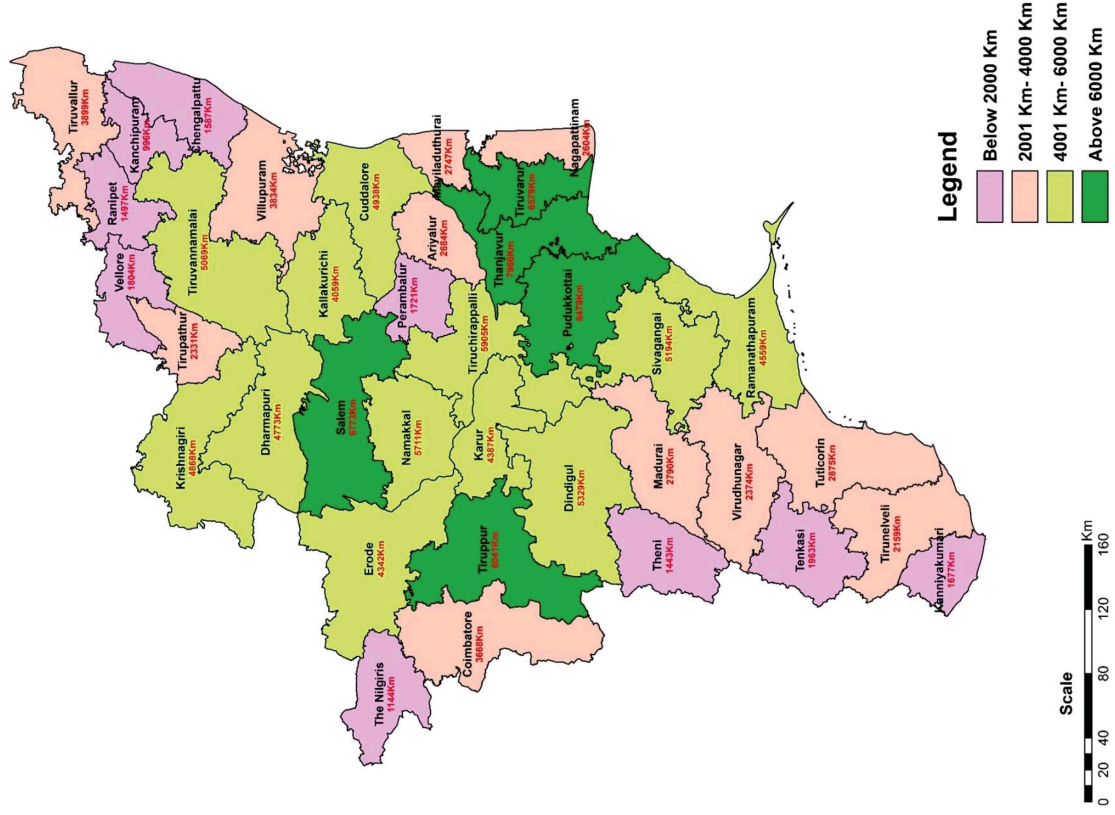
District-Wise Number of Village Panchayats



Classification of Village Panchayats based on Population (Census 2011)



DISTRICT-WISE RURAL ROADS LENGTH



Classification of Rural Roads

