



HOME, PROHIBITION AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

**POLICY NOTE
2022 - 2023**

DEMAND No. 3

S. REGUPATHY
Minister for Law

©

Government of Tamil Nadu
2022

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Introduction

The Constitution recognizes the Judiciary as the important pillar of our democracy. This Government always gives top priority to ensure provision of adequate infrastructure facilities for the judiciary to enable it to function freely and fairly.

2. Organisational Hierarchy of the Judiciary

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in New Delhi is the Apex Court of our Country. It has control over all the High Courts functioning in the States. The hierarchy of Judiciary at State level is given in Annexure-I.

3. High Court, Madras and its Bench at Madurai

3.1. The Madras High Court stands to be the highest Court of Justice in the State. The High Court has an approved strength of 75 Hon'ble Judges, now functioning with 61 Hon'ble Judges. The High Court exercises original jurisdiction and special original jurisdiction (writ jurisdiction) in civil matters and appellate jurisdiction both in civil and criminal matters, suits above the value of Rs.1 crore arising within the city of Chennai. The Madurai Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai exercise its jurisdiction over the following 13 districts:-

1. Madurai
2. Dindigul
3. Pudukkottai
4. Thanjavur
5. Tiruchirappalli
6. Karur

7. Sivagangai
8. Ramanathapuram
9. Virudhunagar
10. Tirunelveli
11. Thoothukudi
12. Kanniyakumari
13. Theni

Except original jurisdiction, the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court also exercises jurisdiction in all other matters as in the case of the Principal Seat of Madras High Court.

3.2. The Madras High Court also exercises extended jurisdiction over Union Territory of Puducherry. The expenditure of officers and staff attending to Puducherry matters in the High Court is initially incurred by the Government of Tamil Nadu, and is reimbursed subsequently by the Government of Puducherry.

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

4. Strength of the Courts

1288 Courts including Special Courts are now functioning in the State. Out of these, 144 Courts in Chennai City and 1144 Courts in other Districts are functioning. The details showing the number of Courts / Tribunals functioning in the City of Chennai and in other Districts are given in Annexure-II and III respectively.

5. Constitution of new Courts

25 new courts have been sanctioned during the year 2021-2022.

6. Civil and Criminal Courts at Chennai.

6.1. The territorial jurisdiction of the City Civil Court extends over the whole City of Chennai. The pecuniary jurisdiction for the cases of the Assistant Judge is up to Rs.10 lakh and that of Principal Judge is above Rs.10 lakh not exceeding Rs.1 crore. The City Civil Court is also functioning as the Sessions Court for the Chennai Sessions Division.

6.2. The Court of Small Causes is vested with powers to try cases filed under the Presidency Small Causes Courts Act, 1882 for trial of cases under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. The V and VI courts are exclusively functioning as Tribunals. The Chief Judge and Judges of II, III and IV courts have also been empowered to try cases under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 for the City of Chennai. The Judges of X to XVI Courts are functioning as rent

controllers. The Chief Judge and Judges of VII, VIII and IX courts are empowered to hear rent control appeals.

6.3. 37 Metropolitan Magistrate Courts are now functioning in the City of Chennai. The Metropolitan Magistrate Courts exercise their jurisdiction within the specified Police Station limits in Chennai City.

7. Appointment of Civil Judges

During the year 2021, 62 candidates have been appointed as Civil Judges by direct recruitment through Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission.

8. District Courts

8.1. There are 90 District Courts (including 49 Additional District Courts, erstwhile Fast Track Courts) functioning in the State. The District Judges have pecuniary jurisdiction where

the amount of value of subject matter exceeds Rs.10 lakh without any limitation. The District Courts are also functioning as Special Tribunals under certain special enactments such as the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, the Estate Abolition Act, 1948 and the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. The District Judges are also the Sessions Judges of the respective divisions. They exercise civil appellate jurisdiction over the district and inspect the subordinate courts in their respective divisions.

8.2. 32 Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts are functioning in the State having administrative control over the courts of Judicial Magistrate in the Districts. In certain category of cases, powers of the Assistant Sessions Judge are conferred on the Chief Judicial Magistrates. They inspect the Court of Judicial Magistrates in their respective districts.

8.3. There are 165 Subordinate Courts functioning in the State, and have pecuniary jurisdiction in all civil proceedings exceeding Rs.1 lakh, but does not exceed Rs.10 lakh. These Courts are also functioning as Assistant Sessions Courts and as Motor Accident Claims Tribunals. They also exercise appellate powers in respect of appeals arising from and out of the orders of the District Munsif Courts functioning in their respective territorial jurisdiction up to the value of Rs.1,00,000/-.

8.4. There are 204 District Munsif Courts functioning in the State and are exercising pecuniary jurisdiction up to Rs.1 lakh. They are rent controllers of their respective territorial jurisdictions. Each District Munsif Court has defined territorial jurisdiction and exercise small causes jurisdiction up to Rs.20,000/.

8.5. There are 234 Judicial Magistrate Courts functioning in almost all Taluks of the State having competency to try cases if the offence is punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or with fine not exceeding Rs.10,000/- or with both.

8.6. The District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts are constituted to mitigate difficulties of the litigants. These Courts now try both civil and criminal cases. There are 75 District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts functioning in the State.

9. Special Courts

9.1. The following Four Special Courts are functioning in the State for trial of cases registered under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955:-

1. I Additional Sessions Court, Tiruchirappalli
2. I Additional Sessions Court, Thanjavur

3. II Additional Sessions Court, Tirunelveli

4. III Additional Sessions Court, Madurai

The following Special Courts are functioning in the State to try cases registered under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 :-

1. Villupuram
2. Sivagangai
3. Dindigul
4. Ramanathapuram
5. Srivilliputhur in Virudhunagar District,
6. Pudukkottai
7. Cuddalore
8. Namakkal
9. Theni
10. Tiruvannamalai
11. Perambalur
12. Thoothukudi
13. Vellore

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

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

9.3. For exclusive trial of cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, Special Courts are functioning at Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Kancheepuram @ Chengalpattu, Kanniyakumari @ Nagercoil, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Salem, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Tiruvannamalai, Thoothukudi, Vellore, Villupuram and Virudhunagar @ Srivilliputhur. In addition four more courts at Dindigul, Dharmapuri, Theni and Tiruvallur Districts have also been sanctioned.

9.4. Seventeen Labour Courts and One Industrial Tribunal are functioning in the State, to adjudicate labour disputes and claim petitions.

9.5. Thirty two Family Courts are functioning in the State with a view to promoting conciliation and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs and for matters connected therewith as envisaged in the Family Courts Act, 1984. Further, 7 Additional Family Courts and 4 Holiday Family Courts are functioning in Chennai and one Additional Family Court at Coimbatore.

9.6. Ten Magalir Neethimandram (Mahila Courts) are functioning in the State for exclusive trial of cases of crime against Women and 32 Additional Mahila Court at the Judicial Magistrate level for trial of case cruelty against

Women. Further 22 Fast Track Mahila Courts are functioning in the State.

9.7. The special Court functioning at Coimbatore District tries Domestic Violence Act Cases.

9.8. Three Special Courts for trial of economic offences, two Special Courts at Chennai and one at Madurai are now functioning.

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

9.10. Three Special Courts at Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore are functioning for trial of offences under the Tamil Nadu Protection of Interests of Depositors (in Financial Establishments) Act, 1997.

9.11. Special Courts at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Pudukkottai, Salem and Thanjavur are functioning to try cases under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

9.12. There are 8 Special Courts functioning for exclusive trial of Central Bureau of Investigation Cases in the State in which 6 Courts are in Chennai and one Court at Madurai and Coimbatore. It includes one Special Court functioning at Chennai to deal with Banks and Financial Institution Scam cases.

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

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

9.15. One Special Court for exclusive trial of Central Crime Branch cases (relating to cheating cases in Chennai) and Crime Branch Criminal Investigation Department metro cases has been constituted in Chennai.

9.16. One Special Judicial Magistrate Court to deal with sandalwood offences case is functioning at Tirupattur. One Special Court is also functioning for trial of forest offences cases at Nagercoil in Kanniyakumari District

9.17. Two Special courts at Chennai and Madurai and one Special court at Villupuram are functioning for trial of cases registered under

the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

9.18. Two Special Courts are functioning at Chennai (i.e. I Additional and V Additional Judges) for trial of cases registered under the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987 (since repealed).

9.19. Two Special Courts are functioning for trial of bomb blast cases, one each at Chennai and Coimbatore. The Special Court at Poonamallee for trial of bomb blast cases at Chennai is also trying cases arising out of the offences under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 (Central Act 15 of 2002).

9.20. A special District Court functions at Madurai to deal with the cases of offences in contravention of the provision of the Mines and Minerals (D&R) Act.

9.21. 26 Special Courts including two Special Courts at Chennai City have been sanctioned for trial of land grabbing cases. The details of Courts are detailed in Annexure-IV.

9.22. Two Special Courts and one Additional Special Court for trial of criminal cases involving elected Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu are functioning at Chennai. Besides this, the Judicial Magistrates in the districts are vested with powers for trial of Criminal Cases involving elected Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu.

9.23. There are 36 Special Courts functioning in the State to deal with the trial of cases relating to Motor Accident Claims Original Petition (MCOP) / Land Acquisition Original Petition (LAOP) cases. In addition to this, 8 more Special Courts to deal with MCOP cases have been sanctioned.

9.24. Nine Railway Magistrate Courts in the districts of Vellore, Cuddalore, Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and in Egmore and Chennai Central Railway Stations are functioning for trial of offences under the Indian Railway Act, 1989.

9.25. Twelve Mobile Courts are functioning i.e., two at Chennai and one each at Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Namakkal, Salem, Erode, Dindigul and Tirunelveli to deal with petty cases registered under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988) and the cases registered under other enactments.

9.26. There are 51 Fast Track Courts functioning in the State to clear the pendency of criminal cases in the Judicial Magistrate Courts in this State.

9.27. 10 Additional Master Courts i.e. four Courts for Madras High Court, four Courts for City Civil Court, Chennai and two Courts for Court of Small Causes, Chennai are functioning in the State. These Courts summon the litigant and record evidence.

9.28. The Administrator General and Official Trustee, Chennai in the cadre of District Judge is in-charge of Trust properties of Minors and Estates of deceased persons. He is assisted by the Deputy Administrator General and Official Trustee in the cadre of Civil Judge.

10. Court Managers

Thirty five posts of Court Manager in the cadre of Assistant Registrar have been sanctioned to assist the Principal Seat at Madras and Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and the Principal District & Sessions Courts.

11. Court buildings, quarters for Judicial Officers and other Infrastructure facilities

During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.72.90 crore was sanctioned for construction of combined Court Buildings, quarters for judicial officers and for other infrastructure facilities.

At present 993 Courts are functioning in own buildings, 112 Courts are functioning in the Government buildings and 85 Courts are functioning in the private rented buildings. Infrastructure and other facilities are provided by the Government as and when required by the High Court of Madras and for Subordinate Judiciary.

12. Centrally Sponsored Scheme

To augment the resources of the State Governments / UT administration for

development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary. The Department of Justice is implementing a "Centrally Sponsored Scheme". The scheme covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodation of Judicial Officers in the Subordinate Courts to facilitate better delivery of justice. Under this scheme, the ratio of expenditure shared between the Union and State Governments has been revised as 60:40 from the year 2015-2016. It covers construction of court buildings and residential accommodation of Judicial Officers in the Subordinate Courts to facilitate better delivery of justice. The Government of India has released a sum of Rs.35.66 crore to this Government for the year 2021-2022.

13. e-Courts Integrated Mission Mode Project

13.1. The e-Courts Integrated Mission Mode Project is one of the National

e-Governance Projects being implemented in High Courts and District / Subordinate Courts of the Country. The main objectives of the project are:-

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

13.2. e-filing facility has been implemented in the Madras High Court. e-filing was also extended to all types of users in Principal Seat and Madurai Bench of Madras High Court.

13.3. Under the Phase-II of e-Court Project, 2906 smart phones were procured for using NSTEP mobile application and the same were distributed to the districts concerned. As on 29.12.2021, 2,10,743 Nos. of processes has been consumed and 92,136 Nos. of processes has been delivered by the Process Servers (Senior and Junior Bailiff).

13.4. The Official Website of the High Court, Madras is being accessed by the litigants and advocates for getting information on case status and orders / judgements.

13.5. Leased line connections have also been provided to 42 District Court complexes and all Judicial Officers have been provided with unique identification numbers. All the Districts have been provided with technical manpower.

14. Information & Communication Technology

14.1. The Madras High Court has implemented the integration of Madras High Court's Case Information System (HC-CIS) with Court Cases Monitoring System (CCMS) for the purpose of sharing of court data and documents pertaining to State Government.

- This system helps the Government to monitor the cases in which Government itself is a party and to respond better on the pending cases.
- The concerned stakeholders (State Government) are informed of about the cases on the hearing dates.
- It helps the concerned officials to file necessary counters and rejoinder at the appropriate time.

14.2. To facilitate advocates in mapping their mobile numbers with the legacy cases (mobile number not updated cases) based on their respective enrolment number and appearance of cases. The advocate would receive case information as to the listing and adjudication of all the mapped cases through SMS. The advocate is also provided with a VC Link to participate in the court proceeding, if the mapped case is listed on the current date. The Module is available at (<https://www.madrashighcourt.tn.gov.in/aims>).

14.3. The High Court of Madras has installed braille printer in the premises of Madras High Court. The printer has the capability of printing 350 Braille pages per hour and it is simple and easy to use. An official notification is published in the official website of Madras High Court (<http://www.hcmadras.tn.nic.in/>) regarding availability / facility of Braille Printers

for Judgments / Orders at the Principal Seat with effect from 15.11.2021.

15. e-Stamping for Payment of Court Fees

The system of payment of court fee by means of e-Stamping was introduced in the High Court of Madras and its Madurai Bench in the first phase and it will be extended to all Principal District Courts. The public can avail this facility through internet and also through the authorised collection centres of M/s.Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited and authorised banks by filing applications. Permission was also granted to sell the non-judicial stamps from the counter of M/s.Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited for use of public.

The High Court of Madras has entered into a MoU with the State Bank of India for enabling e-payment of Court fee by integrating the Case

Information System with SBI ePay payment gateway.

As on 31.12.2021, the following amounts have been collected as e-Court fee through e-Stamps in Principal Seat at High Court of Madras, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court and District Judiciary

- Principal Seat at High Court of Madras – Rs.63,39,35,578/-
- Madurai Bench – Rs.18,68,48,023/-
- District Judiciary – Rs. 2,80,44,164/-

16. Online Portal for Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee

An Online Portal for Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee for registering the complaints regarding gender related issues through online (<https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in> / gsicc). The portal is bilingual (supports English and Tamil) was

launched on 29.10.2021 and is user friendly. The GSICC portal of the High Court website would enable the complaints / victim of gender bias, be it the staff of the Registry or any other person within the precincts of the Madras High Court to lodge in her / his grievance.

17. Classification of Expenditure

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

18. Tamil Law Journal

The bi-monthly Law Journal "Theerpu Thirattu" (Tamil) is made available to the Advocates and the Public.

19. Judicial Academy

The main purpose of the Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy is to impart training to the Judicial Officers such as District Judges, Senior Civil Judges and Civil Judges and staff of the Judiciary and to give induction training to the new recruits. There are three Judicial Academies, one at Chennai and two regional centres at Madurai and Coimbatore. During the year 2021 40 hours Mediation Training Programme was conducted to 56 Judicial Officers in the cadres of District Judge and Senior Civil Judge.

20. Usage of Tamil Language in the proceedings of the High Court of Madras

As it is a long standing aspiration and demand of this State, repeated request to authorize the use of State Official Language Tamil in High Court of Madras was not

favourably considered by the Full Court of Supreme Court of India during its meeting held on 11.10.2012. The same demand is being re-iterated to the Union Government periodically.

21. Tamil Nadu Advocates' Welfare Fund

The financial assistance given to the legal heirs / nominees of the deceased Advocates to be paid from the Tamil Nadu Advocates Welfare Fund is at present Rs.7 lakh and the annual grant to the above fund is Rs.8 crore.

22. Young Advocate Stipend

Stipend of Rs.3,000/- per month is sanctioned to the newly enrolled young Lawyers for two years subject to eligibility.

23. Tamil Nadu Advocates' Clerks Welfare Fund

The financial assistance of Rs.4.00 lakh is given to the nominee / dependant of the deceased Advocates' Clerks from the Tamil Nadu Advocates' Clerks Welfare Fund.

24. Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority

24.1. The Government have constituted Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority, District Legal Services Authority for every District in the State. The State Legal Services Authority has constituted Taluk Legal Services Committees in every area where there is a court, throughout the State. At present there are 32 District Legal Services Authorities, 150 Taluk Legal Services Committees and 2 High Court Legal Services Committees functioning in the State.

24.2. The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (as amended by Act 59 of 1994) was enacted to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities, to organize Lok Adalats on a statutory basis as an Alternative Disputes Resolution Forum, to educate poorer sections of the society on their rights and to enable them to get the benefits and privileges given to them in various social welfare legislations and administrative orders.

Eligibility Criteria

24.3. Persons who satisfy all or any of the following criteria specified in Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 shall be entitled to receive legal services provided that the concerned Authority is satisfied that such

person has a prima facie case to prosecute or to defend : -

- (i) A member of Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;
- (ii) A victim of Human Trafficking or Begar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution;
- (iii) A Woman or a Child;
- (iv) A Physically Challenged person;
- (v) A person under circumstances of undeserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster; or
- (vi) An Industrial workman
- (vii) In custody, including a custody in a protective home, Juvenile Home,

Psychiatric hospital or Psychiatric nursing home; or

- (viii) The annual income which is less than the amount as specified in 12(h) of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. The annual income ceiling prescribed for free legal assistance is Rs.3,00,000/-.

Legal Aid Counsel Scheme

24.4. This scheme lays emphasis for legal aid to the persons in custody for getting release on bail and opposing remand applications, during trial for defence and for preferring appeals or revision in case of adverse orders. Legal Aid counsels strive to provide legal assistance to the under trial prisoners produced for remand before Magistrates, pleading no means to engage counsel under the Legal Aid Counsel Scheme.

Alternative Disputes Resolution Centres

24.5. There are 31 Alternative Disputes Resolution Centre functioning in the State and it as a hub for all mediation activities such as Lok Adalats and other alternative disputes resolution mechanism.

Counselling and Mediation Centres

24.6. Mediation Centres and Counselling Centres are functioning as an instrumentality for pre-litigative settlements. They provide an alternative system of dispute resolution at the grass-root level.

Legal Assistance

24.7. The Legal Services Authorities / Committees provide assistance to the weaker segments of the society for getting welfare benefits and free legal assistance to the persons affected in criminal cases, victims in motor vehicle accident cases.

Lok Adalat

24.8. The Lok Adalat is being organized to arrive at a settlement between the parties to a dispute in respect of any case pending before or any matter which is falling within the jurisdiction of any court. Permanent Lok Adalats have been established in 32 districts under section 22B of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987. National Lok Adalats are being conducted in all the courts in the country right from the Supreme Court of India to the Taluk. During the year 2021 in the National Lok Adalats 1,91,604 cases were settled for an award amount of Rs.1767,82,58,344/-.

The Prison Adalat and Legal Aid Cell are functioning in Central Prisons at Chennai, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Vellore, Cuddalore, Salem, Tirunelveli and Coimbatore and in Special Prison for Women at Vellore. A Legal Aid Clinic is functioning in the Central Prison at Puzhal in

Chennai. The Prison Adalat functions every Friday. In the Prison Legal Aid Cell, petitions are received from the prisoners and the same are being registered in the register maintained in the Legal Aid Cell and follow up action is taken.

Mobile Van

24.9. In propagation of legal aid schemes / programmes framed under the Legal Services Authorities Act, as a part of publicity campaign in the State, Mobile Van will be used for conducting Mobile Lok Adalats, legal awareness camps and screening of publicity films using LCD projector.

Village Legal Care And Support Centre

24.10. Under the guidance of National Legal Services Authority, Village Legal Care and Support Centres were established with the help of District Legal Service Authorities in all villages

or for a cluster of villages especially where people face geographical and social barriers for access to the Legal Services Institutions.

Panel Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers will give suggestions and advice to the public approaching the centres and if they need Legal Aid they will advise the public to approach the nearest Legal Services Institutions.

Legal Aid Help Line

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

25. The Department of Government Litigations, High Court, Chennai

The Department of Government Litigations is functioning under the overall administrative control of the Advocate General of Tamil Nadu. 14 Unit Offices come under his control. The Unit Offices of the Additional Advocate Generals I, II, IV, V, VII, VIII, IX, the Public Prosecutor, the State Government Pleader are functioning at High Court, Chennai and the unit offices of the Additional Advocate Generals III, VI, Government Pleader and Additional Public Prosecutor are functioning at Madurai Bench of Madras High Court. Two Additional Advocate Generals are appointed to defend the cases of the State before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.

26. Directorate of Prosecution

26.1. Proper conduct of prosecution of the criminal cases before the Chief Judicial

Magistrate Courts / Judicial Magistrate Courts in the State is effectively controlled and monitored the performance of the Prosecuting Officers, attached to the respective courts by the Directorate of Prosecution. Apart from this, they are deputed to other departments like Vigilance, Police, Prison, Public Health, Agriculture, Drugs Control, Seeds Certification etc, as legal advisers.

26.2. The Tamil Nadu Prosecutors Journal carries important sensational judgments of the Supreme Court and the High Courts of the States. This is very useful for the Law Officers in conducting prosecution in criminal cases. Libraries with Law books one each at Headquarters, Regions and at District level offices are maintained.

26.3 Induction training for 2 weeks to the 66 newly appointed Additional Public Prosecutors

Grade-II in Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy at Madurai has been imparted.

27. Conclusion

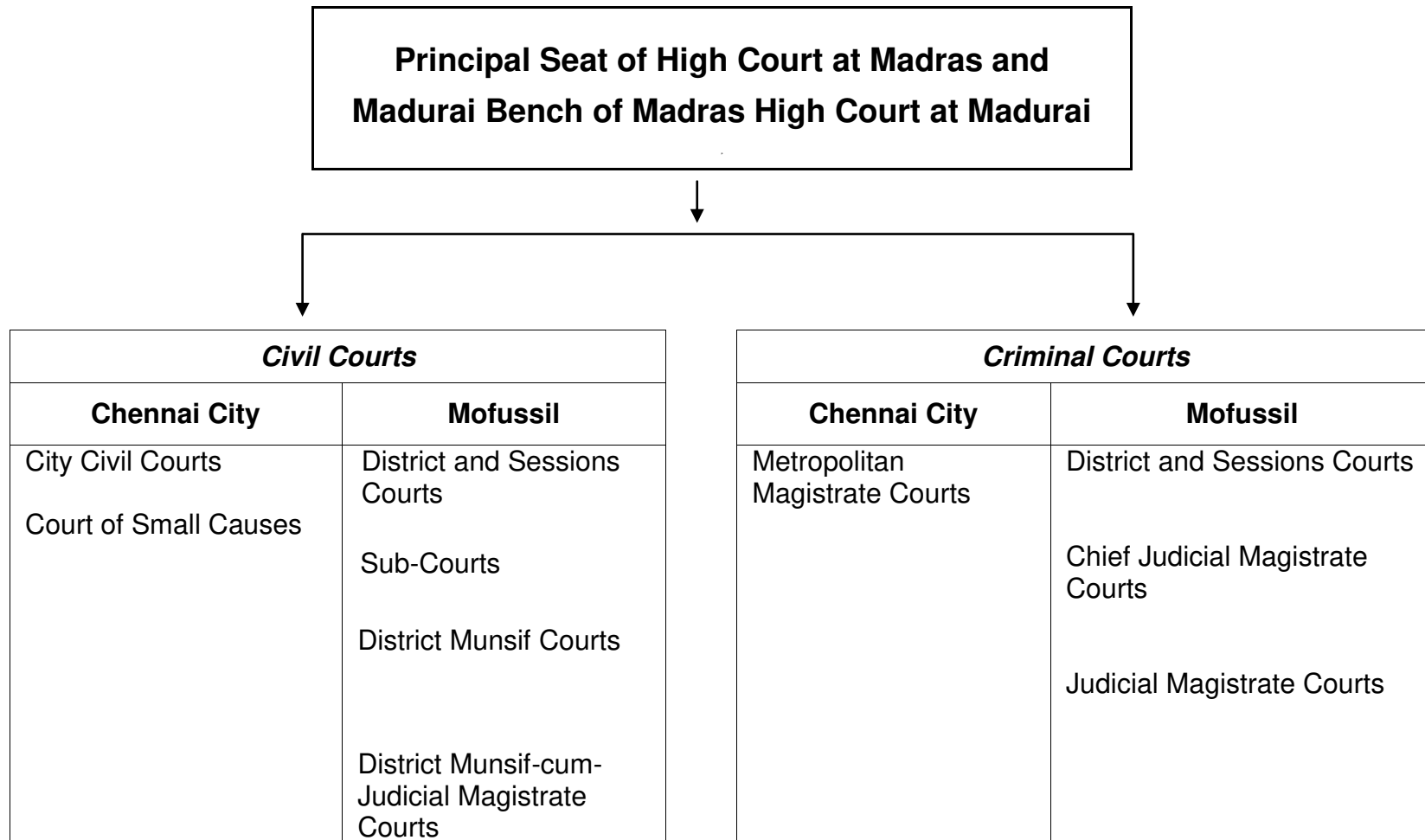
The Government is committed to uphold and support not only the independence of Judiciary but also to provide readily support and assistance in meeting administration and other related performance of the Judiciary. The expeditious dispensation of the justice is an essential characteristic of good governance, and the Government is committed to further this ideal in the years to come.

S. REGUPATHY
Minister for Law

ANNEXURE – I

(see para - 2)

ORGANISATIONAL HIERARCHY OF THE JUDICIARY IN TAMIL NADU



ANNEXURE – II

(see para –4)

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

Sl. No.	Name of Courts / Tribunals	District Judge		Senior Civil Judge		Civil Judge
		District Courts	CBI Courts	C.M.M.	Others	
1.	City Civil Courts	18	6	--	28	1
2.	Court of Small Causes	1	--	--	8	8
3.	Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Courts	2	--	1	26@	8*
4.	Labour Courts	4	--	--	--	--
5.	Industrial Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
6.	Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal	1	--	--	1	--
7.	State Transport Appellate Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
8.	Special Court under Essential Commodities Act	1	--	--	--	--
9.	Administrator General and Official Trustee	1	--	--	--	--
10.	Deputy Administrator General and Official Trustee	--	--	--	--	1
11.	Family Courts	8	--	--	--	--
12.	Mahalir Neethimandram	1	--	--	--	--
13.	Special Court under TNPID (in Financial Estt.) Act, 1997	1	--	--	--	--
14.	Additional Special Courts under N.D.P.S. Act	2	--	--	--	--
15.	Sessions Court for trial of Bomb Blast Cases	1	--	--	--	--
16.	Corporation of Chennai, Chennai Taxation Appeals Tribunal	1	--	--	--	--
17.	Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority, Chennai	1	--	--	--	--
18.	Deputy Secretary, Tamil Nadu, Legal Services Authority	--	--	--	1	--
19.	Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Chennai	--	--	--	1	--
20.	Special Court under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988	--	--	--	1	--
21.	Special Courts for MCOP cases	--	--	--	2	--
22.	Permanent Lok Adalat	1	-	-	--	--
23.	Chairman, Tamil Nadu, Waqf Tribunal	1	-	-	--	--
24.	Sessions Judge, Spl Court for the trial of Criminal Cases related to elected MPs and MLAs	2	-	-	1	--
25.	Sessions Judge, Spl Court for exclusive trial of Criminal Cases under POCSO Act	1	--	--	--	--
Total		50	6	1	69	18
Total Number of Courts – 144 [District Judges - 56] [Senior Civil Judges - 70] [Civil Judges - 18]						
@ including two Mobile Courts * including five Fast Track Courts at Magisterial level, two Special Courts for land grabbing cases and one Additional Mahila Court						

Annexure – III

(See para-4)

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

Sl.No.	Districts	District Judge											Senior Civil Judge							Civil Judge					
		District Courts	PCR/SC&ST Act Courts	Bomb Blast /Communal Clashes Cases	Labour Courts	E.C. Act/N.D.P.S. Act Cases	Special Courts CBI Cases / TNPID Act Cases	Family Courts/Fast Track Courts	Mahalir Neethimandram	Special Courts-MCOP Cases	Permanent Lok Adalat	Special Court for POCSSO Act	Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts	Sub Courts	Special Courts MCOP Cases	Special Courts-LAOP Cases	Prevention of Corruption Act Cases	District Legal Services Authority	State Transport Appellate Tribunal	District Munsif Courts	Judicial Magistrate Courts	Fast Track Courts/ Additional Mahalir Neethimandram	Special Courts-Land Grabbing Cases	Mobile Courts	District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Courts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1.	Ariyalur	2	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	--	1	3	--	2	--	1	--	3	4	1	--	--	1
2.	Coimbatore	5	--	1	2	1*	2 ^{##}	2	1	--	1	1	1	7	1	--	1	1	2	10	13	3 [#]	1	1	2
3.	Cuddalore	4	1	--	1	--	--	1	1	--	1	1	1	9	1	1	--	1	--	10	10	1 [#]	1	--	4
4.	Dharmapuri	2	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	--	1	4	1	--	--	1	--	4	5	2 [#]	1	--	1
5.	Dindigul	2	1	--	--	--	--	2 ^{###}	1	--	1	--	1	6	1	--	--	1	--	6	6	2 [#]	--	1	4
6.	Erode	5	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	--	1	7	1	--	--	1	1	8	9	3 [#]	1	1	1
7.	Kancheepuram	3	--	--	1	--	--	2 ^{###}	1	--	1	1	1	7	--	--	--	1	--	8	12	3 [#]	--	1	3
8.	Kanniyakumari	3	--	--	--	--	--	2 ^{###}	1	--	1	1	1	7	--	--	--	1	--	9	7	3 [#]	--	--	2
9.	Karur	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	--	1	3	--	--	--	1	--	3	4	2 [#]	1	--	2
10.	Krishnagiri	3	--	--	1	--	--	1	1	1	1	--	1	6	1	--	--	1	--	3	4	2 [#]	1	--	3
11.	Madurai	6	1 [#]	1 ^{**}	1	3*	2 ^{##}	1	1	1	1	1	2	8	1	--	1	1	2	7	11	3 [#]	1	1	2
12.	Nagapattinam	2	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	1	1	3	--	--	--	1	--	4	5	3 [#]	--	--	2

Continuation of Annexure-III

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
13.	Namakkal	2	1	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	--	1	5	--	--	--	1	--	8	7	2#	1	1	--		
14.	The Nilgiris	1	--	--	1	--	--	1	1	--	1	--	--	3	--	--	--	1	--	3	3	2#	1	--	2		
15.	Perambalur	1	1	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	--	1	1	--	--	--	1	--	2	2	1#	1	--	2		
16.	Pudukkottai	2	1	--	--	1*	--	1	1	--	1	--	1	4	--	--	--	1	--	3	4	1#	--	--	4		
17.	Ramanathapuram	2	1	--	--	--	--	2###	1	--	1	--	1	3	--	--	--	1	--	3	4	1#	1	--	4		
18.	Salem	4	--	--	1	1*	--	2###	1	1	1	1	1	7	2	--	1	1	1	10	13	3#	1	1	2		
19.	Sivagangai	2	1	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	1	1	3	--	--	1	1	--	4	4	2#	--	--	5		
20.	Thanjavur	3	1*#	--	1	1*	--	2###	1	1	1	1	2	5	1	--	--	1	--	6	7	3#	1	--	3		
21.	Theni	2	1	--	--	--	--	2###	1	--	1	--	1	3	--	--	--	1	--	5	5	3#	1	--	--		
22.	Thoothukudi	3	1	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	1	1	3	--	--	--	1	1	6	9	2	1	--	1		
23.	Tiruchirappalli	3	1*#	--	1	--	--	1	1	1	1	--	1	8	1	--	1	1	1	10	10	1#	1	1	1		
24.	Tirunelveli	4	1*#	--	1	--	--	2###	1	--	1	1	1	8	1	--	1	1	1	13	12	1#	1	1	4		
25.	Tiruppur	4	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	--	1	7	--	--	--	1	1	7	10	2#	1	--	2		
26.	Tiruvallur	5	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	--	1	6	1	1	--	1	--	8	9	4	1	--	4		
27.	Tiruvannamalai	2	1	--	--	--	--	2###	1	--	1	1	1	5	1	--	--	1	--	8	7	2#	--	--	2		
28.	Tiruvarur	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	--	1	2	--	--	--	1	--	3	4	2#	--	--	3		
29.	Vellore	4	1	--	2	--	--	2###	1	--	1	1	1	7	1***	2	--	1	1	10	15	2#	--	--	4		
30.	Villupuram	4	1	--	--	1	--	2###	1	1	1	1	1	9	3	--	1	1	--	15	11	2#	1	1	2		
31.	Virudhunagar	3	1	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	1	1	6	--	--	--	1	--	5	8	2#	1	--	3		
	Total	90	17	2	13	8	4	43	31	10	31	15	32	165	18	6	7	31	11	204	234	66	21	10	75		
		District Judge- 264											Senior Civil Judge- 270							Civil Judge- 610							
TOTAL NUMBER OF COURTS - 1144																											
<p>* including one Special Court under E.C Act Cases # including one Additional Mahalir Neethimandram (Magisterial level) ** Special Court for Communal Clashes ## including one Special Court for TNPID Act Cases *** Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal ### including one Fast Track Court in the cadre of District Judge *# PCR Act Court</p>																											

ANNEUXRE – IV*(see para-9.21)***DETAILS OF SPECIAL COURTS FOR LAND GRABBING CASES**

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



At the function held in the premises of the Madras High Court on 23.04.2022, the Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin has inaugurated a Court building at Chennai, Egmore for Commercial Court built at a cost of Rs.1.5 crore for trial of commercial cases. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Thiru.N.V.Ramana, Hon'ble Supreme Court Judges Justice Thiru.V.Ramasubramanian, Justice Thiru.M.M.Sundresh, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Madras High Court Thiru.Munishwar Nath Bhandari, Hon'ble State Law Minister Thiru.S.Regupathy, The Advocate General of Tamil Nadu and Higher Officials of the State Government have participated in the function.



At the function held in the premises of the Madras High Court on 23.04.2022, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Thiru.N.V.Ramana has laid the foundation stone for the court building to be built at a cost of Rs.20.24 crore for providing accommodation facility for various sections of the Madras High Court and inaugurated the Combined Court Buildings and quarters for Judicial Officers constructed at Sankarapuram and Paramathy at a cost of Rs.20.70 crore. The Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin, Hon'ble Supreme Court Judges Justice Thiru.V.Ramasubramanian, Justice Thiru.M.M.Sundresh, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Madras High Court Thiru.Munishwar Nath Bhandari, Hon'ble State Law Minister Thiru.S.Regupathy, The Advocate General of Tamil Nadu and Higher Officials of the State Government have participated in the function.



At the function held in the premises of the Madras High Court on 23.04.2022, the Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin has presented the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Thiru.N.V.Ramana and Hon'ble Chief Justice of Madras High Court Thiru.Munishwar Nath Bhandari a Government order issued for transfer of 4.24 acre of land in Chennai for the Judiciary for provision of infrastructure facility with a view to housing various Courts.



At the function held in the premises of the Madras High Court on 23.04.2022, the Hon'ble Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin has presented a cheque for a sum of Rs.7 lakh to each of the five legal heirs of the deceased advocates at a total cost of Rs.35 lakh from the Advocates Welfare Fund. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Thiru.N.V.Ramana, Hon'ble Supreme Court Judges Justice Thiru.V.Ramasubramanian, Justice Thiru.M.M.Sundresh, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Madras High Court Thiru.Munishwar Nath Bhandari, Hon'ble State Law Minister Thiru.S.Regupathy, The Advocate General of Tamil Nadu and Higher Officials of the State Government have participated in the function.

