SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE
2022-2023

DEMAND No. 43

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Minister for School Education

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1. Introduction

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பெற்றவர்களே, உயிர் வாழ்வோர் எனக் கருதப்படுவார்கள்
-கலைஞர் உரை

    The Government of Tamil Nadu aims to provide universal access to schools and to provide holistic development to every student through quality and inclusive education along with the requisite physical infrastructure in all schools. The focus of the Government in School Education will be to ensure that enrolment of all school age children is achieved in total, to ensure complete retention of all enrolled children right up to the secondary levels, to bring drop-outs to zero, to improve the learning outcomes among children as appropriate to their age and level, and to empower teachers by effective and useful training. To this end, the government has provided a substantial budgetary allocation of

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Rs.36895.89 crore for the year 2022-23 for school education.

The Government accords the highest priority to bridging the learning losses which occurred among children due to closure of schools during the COVID pandemic. The department has conceived, designed and launched an ambitious program to bridge the learning gaps with the help of volunteers who teach the students during after school hours in the neighborhood. Over the last 3 months, Illam Thedi Kalvi has proved to be not only a flagship program for the state government, but a pioneering model for other states in the country to emulate. This program has also reduced the Out of Pocket Expenditure (OoPE) of the family towards the supplemental education of their children.

The Department has also embarked up on an ambitious plan of infusing technology in its

day to day functioning in order to supplement the efforts of teachers in the teaching learning process and in the discharge of their administrative duties. More than 100 registers are being digitized in order to make the non-academic functions of a teacher simple and less burdensome. All regulatory functions of the Department such as issue of NOC, opening permission, mergers, expansion, etc., are also getting automated. Thousands of students and common public visit various offices of the School Education Department in order to avail of various services like equivalence certificate, migration certificate, etc. Some of these services have been made available in e-Sevai centers. Soon all other services would also be made available online.

Young people in all generations struggle with making a decision on what they are going to do when they grow up. The Government is

making concerted efforts to take career counselling to each and every student in an organized fashion. An ambitious multi departmental program - "Naan Mudhalvan" has **been launched by the Hon'ble Chief Min**ister on 1st March 2022. An exclusive textbook on career counselling as well as a portal for the students of Classes 9 to 12 were unveiled. Teachers are also being imparted requisite training for taking up career counseling at the school level. Mentorship is being planned at the school level by involving alumni of government schools.

The government believes in collaboration between schools and communities. In order to strengthen School Management Committees (SMCs) and to involve them in local school level decision making, the department has recently conducted parents meetings in all schools, wherein around 23 lakhs parents participated across the state to discuss about the SMC,

school development, and how they can play a role in the betterment of their wards' schools. The government is committed to reviving and making the functioning of the SMCs vibrant.

The various Directorates under the Department of School Education are responsible for fulfilling the aforementioned objectives of the Government. The main wings of the Department are the Directorate of Elementary Education, the Directorate of School Education, Directorate of Matriculation Schools, Samagra Shiksha, Directorate of Non-Formal and Adult Education – these are supported by organisations such as State Council for Education, Research and Training (SCERT), Directorate of Government Examinations, Directorate of Libraries, Teachers Recruitment Board and the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation.

2. Elementary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Education

2.1. Introduction

The directorates of elementary and school education function hand in hand, both towards laying the foundation for the future of the students as well as for creating opportunities for higher education and employment. In order to equip students with twenty-first century skills, our schools need to provide them with critical thinking abilities rather than just information. The department focuses not only on imparting subject oriented knowledge to students but also life oriented skills to equip them to face real life challenges.

2.2. Objectives

- ➢ Enrollment and retention of all school age children

- ➢ 100% access to schools

- ➢ Provide an inclusive environment

- ➢ Ensure physical safety and security, health and mental being of all children

- ➢ Provide quality education and improve learning outcomes

- ➢ Provide necessary opportunities for students to participate in scholastic and co-scholastic activities

- ➢ Enable students from Government schools to aspire for premier institutions in the country

- ➢ Ensure adequate physical infrastructure along with their proper upkeep and maintenance.

- ➢ Implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009

2.3. Access

Creating better access to all children is the key to universalisation of education. Opening of

new primary schools, upgrading the existing schools, providing transport/escort facilities to children in un-served habitations where opening of new schools is not viable, opening of residential schools in sparsely populated areas are key to achieving 100% access. This is one of the key Sustainable Development Goals.

In order to achieve the above objectives, all schools in Tamil Nadu have been mapped through Geographical Information System (GIS). New schools are being opened in places where the habitations are not served as per the norms stipulated in the RTE. In places where new schools are not feasible, transport/escort facilities have been extended to 25,346 students across the state in 2021-22. Similarly, 1200 students are studying in 14 residential schools located in 9 districts where habitations are located in remote/hilly/forest areas. Also, 61 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV) and

44 Girls hostels are being run in 14 districts serving 9560 girls at a cost of Rs.2283.382 lakhs in 2021-22.

2.3.1. Interventions for Out of School Children (OoSC)

In order to identify and cater to the needs of out of school children who dropped out during the COVID -19 pandemic period, a large scale door-to-door survey was conducted in all habitations from 10.8.2021 to 15.10.2021 through a **new mobile application** designed for this exercise and integrated with the School Education Department's EMIS portal. An unprecedented 1,88,487 children have been identified and enrolled in age-appropriate/ specific classes from standard 1 to 12.

During the survey, special focus was given to enroll all Girl/CWSN/Transgender children who lost their parents due to Covid-19 and children displaced due to the pandemic.

Immediately after identification, these children were enrolled in age appropriate classes in nearby formal schools and provided welfare items viz., textbooks, uniform, school bag, footwear, notebooks, etc.. These children will be tracked till they complete higher secondary education. A sum of Rs.869.63 lakhs has been spent for carrying out this activity in 2021-22.

2.4. Inclusive Education (IE)

The School Education Department envisages to develop a holistic and accessible learning environment for all the children across the State with a special focus on Children with Special Needs.

A total number of 1,36,570 Children With Special Needs (CWSN) have been enrolled in Government schools. They are provided with assistive devices, mobility aids, stipend, home-based allowance, transport and escort

allowances after being identified through medical camps. Convergence with departments like Health, Differently Abled Welfare, Social Welfare, ICDS, etc., is key to achieving the following objectives in inclusive education:

- ➢ Early identification of children with disabilities to provide early intervention

- ➢ Developing a standard operating protocol for CWSN from birth to 18 years

- ➢ Establishing a single window data management system

- ➢ Provision of aids, appliances and assistive devices

- ➢ Ensuring barrier-free access in schools

- ➢ Providing appropriate teaching-learning materials, guidance and counseling services and therapeutic services

➤ Sensitizing teachers to facilitate, involve and ensure learning for CWSN in the general classroom

➤ Providing additional support to CWSN through Special Educators (SEs)

With a clear strategy that 'Early Intervention leads to Early Inclusion', and with a resolve to implement interventions that will have a systemic and sustainable impact on the lives of Children with Special Needs, the State has rolled out **a series of 'first of its kind & first**-time **interventions' in the State.**

Identification camps were conducted where 3 lakhs children participated, out of which a total of 1.5 lakhs CWSN were identified. This was followed by a unique intervention that was undertaken to sensitise the primary stakeholders, the parents, about the various aspects related to CWSN. A state -wide Parents

Orientation Programme was undertaken to sensitise the parents about different types of developmental milestones & delays. For the first time, 5300 parents were invited to the Hi-Tech Labs for a sensitization program along with 2200 special educators from across the State.

A Mobile application has also been developed to track CWSN progress and provide information related to availing of schemes and benefits. 2401 Special Educators, Therapists and HMs have been provided access to this application in the first phase.

As part of the IALEP (Individualised Academic Therapeutic Learning Enhancement Programme) - 7,786 Home based children will be provided Home-based Adaptations, Therapy, Medical support, Counselling and Mentor training at the rate of Rs.10000/child. They will also be supported with aids & appliances, assistive devices and TLMs.

All district officials related to School Education Department & all the Special Educators were sensitised about Specific Learning Disability (SLD), Autism, RTE and RPWD Acts and remedial strategies. In another first, the Indian Sign Language Association will be conducting a Certificate programme for all the Special Educators in the government schools in the State.

The Government spent a sum of Rs.9312.13 lakhs under various activities in Inclusive Education including provision assistive devices to the CWSN during the year 2021-22.

2.5. Quality Education

Tamil Nadu has achieved universal access to schooling at all levels. In the recently published school education quality index (PGI), the state has secured 2[nd]place overall in the country. In all input related indices like access,

equity, infrastructure, governance, the state has fared well and has ranked as one of the top states in the country, whereas, it has secured only 23rdplace among 37 states and union territories in the domain of learning outcomes. This underscores emphasises the importance and need for quality education especially in the foundational classes in the government schools. Quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes is a critically important Sustainable Development Goal. Hence, there is an imminent need to improve the quality of education at all levels, especially at the primary level.

2.5.1. Illam Thedi Kalvi

"Illam Thedi Kalvi"(Education at Doorstep) is the single largest post-pandemic educational outreach programme in the country today. **Launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in** October 2021, this programme is today being

steered by a massive 1.81 lakhs volunteer base, with the core objectives of bridging the learning gaps among students from Classes 1-8 due to lack of access to structured education during pandemic and to mainstream children who dropped out of school during the period.

A three-tier structure has been set up at the State, District & School levels to steer this initiative. Conceived as a programme to ensure that every child in the last mile should be reached out to and responding to a clarion call issued by the government to come forward and support the children in the State, 6.72 lakhs volunteers have registered and counting till date. Phase 1 of the program started on November 26, 2021 in 12 districts and seeing the huge return on investing in this idea just as it hit the ground, ITK was scaled to the remaining 26 districts of Tamil Nadu from January 1, 2022.

Under this programme, students are provided with 1½ hours of supplementary learning between 5 and 6.30 pm on a daily basis. Beginning as a programme that was envisaged to supplement learning during the pandemic, ITK has now transformed into a place that children not only enjoy coming to, but also experience the joy of learning. For the youth, especially the young women who have signed up, the momentum and energy around the massive mobilization by the government has given them the impetus and opportunity to step out and step up to support the children in their habitation. With orientation about their social responsibility roles and intensive training related to child engagement, the ITK centre has for the youth, become a place which has introduced them and given them an opportunity to experience social responsibility and comradeship.

The most significant part of the programme is the learning approach that has been adopted in these centers. Contextual and simple-to-engage, the focus here is on basic literacy and numeracy. The content has been developed by an expert resource team led by SCERT and the entire methodology is activity based where learning happens through various media like songs, dance, puppetry, story telling etc.. Every volunteer in the centre has been provided with an easy-to-transact manual and information related to TLMs tagged to activities. They have also been provided with an App that supports them in rolling out monthly assessments to **understand the students' learning levels.**

Based on the initial orientation provided with regard to engaging with the two kinds of cohorts - Class 1 to 5 & Classes 6 to 8, and their experience of working with these children for over four months, the volunteers have

developed their own innovative teaching learning materials which they feel is relevant to the **child's** learning pace & environment and something that enables them to engage deeply & fully. Even as the volunteers accompany the children in their learning journey, they also encourage them to be self-directed and creative in their experiences to understand concepts, phenomena or situations.

The various components that add to the quality and strength of the programme are the weekly volunteer interaction through Telegram, skill fest, monthly refresher training and TLM exhibitions, volunteer meets, interaction with domain experts & resource persons etc. With 30 lakhs children coming to the centers on an everyday basis, the community and the larger eco-system recognise that at the heart of this **groundswell of children's participation is the** relationship that the volunteers have with the

children, the open-heartedness with which they are welcomed to these centers and most of all the respect that they experience as individuals which sets the very basis for their intrinsic motivation to learn.

The programme is implemented in close collaboration with the School Management Committees, comprising of parents and other community members and teachers from the school, who now perceive a close cooperation with the volunteers. Together they see the learning and overall development of the children as a common agenda that needs to be achieved. In times of crisis, especially prompted by the pandemic, the Illam Thedi Kalvi programme has **not only set the ground to strengthen the State's** core mission of enabling a meaningful learning mission, but has also laid a strong foundation for the youth to contribute their time meaningfully and the School Management Committees to own

the vision of education in partnership with all stakeholders. An amount of Rs.97 crore has been spent on this scheme during 2021-22.

2.5.2. Ennum Ezhutthum Mission

The goal of the mission is to improve basic literacy and numeracy among children studying in Classes 1 to 3, and to ensure that every child attains the fundamental skills of reading, writing and doing basic arithmetic by 2025. It primarily focuses on capacity building of teachers and provision of teacher resource material and level based student learning material. A robust monitoring mechanism is also being put in place to track the performance of each and every child. An amount of Rs.66.70 crore has been allotted for this mission during 2021-22.

2.5.3. Learning Enhancement Program

In order to address the learning gap, bridge course material has been given to all

students. Subject wise workbooks with worksheets were also given to all students studying in Classes 1 to 9. The worksheets had a provision to connect students to the relevant audio/ video and assessments through QR codes. During the year 2021-22, an amount of Rs.34.78crore has been spent.

2.5.4 Weekly quizzes Programmes

The primary objective of the Weekly Quiz programme is to encourage students to look beyond their textual knowledge and establish a relationship between theory and application of the learnt concepts.

During the year 2021-22, Weekly Quiz programme for the students of all government High and Higher Secondary schools were conducted through online mode with a total outlay of Rs.30.9 lakhs. In each class, the best 10 students were awarded with a certificate and

medal to encourage and motivate them. These students have been encouraged to appear in the NTSE examination with the government paying the NTSE examination fees for the top 100 students in every district. All the students studying from IX to XII classes in all 6177 government High and Higher Secondary Schools in the state are participating in these quiz programmes.

2.5.5. Sustainable Development Goals & Education Indicators

SDGs and educational indicators are statistics that describe key aspects of schooling which permit the evaluation and monitoring of schools, teachers, and students. The impact of interventions on school education can be assessed through suitable educational indicators. An educational indicator is a measure of the status or change in an educational system with reference to its objectives. Sustainable

Development Goals help in reorienting and fine-tuning the strategies of the department. The definitions of some of the SDG related educational indicators are as follows:

2.5.5.1. Gross Enrolment Ratio

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

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

The state has achieved universal coverage in Primary and Upper Primary levels. The gross enrolment ratio stands over 100 for this age group. The same stands at 94.20 for secondary and 78.60 for the Higher Secondary.

2.5.5.2. Net Enrolment Ratio (NER)

Enrolment in Classes 1 to 12 in the age group of 6 to 17 years is expressed as a percentage of the children corresponding to that age group. The NER is 99.90, 99.40, 78.40 and 65.76 for Primary, Upper Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary levels respectively.

2.5.5.3. Retention Rate (RR)

Enrolment in Classes 5th/ 8th/10th in a year is expressed in terms of the percentage to the enrolment in corresponding Classes $4^{th}/7^{th}/9^{th}$ years back. The RR for the state at Primary level is 99.30, Upper Primary is 98.70, Secondary is 96.75.

2.5.5.4. Dropout Rate (DR)

Proportion of children dropped out from a cohort enrolled in a given class in a given year and who no longer continue in the following year. This rate for Primary is 0.70, for Upper

Primary 1.30 and for Secondary it is 3.30.

2.5.5.5. Pupil–Teacher Ratio (PTR)

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

Recruiting new teachers on a timely basis has put Tamil Nadu as one of the favourable states in the country with very low PTR. It is 19 for Primary, 20.9 for Upper Primary, 22 for Secondary and 30 for Higher Secondary levels.

2.5.5.6. Gender Parity Index (GPI)

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

$$\text{GPI} = \frac{\text{Number of Girls Enrolled}}{\text{Number of Boys enrolled}}$$

The GPI for Secondary levels is 0.95 and Higher Secondary levels is 1.10.

2.5.5.7. Gender Equity Index (GEI)

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

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

The GEI at the Secondary level stands at 1.01.

Enrolment ratios, drop-out rates, NAS outcomes, pupil-teacher ratios are some of the key SDG goals that the Department is working towards.

2.6. Co - Scholastic activities

2.6.1. Sports & Physical Education

Developing sports culture among students studying in various schools across the state is very important for physical and mental well-being of students. Students are trained and encouraged to participate in various District /

State / National level competitions. Sports material/equipments worth Rs.34 crore is being procured for giving impetus to sports education across Tamil Nadu. Battery tests will be revived to cover all schools in order to identify talents among students in Government schools. Students from Government schools would be taken to observe the Chess Olympiad proposed in Mahabalipuram during July/August this year.

2.6.2. National Service Scheme (NSS)

NSS aims at personality development of students through community service like assisting in health camps, blood donation camps, various awareness programmes and tree planting. There are 97,650 student volunteers on the NSS rolls and 1,957units are functioning in Higher Secondary Schools in Tamil Nadu. A grant of Rs.2.5 crore towards regular activities and Rs.2 crore towards conduct of special camps are sanctioned under this scheme every year.

2.6.3. Scouts and Guides

The Scouts and Guides movement is functional in all High and Higher Secondary Schools in Tamil Nadu. Spreading awareness on general health and hygiene, regulating traffic, first aid and planting trees are some of their important activities. A grant of Rs.8 lakhs is allotted by the Government every year towards the payment of salary to employees and maintenance of Tamil Nadu Bharat Scouts and Guides Headquarters. Government has released a sum of Rs.2 crore to Scouts and Guides from Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation. The accrued interest from this seed money is used for the upkeep and maintenance of Scouts and Guides facilities all over the State.

2.6.4. Junior Red Cross

Junior Red Cross (JRC) Units are functioning in all High and Higher Secondary Schools in Tamil Nadu. The District Collector is

the patron of the Junior Red Cross Society. Teachers are trained as counsellors and students act as volunteers. This program helps in honing the potential of children in volunteering besides imbibing humanitarian values.JRC volunteers are trained in First Aid, Disaster Management, Road safety, Fire safety and they assist the common public during festivals and mega events.

2.7. Safety and Security

School Education department endeavours to provide every child access to education in an environment that is safe, protective and conducive to growth and development.

In order to ensure Students Safety and protect them from abuse, Student Safeguarding Advisory Committees (SSAC) have been mandated to be established in all schools. In addition to it, a Safety Box and Awareness Flex Boards on Prevention of Child Sex Abuse have

been displayed in all schools at a cost of Rs.747.82 lakhs.

A 24 hour Education helpline number **"14417" is also functioning to provide** information on education and offer guidance to students. Besides 1098, this is a one-stop grievance redressal mechanism for Students, Teachers and Parents across the State of Tamil Nadu. An amount of Rs.112 lakhs has been spent for the call centre.

An orientation module is being prepared for use by schools to raise awareness about POCSO Act among all stakeholders and to improve safety in schools. A self-audit module has also been formulated which has to be filled up by schools. Safety boxes have to be placed in school premises for the convenience of students to lodge their complaints and for feedback. The Child Abuse Prevention Week is observed in all schools during 15-22nd November every year.

2.8. Infrastructure Facilities

Infrastructure development in schools is critical to provide a conducive environment for teaching and learning activities. In order to achieve this goal, the Government has announced Perasiriyar Anbazhagan School Development Program at a cost of Rs.7000 crore over the next 5 years.

Hi-Tech computer labs would be provided in all middle, high and higher secondary schools. Smart class rooms will be provided in all primary schools during the same period.

During 2021-22, civil works such as new High and Higher Secondary school buildings, additional classrooms, computer rooms, library buildings, laboratories, toilets, drinking water facilities, ramps with hand rails, repair works, furnitures and Science Lab equipments etc., have been initiated at a cost of Rs.59.63 crore.

2.9. Educationally Backward Blocks

There are 44 educationally backward blocks in Tamil Nadu spread across mainly in the northern parts of the state. Historically these blocks have fared very low in most of the educational parameters like women literacy, pass percentage in standardized exams, etc. The government is taking concerted efforts to bring these blocks on par with other blocks in a time bound manner. EBBs are the focus of special attention by the department, especially with regard to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. **The Hon'ble M**inister for School Education launched a life skill and emotional wellness programme in these blocks in March 2022 at a cost of 7.47 crore. These blocks also have more vacancies in teacher positions. In order to encourage teachers to voluntarily opt for these backward blocks, an incentive mechanism has been built into the

newly formulated teacher transfer policy, whereby if a teacher opts for a position in a backward block for three years, he/she will later be considered for accelerated seniority in future transfer counseling.

2.10. Model schools

As part of improving educationally backward blocks, the government established model schools in 10 districts where most of the EBBs exist. These residential schools give opportunity to the children who have willingness and ability to aspire for institutes of eminence in the country. The model schools offer quality academic inputs from both serving teachers and from external experts. The teachers capacity building is also happening is a big way in these model schools through professors from eminent institutions like IITs, IISc, etc..

2.11. Educational Management Information System (EMIS)

Education Management Information System is the digital backbone of the School Education department wherein the information of every school, teacher and student in Government, Government aided and private schools is maintained on a real time basis. It helps the Government in taking data driven policy decisions. The data of EMIS rests on three key pillars – student data, staff data and school data. All the data related to these three aspects are provided by the Headmasters through the EMIS portal through an exclusive login provided to each school.

The teachers have also been given a separate login to mark and track the attendance of students and attend personalized training programs. Each of the administrative officers at Block, Education District, Revenue District and

the State level is provided a separate login through which they can key-in inputs, view reports and access dashboards for monitoring, tracking and compliance purposes. School based administrative and academic registers are being automated through EMIS. This will significantly reduce the burden on teachers having to laboriously fill up manual registers.

The RTE related claims and other aspects of the verification process along with the financial reconciliation has been enabled through EMIS. Nominal roll preparation plays a vital role in the conduct of Board examinations for Classes 10, 11 and 12. This has been made online through EMIS and the integration of data with Directorate of Government Examinations (DGE) has helped reduce administrative work.

Convergence with several departments such as National Health Mission, District Institute of Education and Training, Differently Abled Welfare Department, Social Welfare Department, Adi-Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department is also in progress to ensure that the robust data and software created by the School Education Department can be effectively utilized by all departments to improve efficiency of existing processes and data sharing between departments. The EMIS data is being effectively and speedily utilized for verification in implementing the 7.5% reservation in higher education institutions extended to the government school students. It has also been used effectively to track Out of School Children.

A class room observation mobile application has also been built over the EMIS platform for the benefit of thousands of supervisory cadre of officials. The mobile application has been

specifically designed to capture the processes in teaching learning and classroom transaction, and to conduct end of observation assessments. The application would act as a productive tool in the hands of both headmasters and other inspecting cadre for quality transaction and follow up on teacher training.

2.12. Financial assistance to Schools

2.12.1. Composite School Grant

School grant is given on an annual basis to all Government schools for providing a conducive learning atmosphere. It may be utilized for replacement of non-functional school equipment, buying consumables, procuring services like internet connectivity, development of specific teaching aids to enhance learning, annual maintenance and repair of existing school building, etc. The unit cost sanctioned for each school is as follows:

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

For the year 2021-22, an amount of Rs.116.28 crore has been released as school grant.

2.12.2. Library Grants

Libraries play a fundamental role in society and act as a gateway to knowledge and culture. A library in the school can be a great tool to encourage reading habits among students. Children need to access quality books and reading material to develop and grow as readers, thinkers and writers. Hence, the

department has established a library in every school and provides an annual grant to all school for procuring books. A committee of experts has been set up to select books that are both informative and entertaining for children. An amount of Rs.31.96 crore has been spent in 2021-22 for procuring these selected books through Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation and supplying them to schools. A dedicated library hour has been earmarked every week to promote reading habits among school children. A repository of all books available in school libraries across the state is being catalogued through a mobile application that is built over the EMIS platform.

2.12.3.School Management Committee (SMC)

The School Management Committee (SMC) is an important school level body comprising of parents, local body representatives, school

officials, self help group member and educationists. An effective and strong role played by this grass-roots level body can transform the functioning of schools. In order to rejuvenate this institution, a complete reconstitution is being taken up in all schools. Training regarding SMC reconstitution and the roles and responsibilities of SMC members has been conducted in two spells for the State Resource persons.

Sensitization training on SMC has been conducted for District Officials in all districts(CEOs, DEOs, ADPC, APO, DIET Faculties, DCs, BRTEs).SMC Training has been imparted to the SMC RPs (Selected Teachers) in all districts by the State Resource Persons for 2 days.

Training has been conducted in each school for 5 members including the HM, Teacher, 2 ward members and Self Help Group member

by the SMC RPs. An awareness campaign has been carried out with the support of Illam Thedi Kalvi volunteers for the parents and Kalai Kuzhu activities for the community.

For the first time ever, 23.54 lakhs parents came forward and participated on a single day in the meeting conducted in all schools on 20.03.2022 to create awareness about SMC reconstitution and the roles and responsibilities of SMC members. SMCs will be reconstituted across all schools in a phased manner throughout the state and the same will be completed by August 2022.

A special mobile application has been launched for creating School Development Plan and it will be used for planning, implementing and assessment of School Development Plans by the SMC members. Rs.1682.59 lakhs has been spent in 2021-22 for School Management Committee related activities.

2.13. Welfare Schemes

In order to ensure that students coming to Government Schools continue their education well and complete the schooling without any hurdles due to economic and social hardship, the Government is implementing the following welfare schemes:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Class	2021-22 No. of Beneficiaries (in lakhs)
1.	Text Book	1 - 12	74.97
2.	Notebooks	1 - 10	62.81
3.	School Bag	1 - 12	74.97
4.	Footwear, Shoes and Socks	1 - 10	60.21
5.	Atlas	6-10	6.91
6.	Crayon and Colour pencils	1 -5	27.03
7.	Geometry Box	6	6.91

8.	Special Cash Incentive	10 - 12	17.50
9.	Laptop	11	5.44
10.	Uniform	1-8	48.95
11.	Bi-cycle	11	6.35
12.	Woolen Sweater	1-8	1.15
13.	Rain Coats, Boots and Socks	1-8	1.15
14.	Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R Nutritious Meal Program	1-8	62.33
15.	Accident Relief Scheme	1-12	0.0001
16.	Financial assistance for students who lost their bread winning parents	1-12	0.015
17.	Bus Pass	1-12	23.42

2.14. E – Services

A Government order has been issued on 21.02.2022 to get various certificates issued by School Education Department like Conduct Certificate, Bonafide Certificate and Certificate for persons Studied in Tamil Medium (PSTM) to the public as well as students, through their nearest Government e-Service centre without any delay. Some of these services have been made available to public through e-Sevai centers.

2.15. Training on POSH Act

In order to ensure a safe working environment for all female employees in School Education Department, an internal committee (to deal with complaints other than sexual harassment) in each school/ office and a local Committee to deal with complaints of sexual harassment at District level headed by women have been constituted for ensuring the safety of

women in the workplace and to deal with the issues that arise from time to time and to submit investigation reports within 10 days. Decisions will be reached following the recommendations of VISAKA Committee and other relevant laws. Training for this is being given to all stakeholders of School Education Department.

2.16. Health Check-up under RBSK

Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) is an important initiative aimed at early identification and early intervention for children from birth to 18 years to cover defects at birth, deficiencies, diseases, development delays including surgeries at tertiary levels. These services are provided free of cost, helping families reduce the expenditure incurred on the treatment.

The screening of the children is done in all Government and Government Aided Schools

with a systematic approach. Training regarding health issues at school level is given to headmasters of government and government aided schools by "National Health Mission" in co-ordination with the school education department. A Nodal teacher at school level has been selected to co-ordinate the implementation of this programme.

2.17.Teachers General Transfer Counselling 2021-22

The General Transfer Counselling is conducted every year by following the guidelines issued in the Government order from time to time. During the general transfer counselling there are typical problems of vacancies in certain districts. To counter such problems, the Hon'ble Minister of School Education made an announcement during the Budget session in 2021-22 regarding the issue of comprehensive Teachers General Transfer Counselling Policy

and accordingly orders were issued in G.O.(Ms) No.176, School Education [SE5(1)] Department, dated 17.12.2021. Based on the policy, General Transfer counselling has been conducted during January-March 2022. 67,470 teachers applied for transfer and 18,713 teachers opted for new places through the counselling apart from 3,488 teachers who were promoted to the vacant places through counselling.

2.18.Block Educational Officers – Direct Recruitment and Training.

In Tamil Nadu there are 413 Unions and 836 BEO posts are sanctioned based on the number of schools and students strength. As of now, 803 BEOs are working and 33 vacancies are there to be filled.

As per G.O.No.82, School Education Department, dated 20.05.2019, the 50% of the total Vacancies of BEOs are to be filled with Direct Recruitment BEOs by conducting

competitive Exam through TRB and on 23.02.2022, 95 BEOs are given appointment.

2.19. Samagra Shiksha (SS)

It is a flagship scheme of Government of India and aims at providing necessary inputs to schools and sets standards on various education related indicators. It also aims at treating school education as a continuum from Classes Pre-Primary to Std XII without any barriers like primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary. It is an amalgamation of erstwhile schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE) components of SCERT and is funded jointly by the Government of India and the State Government with a sharing pattern of 60:40.

Samagra Shiksha emphasizes on quality with a special focus on inclusive and equitable education for children in all school going ages. SS provides quality inputs like creation of audio-visual content and assessment questions that can be accessed by students through QR codes placed in textbooks issued by the department. Samagra Shiksha is the nodal agency in the state for channelizing funds from the Government of India meant for in-service teacher training through SCERT. Starting from June 2021, 12 phases of intensive teacher training have been undertaken for various subjects such as Math, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Accountancy, Commerce, Economics and Business Mathematics. The exclusive focus of this training was on script preparation for e-content development. Professors from various reputed institutions were invited as the key resource persons for these training workshops. This entire effort will

feed into creating high quality learning content which will benefit both teachers as well as students.

2.20. Budget

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.18,251.53 crore for Elementary and Rs.17,743.53 crore for Secondary and Higher Secondary Education for the financial year 2022-23.

3.MATRICULATION SCHOOLS

3.1.Introduction

Matriculation schools, under the proactive guidance of the Government, cater to the needs of students studying in self-financing schools and follow the curriculum and syllabus of the State Common Board of School Education. At present, there are 4479 schools imparting education to nearly 31 lakhs children. These schools are monitored by the Director of Matriculation Schools at the State level, by the Chief Educational Officer at Revenue District level and by the District Educational Officer at the Educational District level.

3.2.Vision

To ensure quality education in a safe learning environment in Matriculation Schools, by the appointment of fully qualified teachers and availability of good infrastructure facilities.

To ensure the implementation of the provisions of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011 in their true spirit and to regulate the admission process in all Matriculation Schools through online mode to maintain transparency.

3.3. Objectives

> ➢ To ensure safety and security of children in schools.

> ➢ To ensure all-round development of children in Matriculation schools by providing necessary infrastructure facilities.

> ➢ To ensure the appointment of fully qualified teachers as per norms.

> ➢ To function as a nodal agency for implementation of the provisions of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.

> ➢ To take action against schools which violate norms and standards.

> ➢ To ensure the implementation of all Acts, Rules and Orders issued by the Government from time to time.

3.4. Roles and Responsibilities

3.4.1.Permission/Recognition

The Directorate accords permission to open new Matriculation schools and to upgrade existing Matriculation schools into Matriculation Higher Secondary schools for those schools which fulfill the norms stipulated by the Government.

During the year 2021-22, 29 new Matriculation Schools were permitted to be opened and 39 existing Matriculation Schools were permitted to be upgraded as Matriculation Higher Secondary Schools.

3.4.2 Implementation of Tamil Nadu Tamil Learning Act

The Government introduced compulsory learning of Tamil Language and enacted the Tamil Nadu Tamil Learning Act, 2006. Accordingly, the learning of Tamil as first language was made compulsory from Class 1 during the academic year 2006-2007 and for subsequent classes in the consecutive years. All private school students learn Tamil as first language from Classes 1 to 10.

3.4.3.Implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011 is being implemented in both letter and spirit. Under Section 12 (1) (c) of the RTE Act, 2009 clear guidelines were issued for the admission of children belonging to

disadvantaged groups and weaker sections in all private non-minority self-financing schools at the entry level class.

The Director of Matriculation Schools is the State Chief Nodal Officer and Chief Educational Officers at the District level are District Nodal Officers for the implementation of the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.

To ensure transparency in the process of admission, under Section 12 (1) (c) of the RTE Act, 2009 application for admission has been made online. 56,687 children were admitted under this provision during the academic year 2021-22. Rs.314.64 crore has been reimbursed to the schools which have admitted children under this category for the year 2020-21.

3.5. Periodical grant of recognition

Private schools which have been running with recognition for more than ten years and which are located in pucca buildings were granted permanent recognition subject to the condition that the school management shall obtain the structural stability certificate from the concerned authorities once every three years and failure to obtain and submit such certificate to the competent authority will entail withdrawal of such permanent recognition.

Over the years, a few incidents occurred concerning infrastructure of the schools and school vehicles, endangering the safety of the children. This necessitated the formulation of various rules, issuance of regulations, Government Orders and circulars to protect the welfare of school children from time to time. With a view to continuously monitor the schools on the critical aspect of student safety,

recognition will be granted to all private schools for a period of three years or for the period specified in the Structural Stability certificate or Building License whichever is earlier. The private schools which have been hitherto granted permanent recognition can continue with the same and shall produce the necessary certificates to the competent authority as required.

3.6. The Tamil Nadu Private Schools (Regulation) Act, 2018

All Private schools were brought under the State Common Board of School Education after the enactment of the Tamil Nadu Uniform System of School Education Act, 2010. In pursuance of this, Tamil Nadu Private Schools (Regulation) Act, 2018 was enacted. Framing of Rules for the above Act is under process.

3.7. The Tamil Nadu Schools (Regulation of Collection of Fee) Act, 2009

In order to prevent commercialization and collection of capitation fee, the Government enacted the Tamil Nadu Schools (Regulation of Collection of Fee) Act, 2009 and framed Rules there under.

A committee called the Private Schools Fee Determination Committee has been constituted to fix the fee to be collected by the private schools. Considering the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and based on the directions of the **Hon'ble High Court of Madra**s, for the academic year 2021-22, the unaided Private Schools were instructed to collect 85% of the fee fixed by the Committee in 6 instalments from the salaried sector, professionals and business people and 75% from the parents who have suffered loss of income.

3.8.Budget

    The Government has made budgetary provision of Rs.353.58crore to this Directorate for the year 2022-23.

4.STATE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

4.1.Introduction

The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) is the State level academic organization responsible for ensuring the quality of School Education. It develops need based curriculum, syllabus, textbooks, teacher support materials, assessment worksheets for Classes 1-12 involving academic experts from all over the country. It introduces innovations to bring about qualitative changes in pedagogy and the assessment process for achieving the expected outcomes from the learning process. It develops programmes for building the capacity of teachers. Teacher effectiveness is the axiom for making the classroom more effective and building human capital for the progress of the State. It infuses technology in education to make blended learning more efficient for the

students to learn the concepts. Besides, it also focuses on inculcating many skill sets needed for present day students so that they would be better equipped to face challenges ahead. It provides career guidance for the students to choose from myriad opportunities open to them for higher and vocational education. It motivates teachers and teacher educators to undertake action research and research projects to address the educational problems faced by the teachers. It endeavours to tap digital technology to the fullest for making teaching learning processes lively and enjoyable.

4.2. Vision

To create a school system which focuses on learning outcomes, holistic and joyful learning based on multiple pedagogy, alternate learning strategies, digital modes of learning and assessment systems for triggering higher order thinking skills of students to transform them into

students with competitive spirit and capable of facing the challenges of the new digital era.

4.3. Objectives

➢ To develop curriculum, syllabus, textbooks, supplementary materials, newsletters, journals, educational kits, multimedia digital materials and other related literature.

➢ To organize pre-service and in-service training respectively to student teachers and practicing teachers.

➢ To integrate learning outcomes in the classroom transactional processes.

➢ To undertake, aid, promote and coordinate researches related to School Education.

➢ To suggest alternate methods of learning during the school shutdown periods due to disasters, natural calamities and pandemics.

> To evolve, implement and assess systems and approaches for quality improvement in School Education and to sustain the interventions with remedial follow-up.

4.4. Role and Functions

> Supports all Directorates in takinga proactive approach to address learning problems in classrooms.

> Recommends academic inputs, pedagogical changes and assessment strategies for bringing about policy changes in school education.

> Develops curriculum, syllabus and textbooks taking into account the latest trends in school education incorporating the best practices from across the country.

> Experiments with innovative practices in school education with regard to pedagogy and assessment.

➢ Constantly builds the capacity of teachers to adopt learner-centered pedagogy to make the learning process lively and interesting to the children.

➢ Taps digital resources like Hi-Tech labs for student assessment and teacher training.

➢ Imparts training to teachers for their emotional well being, development of life skills and proficiency in digital knowledge.

➢ Supports schools to cope with COVID-19 type situations by switching over to alternative modes of learning and assessment.

➢ Orients teachers effectively so that they can provide the career guidance needed by students.

➢ Analyses the findings of National Achievement Survey (NAS) to diagnose the gaps in understanding that hamper students from

performing well and design appropriate remedial measures.

4.5. Programme and Activities

4.5.1. Prioritized Syllabus

The COVID-19 pandemic induced school closures meant that there was no face to face teacher-student interaction, and this had adversely impacted learning. As it was not possible to cover the entire syllabus meant for a full academic year, a prioritized syllabus was devised and adopted for all classes. It covers the concepts pertaining to the core areas of each subject.

4.5.2. Initiatives Undertaken to Address Learning Gap

4.5.2.1.Refresher Course Materials

In order to bridge the learning gaps of students and provide the missed content of earlier classes and to prepare them to understand and cope with the regular classes

when schools are reopened SCERT has developed Refresher Course Materials for Classes II to XII. The crucial concepts of lower classes have been incorporated with enriched activities and illustrations. The teachers have been encouraged to use refresher course materials for 45 days before transacting the current year content. The refresher course material helps in bridging the learning gaps of students of all schools.

4.5.2.2.Illam Thedi Kalvi

This programme is a pioneering initiative conceptualised to address the learning gaps among children. **The Hon'ble Minister for Finance** made an announcement for introducing a massive learning and reading mission to address the learning losses and psychological issues caused by the closure of schools during COVID-19 pandemic. SCERT was tasked with preparing the TLM material for Illam Thedi Kalvi.

SCERT has prepared teaching learning kits for primary and upper primary levels with the object of ensuring activity based learning including participatory games, puzzles, songs, stories, simple science experiments and art for bringing out the innate talents of children. The volunteers manning the centers established under the programme conduct classes in an informal way using these kits. The modules have QR codes by means of which the volunteers are able to access videos on model classes that forms the basis of their teaching methodology. The purpose of the programme is to supplement the learning inputs provided at schools.

4.5.2.3. Ennum Ezhuthum

To make up for the learning losses on account of closure of schools the Hon'ble Finance Minister made an announcement for introducing Ennum Ezhuthum programme on the floor of the Legislative Assembly in the budget session for

the year 2021–22 stating that the objective of the programme is to ensure that by 2025 all students in Tamil Nadu by age 8 are able to read with comprehension and possess basic arithmetic skills. It is a flagship programme that will be conducted on a mission mode basis. It will get implemented from the academic year 2022–23 for Classes 1 - 3. Learning materials to cater to the needs of the differentiated levels of learning of students have been prepared. Pilot study has been conducted exposing a sample group of students to the differentiated learning materials prepared, to find out their efficacy. Based on the results observed, the learning materials have been fine tuned. Capacity building programme for teachers, development of monitoring mechanism for various levels of educational administration and assessment process in play way and other innovative methods are proposed to be introduced. This programme will benefit 15,89,235 children.

4.5.3. Exemplary Digital Content Creation

The present day children are techno savvy and understand concepts better in digitized modes. To make use of this potential among children to the maximum it has been decided to develop digital content. It involves two distinct steps. First, the training and equipping of select teachers in concept mapping, pedagogy, writing scripts for digital content, content creation and content presentation. Second, the transformation of the content into digital form will be done by the technical personnel in consultation with the subject experts. The plan is to make the digital content prepared to go way beyond what is already available.

4.5.4. Kalvi TV

Kalvi TV transmits educational e-content on all subjects of Classes 1 – 12 on a 24×7 basis. This took on the role of the schools when they remained closed during COVID–19 pandemic.

The telecast of class wise and subject wise videos is telecast by Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable and where its reach is not there, the support of private channels, direct to home (DTH) and multi service cable operators (MSO) is enlisted.

Arrangement is there to enable students who missed the telecast of the day to view the contents of Classes 1 to 12 the next day through the Kalvi TV Official YouTube channel. More than 7000 videos have been uploaded. The YouTube channel has nearly 4 lakhs subscribers and is viewed by nearly 34 million viewers. The telecast schedule and other required information are made available on the Kalvi Tholaikaatchi website (www.kalvitholaikaatchi.com) and uploaded on the official website of Kalvi TV.

4.5.5. ICT Training for Government School Teachers

In this present technological era learning can be enhanced if technology is infused in classroom processes. Information Communication Technology (ICT) in education revolutionizes the classroom interaction between the teachers and the students. In order to build the capacity of teachers in implementing **'Blended Learning', ICT training has been** organized for the teachers of Government Schools. A five day online ICT workshop was organised for teachers using Hi-Tech labs. Basic Knowledge about computers, internet and its applications, Hi-Tech Lab usage and main features of EMIS were imparted in the training. The training programme included live sessions, self explanatory videos, hands on experience, assessment, assignment and feedback. Besides, the training exposed the teachers to various free online tools that would enable them to prepare

digital content. As part of the training programme, teachers were given assessment exercises on online mode using their log in Ids through Hi-Tech Labs. This programme benefitted 1,90,430 teachers from Primary to Higher Secondary Level. This training resulted in the teachers getting equipped to adapt to online mode of teaching as and when required. Considering its advantages, this training will now be imparted to all newly recruited teachers.

4.5.6. Training on Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes are the benchmarks prescribed for each subject for each class. Learning Outcomes serve to find out whether the children learn the concepts clearly. SCERT oriented the Key Resource Persons for each Block involving DIET faculty members, BRTEs and resourceful teachers, on online mode. The KRPs have been oriented on the Learning Outcomes, classroom transaction process and

activities to be designed in the classrooms. The trained KRPs organized a two day Learning Outcomes training for primary teachers. This training benefitted all primary teachers across the State.

4.5.7. Educational Backward Blocks (EBBs) Students' Emotional Wellbeing and Life Skill Development Programme

The Government is keen to develop the emotional wellbeing and life skills of students. In stressful situations, students and teachers experience tension and pressure. In order to develop emotional wellbeing and life skills among students, the **Hon'ble Minister for School** Education has made an announcement in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly that Art and Games based Emotional wellbeing and Life Skills Development training would be organised for teachers of Government and Aided Schools working in 44 EBBs.

As a follow up of this announcement, a student workbook and a teacher hand book have been developed with the help of UNICEF and their academic partner. The student workbook has a number of art and game based activities for developing their emotional will being and life skills. The teacher hand book has the pedagogical aspects of the student workbook.

The experts who developed the modules trained 1200 teachers of Government and Government Aided schools working in EBBs. They in turn conducted orientation training to students of their schools. This training programme benefitted 2,25,000 students at the cost of Rs. 1 crore.

4.5.8.Preparation of Student Guidance Handbook for Higher Education and Employment

Career guidance is one of the most important inputs to be given to students before

they choose appropriate streams while moving to Class XI. Most of the children studying in Government and Government Aided schools hail from modest backgrounds. They may not get the required support in making career choices.

SCERT constituted a team of resourceful DIET faculty members and teachers for developing career guidance materials for Classes IX to XII. The team had a detailed deliberation on the variety of career choices available to students coming out of schools. This module, incorporating the concepts like assessing the interests and aptitude of students and arriving at alternate career choices has been developed by SCERT.

Teachers of Class XII are being trained on these modules and they will in-turn orient the students on career choices.

4.5.9. Establishment of Assessment cell

Assessment is integral to the teaching learning processes. Teachers can redesign the classroom processes based on the inputs received through assessment of students.

The Assessment Cell of SCERT assesses the Learning Outcomes of each child at periodic intervals, records the data, analyses them and designs remedial strategies for quality learning. In order to achieve these objectives, the content of school textbooks has been designed into a taxonomy document that is mapped with all sub-topics, concepts and related Learning Outcomes. Teachers across the State develop questions for Classes 9-12 which are curated through 32 DIETs. The curated questions are sent to Hi-Tech labs. The assessments are being conducted through Hi-Tech labs for Class IX on Monday, for Class X on Tuesday, for Class XI on Wednesday and Thursday and for Class XII on

Friday and Saturday in all High and Higher Secondary Schools across the State. After the completion of the assessment processes, the data is analyzed and reported for further remedial activities.

4.5.10. Establishment of State Resource Centre

SCERT constantly provides academic support to various stakeholders of school education to enhance their professional skills. In order to make SCERT a repository of resources, SCERT is in the process of establishing subject wise special cells which will form a Resource Centre for all the teachers. The Resource Centre will have Language Cell, Science Cell, Mathematics Cell, Social Science Cell, Research Cell and ICT Cell. The cells will have audio visual packages in the specific subjects that develop the curiosity among the teachers and the students. The teachers and the students will visit

the Resource Centre during State Level Training programmes and also throughout the year according to a schedule to be prepared by SCERT.

The State Resource Centre will include facilities for Physical Emulations, Do and Explore, Discuss and Learn, Play and Learn, Experiential Learning, Animated Learning etc. A team of subject experts have deliberated on the materials to be procured for each cell and have visited institutions of excellence for gathering inputs to be of use for establishing the Resource Centre.

4.5.11. Research Activities

Research projects and Action Research studies are important tools for academic intervention to resolve potential issues in teaching learning processes, assessment, effectiveness of textbooks, impact of Kalvi TV

videos, impact of learning through online portal etc. SCERT constantly encourages and motivates teacher educators and teachers to undertake educational research based on their inputs through school visits, classroom observation, academic performance of students, in-service training programmes etc. Besides, qualitative research studies are undertaken by the academic personnel of SCERT and DIETs. They undertake action research studies to help resolve potential problems with regard to school education.

In the year 2021-22, 369 Action Research Studies and 159 Research Studies have been undertaken by the DIET faculty members. The findings of the research studies are disseminated through seminars and teacher training programmes.

4.6. Budget

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.105.66 crore for this Directorate for the year 2022-23.

5.GOVERNMENT EXAMINATIONS

5.1.Introduction

The Directorate of Government Examinations was established in the year 1975. It has strived to enhance the standards of conducting various examinations since its inception. The Directorate is entrusted with the paramount responsibility of conducting the State Board Examinations for Classes 10, 11 and 12. Besides this, the Directorate also conducts scholarship examinations such as National Talent Search Examination (NTSE),National Means cum Merit Scholarship Examination (NMMS) and Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Examination (TRUST).

5.2.Objectives

- ➢ To carry out reformative measures in the process of conduct of examinations in a fair and secure manner.

➢ To strengthen the evaluation system through digitization.

➢ To publish the results and issue relevant certificates to the candidates adhering to strict timelines.

➢ To bring about reforms in setting of question papers which would eventually promote critical thinking skills among students.

5.3. Functions

The Directorate is primarily responsible for conduct of around 35 examinations of various kinds. Apart from the preparation of question papers the Directorate adopts a fail proof system of transparency in conduct of examinations, result publication and issue of certificates to candidates.

5.4. Online Facilities

The Directorate of Government

Examinations has an official web portal namely www.dge.tn.gov.in to facilitate easy access to required information for students, parents and educational institutions. The facilities include:

> Examination notifications

> Examination time tables

> Application forms

> Examination fee structure

> Instructions to candidates

> Previous year question papers

> Application for Duplicate Mark Certificate

> Application for Certified copy of Mark Certificate (CCM)

> Application for Migration Certificate

> Preparation of Nominal Roll of Regular / Private students

➢ Provision for downloading Hall Tickets

➢ Online payment of examination fee

5.5. Public Welfare

5.5.1.Applying through government e-Service centers

In compliance with the (e-Services) announcement made on the floor of the assembly by the Honourable Minister for Education the following services provided by DGE can now be obtained by applying at the nearby Government e-Service centers.

➢ Persons Studied In Tamil Medium Certificate

➢ Duplicate Certificate

➢ Certified Copy of Mark List

➢ Correction in mark certificates

> ➤ Migration Certificate (for pursuing higher studies in other states or abroad)

5.5.2 DigiLocker

DigiLocker helps to download certificates as an e-certificate. The candidates, who have appeared for the Higher Secondary and SSLC examinations and signed up for a DigiLocker account with their Aadhaar (UIDAI) number, can download their Digital Marks Certificate from the repository of the Directorate of Government Examinations. So far, marks of 1,06,75,384 candidates have been uploaded onto DigiLocker by the DGE. 1,556 Mark Certificates have also been e-attested by this Directorate.

5.6.Students Welfare

5.6.1.Exemption of Examination fee for Tamil Medium Candidates

All candidates appearing for the SSLC and Higher Secondary Examinations in Tamil medium

are exempted from paying examination fees. For the academic year 2021-22, the following number of candidates have been exempted from paying examination fees.

Sl. NO	CLASS	Candidates Exempted From Paying Examination Fees
1	SSLC	5,05,248
2	HIGHER SECONDARY FIRST YEAR	4,72,617
3	HIGHER SECONDARY SECOND YEAR	4,34,888

5.6.2. Concessions Granted to Children with Special Needs (CWSN)

Children with Special Needs, who appear for SSLC and Higher Secondary Examinations, are provided with:

➢ Ground floor seating arrangement.

➤ Separate room provision for visually impaired candidates.

➤ Scribe Facility for visually impaired candidates: Only eligible and qualified, relevant subject BT/PG teachers are appointed as Scribes.

➤ Scribe appointment or appointment of teacher to read out question paper for candidates with nervous disorders.

➤ One hour time extension.

➤ Permission for usage of calculators.

➤ Exemption from Practical examination for Secondary Classes.

➤ Scribe provision and time extension of one hour for students who meet with sudden accidents / injuries.

5.7.Examination Centers in Prisons

In order to transform the lives of the inmates of prisons and to enable their educational pursuits, examination centers are

set up in the premises of prisons every year and examinations are conducted. 203 inmates from Class X, 68 inmates from Class XI and 68 inmates from Class XII have written the August /September 2021 Supplementary Examinations.

5.8. Conduct Of Supplementary Examinations

Every year the supplementary examination is conducted immediately after the results are declared for the board examinations so as to enable candidates to pursue their higher studies in the same academic year.

5.9. Conduct of other Examinations

5.9.1.Eighth Standard Examination (Private Candidates)

The Directorate conducts the Eighth Standard Examination for direct private candidates in order to provide minimum educational qualification of Eighth Standard. In the academic year 2021-22, 4209 candidates

appeared for the ESLC examination conducted in December 2021.

5.9.2. Government Technical Examinations

To provide technical qualification for employment purposes, Government Technical Examinations are conducted for subjects like Drawing, Sewing, Agriculture, Printing, Music, Handloom and Weaving etc.

5.9.3. Diploma in Elementary Education Examination

The Directorate conducts the examination for Diploma in Elementary Education. For the academic year 2021-22, 9,536 candidates appeared for the examination conducted in the month of September 2021.

5.9.4. Conduct of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)/Staff Selection Commission (SSC) Examinations

The Directorate acts as the Nodal Agency for conducting Union Public Service

Commission/Staff Selection Commission Examinations at Chennai every year.

5.10. Scholarship Examinations

5.10.1.Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Examination (TRUST)

Students from rural areas who are studying in Class 9 and whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.1,00,000 are eligible to appear for the Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Examination. 50 girls and 50 boys are selected from each district and a scholarship amount of Rs.1000 per annum is granted for a continuous period of four years. For the academic year 2021-22, 88,658 students have appeared for the TRUST examination conducted in February 2022.

5.10.2.Examination for National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMS)

Students, who have passed Class 7 from Government and Government aided schools and

are studying in Class 8 and whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.1,50,000 are eligible to appear for the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Examination. The selected students will get a sum of Rs.12,000 as scholarship per annum (at the rate of Rs.1000 per month) from Classes 9 to 12. This scheme provides scholarship to 6,695 students in the State every year. For the academic year 2021-22, 1,75,727 students have appeared for the NMMS examination conducted in March 2022.

5.10.3.National Talent Search Examination (NTSE)

The Directorate acts as the nodal agency for National Council of Educational Research and Training in conducting this examination. Students studying in Class 10 in all State/Central Board Schools during the academic year, are eligible to appear for this

examination. After the publication of results of Level I conducted by the Directorate, the Level II examination is conducted by NCERT at national level. In the year 2021-22, 2,07,205 students appeared for the NTSE conducted in February 2022. The Scheme provides scholarship to maximum 200 students in Tamil Nadu every year. The selected students are awarded scholarship of Rs.1,250 per month for Classes 11 and 12 and Rs.2,000 per month at the degree level. Scholarship is provided as per the recommendation of University Grants Commission for Ph.D level for a maximum period of 4 years.

5.11.Computerisation of the Directorate

With the help of TNeGA, the entire examination process starting with the preparation of nominal roll right until the publication of results has been made online by large-scale computerisation.

5.12. Government Examinations Service Centers

241 Examination Service Centers are functioning in select school premises. These service centers provide facilitation for candidates, to apply online for all examinations conducted by the Directorate in an easy and hassle-free manner.

5.13. Publication of Results

Results are communicated to the candidates through SMS instantly to the Mobile numbers registered at the time of enrolment. The publication of results is done online through three websites created for this purpose viz., www.tn.results.nic.in, www.dge1.tn.nic.in, www.dge2.tn.nic.in. An online facility to download Tabulated Mark List (TML) by the respective schools has been created. Online application for seeking scanned copies of answer scripts for Higher Secondary Examinations is

also available. Scanned copies of answer scripts of the candidates are uploaded on the website on request, thereby enabling students to demand a re-totalling of their marks or a revaluation of their answer scripts.

5.14.Issue of Certificates

5.14.1.Provisional Mark Certificate/ Statement of Marks

SSLC and Higher Secondary candidates can download their Provisional Mark Certificate and Statement of Marks respectively, from the website (www.dge.tn.nic.in) from the day after the publication of the results.

5.14.2. Issuance of Higher Secondary mark certificates with security features

Candidates who have passed all subjects in First year and Second year of Higher Secondary Examinations are issued with separate Mark Certificates with salient security features. Statement of Marks are issued to failed

candidates as well. A Consolidated Mark Certificates is issued to candidates who pass the SSLC/Higher Secondary Examinations in more than one attempt.

5.14.3.Printing of name of the Parents in SSLC ,+1 and +2 Mark Certificates

The names of parents are printed along with the candidate's name both in Tamil and English on the SSLC Mark Certificates. This has been extended to Higher Secondary first and second year students as well from the academic year 2021-22.

5.14.4.Certified Copy of Mark List and Duplicate Mark Certificate

On request, a Certified copy of Mark List (CCM) as well as Duplicate Mark Certificate are issued to candidates. These applications are available on the DGE website. In the year 2021-22, 3488 CCM and 10,523 Duplicate Mark Certificates have been issued.

5.14.5. Migration Certificate

Migration Certificates are issued within 5 days of the date of receipt of application to all candidates who have passed SSLC and Higher Secondary Examinations and desire to continue their higher studies in other states. In the year 2021-22, 7,010 Migration Certificates have been issued.

5.14.6.Verification of Genuineness of Mark Certificates

Verification of genuineness of Mark Certificates is carried out on request by higher educational institutions as well as employers and appointing authorities. In the year 2021-22, 3,55,046 Marks Certificates have been verified for genuineness.

5.15.Budget

The Government have made a budgetary provision of Rs.128.16 crore for this Directorate for the year 2022-23.

6.NON-FORMAL AND ADULT EDUCATION

6.1.Introduction

Non-Formal and Adult Education involves organized programmes of sustained and systematic learning activities by which an illiterate adult can gain new forms of knowledge and skills. It aims to develop an individual identity and help individuals carve out a conscious place for themselves by improving their education and their earning capacity. Recognizing the importance of adult education and to eradicate illiteracy in the state, Government of Tamilnadu is implementing various adult education programmes through the Directorate of Non-Formal and Adult Education which was established in the year 1976.

6.2. Vision

Achieving total literacy in the state and ensuring lifelong learning to all illiterate adults in

the age group of 15 and above, through a comprehensive range of effective learning opportunities.

6.3. Objectives

- ➢ To impart basic literacy and numeracy to all illiterate adults

- ➢ To provide opportunity for neo-literates to continue their learning beyond basic literacy and acquire equivalency to formal education.

- ➢ To organize training in vocational skills thereby improving their earning capacity and standard of living.

- ➢ To provide opportunities to neo-literates for lifelong learning and continuing education

6.4. Special Adult Literacy Programme in Aspirational Districts

In Tamilnadu, a Special Literacy Programme is being implemented in the Aspirational districts viz, Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar at an

estimated budget of Rs.6.23 Crore. The target of the scheme is 1,68,716 illiterate adults in the age group of 15 years and above. Of them, 40,288 learners have benefited and attained basic literacy in the first batch while 77,298 learners are enrolled in the second batch. The teaching and learning process for the second batch of this programme is being conducted through 1,855 adult education centers in these two districts. It has been planned to cover all the remaining learners before March 2023. The details of learners enrolled in the second batch of the programme are provided below:

Ramanathapuram District			Virudhunagar District		
Block	No. of AECs	No. of learners enrolled	Block	No. of AECs	No. of learners enrolled
Ramanathapuram	56	2836	Virudhunagar	142	5848
R.S. Mangalam	57	2306	Sathur	82	3280
Nainarkoil	42	1897	Kariyapatti	72	2899
Thiruvadanai	93	3707	Aruppukottai	80	3220
Mandabam	80	3293	Narikudi	63	2526
Thirupullani	59	2833	Thiruchuzhi	70	2760
Kadaladi	129	5136	Srivilliputhur	75	3035

Paramakudi	57	2569	Rajapalayam	116	4640
Bogalur	30	1212	Sivakasi	234	9704
Kamuthi	67	3190	Vembakottai	121	4984
Muthukulathur	61	2638	Watrap	69	2785
Total	**731**	**31617**	**Total**	**1124**	**45681**

6.5. Karpom Ezhuthuvom Iyakkam

Based on the Census 2011 data, Karpom Ezhuthuvom Iyakkam has been successfully implemented in all the districts of the state on a 60:40 fund sharing pattern between the Union and State Governments respectively. The prime aim of the programme is to provide Basic Literacy to 3.10 lakhs adult illiterates in the age group of 15 years and above. As against this, 3.19 lakhs learners have benefited and attained basic literacy through Karpom Ezhuthuvom Iyakkam.

The fact that Tamil Nadu has achieved more than the 100% target under the Karpom Ezhuthuvom Iyakkam is noteworthy. An amount

of Rs.7.19 Crore has been utilized by the Tamilnadu Literacy Mission Authority to implement this scheme.

6.6. State Literacy Award

State Literacy Award to the best learners' literacy centers consists of an appreciation certificate, memento and medals. The award was given for the first time in Tamilnadu to 114 selected best Learners' Literacy Centers which adopted an innovative approach in Karpom Ezhuthuvom Iyakkam activities.

6.7.Budget

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.9.67 crore for this Directorate for the year 2022-23.

7.PUBLIC LIBRARIES

7.1.Introduction

Public libraries play a significant role in the development of knowledge and in nurturing quality human resources by meeting the intellectual needs of people from various walks of life. They provide equitable access to all sections of the community and serve as critical knowledge and learning centers.

7.2.Vision

Create, strengthen and provide an information platform to all sectors of society for their personal, social, cultural, economic and intellectual development.

7.3.Objectives

➢ To satisfy the information needs of users of all age groups by providing efficient library services.

➢   To digitize and preserve old and rare books.

➢   To provide library facilities in every village, where the population is more than 1000.

➢   To provide robust infrastructure facilities in public libraries.

➢   To provide quality reading materials viz. books and periodicals in the public libraries.

➢   To introduce modern technology in libraries to enhance library services.

➢   To create new Libraries with latest technology.

7.4. Public Libraries in Tamil Nadu

Public Libraries are established in Tamil Nadu in accordance with the "Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act 1948". The number of public libraries in Tamil Nadu currently functioning are 4650.

7.4.1. Connemara Public Library

The Connemara Public Library, the State Central Library of Tamil Nadu was started in 1896. Being one of the four national depository libraries in India, Connemara Public libraries receives a free copy of all books newspapers and periodicals published in India free of cost in accordance with the Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act, 1954. This library has 9,19,208 books on various subjects.

There are various sections functioning in this library such as Rare Books Section, Text Book Section, Reference Section, Language Section, Periodicals Section, Civil Service Center, Indian Language Books Section and Children's Section. Nationalized books and Tamil books published before 1950 have also been digitized and preserved considering their utility value to the public. The total membership of the Connemara Public Library is 1,47,446. All

information about this library can be found on its website www.connemarapubliclibrarychennai.com. Connemara Public Library has completed its 125th year of operation in 2021. Renovation work on the old building of Connemara Public Library at a cost of Rs.1.50 crore and modernization of electric equipment at a cost of Rs.3.20 crore are being carried out by the Public Works Department.

7.4.2. Anna Centenary Library

Anna Centenary Library, the second largest public library in South Asia is located at Kotturpuram, Chennai. The library which is built at an estimated cost of Rs. 197.43 crore is housed in a massive complex with 9 floors comprising a total area of 3.75 lakhs square feet. Anna Centenary Library was opened to the public on 15th September 2010 by the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Dr.M.Karunanidhi. The library has over

6,22,913 books, covering various subjects and caters to the needs of different sections of readers.

The library has well stocked sections such as **Periodicals, Children's books,** Books for the visually challenged, E-books, Tamil and Regional languages books, Manuscripts, Competitive Examination books and Own books study section.

The library has an integrated library management system, which enables the library users to search for the books available in the library from anywhere using Web OPAC. The security of the resources available in the library is ensured through Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).

The conference hall, seminar hall and auditorium in the library host government functions, arts and cultural performances,

university graduation ceremonies, national and state-level professional conferences, seminars by top academics and researchers, and government-sponsored events at rental rates set by the Government.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has sanctioned an amount of Rs.37.82 crore for the renovation of the building of Anna Centenary Library and for the procurement of technological hardware.

In addition, Rs.6.5 crore has been earmarked for the procurement of latest books, e-books, e-periodicals and e-research journals published in all fields to meet the needs of the readers in line with the changing technologies.

7.4.3.Saraswathi Mahal Library and Research Center

Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswathi Mahal Library and Research Centre, one of the most ancient

and remarkable libraries in India was established in the 16th century by Nayak Kings in Thanjavur. It possesses an unmatched repository of cultural antiques and rare books, paintings and manuscripts. This library has been under the administration of the District Collector of Thanjavur since 1918.

The library houses 47,334 manuscripts of which 24,165 are on palm leaves and 23,169 are paper manuscripts in Tamil, Sanskrit, Marathi and English languages. It also has a collection of 45,000 books, maps, paintings on all aspects of literature, art and culture. The Government of Tamil Nadu provides Rs.75 lakhs as annual grant for the welfare of the staff and the development of the library. For the year 2021-22 an additional sanction of Rs.50 lakhs has been provided. The oldest and most precious rare books, manuscripts and palm leaves are digitized and preserved.

7.4.4.Maraimalai Adigal Library

Maraimalai Adigal library was established on 24th August 1958 to honour Maraimalai Adigal, **the father of "Thanithamizh Iyakkam".** The library is functioning in the premises of Connemara Public Library. It consists of significant ancient literature collections such as Sangam Literature, Thirukkural, Grammar, Journals, Life History, Naladiyar, Thiruvasagam, Dictionaries and books related to medicine. The Government of Tamil Nadu provides Rs.1 lakh as an annual grant for this library.

7.4.5. Dr.U.Ve.Sa Library, Chennai

This Library was established in 1943 in memory of the eminent Tamil scholar and Researcher Dr.U.Ve.Sa. The library consists of significant collections of 2,200 palm leaves in Tamil including Patthupattu, EttuThogai, Pathinen Keezh Kanakku Noolgal, Agaporul Vilakkam, Agarathi Nigandu, Ilakkiya Vilakkam,

Neminatham, Sekizhar Puranam, Thonnul, VeeraChozhiyam, Tholkappiyam, Panjakathai, Periya Puranam, Ellakkana Kotthu and more than 3000 letters received by Dr.U.Ve.Sa. from renowned Tamil scholars and diaries of Dr.U.Ve.Sa. from 1893 to 1939. Rs.27.20 lakhs has been sanctioned during the financial year 2021-22.

7.4.6. District Central Libaries

District Central Libraries were established under the Tamil Nadu Public Library Rules 1950. The Government of Tamil Nadu is gradually making efforts to digitize all the District Central Libraries. E-book readers for the convenience of readers, especially for school and college students and research scholars, to access old rare books has been introduced. These libraries possess a huge collection of more than 70 lakhs books and magazines on multifarious fields in various sections viz., Periodicals, References,

Competitive Examinations including civil **services, women's and children sections, own** book reading, differently abled and internet surfing services. District Central Libraries have 13,09,447 members. A total of 6,85,414 readers have accessed the libraries during 2021-22.

7.4.7. Branch Libraries

With a view to extend the coverage of library services to the entire population, branch libraries have been set up in urban and rural areas with a population between 5,000-50,000. At present, there are 1926 branch libraries including 314 full time branch libraries functioning across the State with a total number of 5,79,74,340 books. 62,76,245 members have been enrolled in these libraries and 83,37,779 visitors have used these libraries during the year 2021-22. Various programs are conducted in these libraries for the benefit of children, students, women and senior citizens.

7.4.8.Village Libraries

Village Libraries have been functioning in Tamil Nadu since 1996. Thus far 52,51,808 readers and 21,08,979 members have benefited as Village libraries have been upgraded with computerized facilities using new information technology. These libraries contain more than 2,09,82,767 books.

7.4.9. Mobile libraries

Mobile libraries, stocked with books and periodicals, committed to reach the unserved population in hilly and remote areas, are functioning in 14 districts of the State. Mobile library vans with an organized collection of books and other materials to promote reading habits among school students, visit schools in rural areas at regular intervals. So far 33,466 members and 13,390 visitors have been benefitted by these mobile libraries.

7.4.10. Part Time Libraries

Part Time Libraries have been set up to reach out to the grass root levels. 3,25,732 members and 7,50,205 visitors have been benefited thus far through these libraries.

7.5. Appointment of Visually Challenged Persons

Appointment orders for the post of 17 Binders and 14 Binding Assistants in Anna Centenary Library and District Central Libraries have been issued to the Visually Challenged persons who were trained in the Government **Polytechnic, Poonamalle by the Hon'ble Chief** Minister of Tamil Nadu on 3rd of December 2021, International Differently Abled Day.

7.6. Funding Sources

7.6.1. Library cess

The library cess, collected from the Local Bodies at a rate of 10 paisa per rupees from the

Property Tax in accordance with Section 12 (1) (a) of the Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, 1948, is the primary source of income for the Local Library Authority. The expenditure relating to purchase of books, periodicals, magazines, construction of buildings and their maintenance, purchase of stationary items, carrying out repairs, purchase of consumer articles, as well as the pay and allowances of library personnel are incurred from the Local Library Authority. Rs.71.02 crore was collected as Library Cess during the financial year 2020-21.

7.6.2.General Fund

To assist the local library authorities that are financially weak and to meet the expenditure on specific purposes, library cess not exceeding 20% is collected from local library authorities that are financially strong.

7.6.3. Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation Grant

Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), Kolkata renders financial assistance as matching and non-matching grant to libraries. The grants are provided for construction of new library building, establishing children's section, purchasing new books, imparting training to librarians, conducting seminars etc., for the development of library activities.

7.7. Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Memorial Library in Madurai

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu laid the foundation stone for Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Memorial library on 11 January 2022. The Government of Tamil Nadu has allocated Rs. 10 crore for the purchase of books, e-books, online periodicals and research works required for the Kalaignar Memorial Library and Rs.5 crore for the purchase of technical equipment.

Construction work on the library is underway. The library will serve as a beacon of enlightenment for students, academics, researchers, writers, young people preparing for competitive exams, school children and people from all walks of life.

7.8. Library Building in the name of Senna Pulavar A Karmeghanar

Senna Pulavar A Karmeghanar has authored many books such as Karmeghanar's Knowledge Collection, Kannaki Devi, Epic Stories, Research on MoovarUla, Tamil Mozhiyin Marumalarchi, Nallisai Pulavargal. In appreciation and recognition of his literary prowess, steps have been taken to construct a new library at a cost of Rs.40 lakhs for the branch library currently functioning in a rented building in Abiramam, Ramanathapuram District.

7.9. High Level Committee to make amendments in Tamil Nadu Public Library Act 1948 and Public Library Rules 1950

Tamil Nadu is the first state in India to enact a separate Act for public library services. In order to consider making amendments to the Tamil Nadu Public Library Act, 1948 and the Public Library Rules, 1950 to suit the current work environment and to improve the functioning of Libraries in the state, a high level committee has been formed by the Government of Tamil Nadu on 19.01.2022 under the chairmanship of Dr. M. Rajendran, Former Vice-Chancellor of Tamil University.

7.10. Transparency in the procurement of books for public libraries

Books and periodicals for public libraries are selected by a newly formed Book Selection Committee based on scientific, social, historical, literary, cultural and intellectual quests to meet

the changing needs of libraries. About 25 percent of the library cess collected each year is allocated for the purchase of books and 15 percent for the purchase of periodicals. A committee has been formed to ensure transparency in every stage of book procurement by making appropriate amendments to the existing procurement policy for books to ensure that the best books and periodicals are made available to the general public.

7.11.'Bharathiyiyal Section' in Anna Century Library

In accordance with the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to commemorate the late centenary of the poet Bharathiar, a separate section named 'Bharathiyiyal Section' has been established at Anna Centenary Library, Chennai and books written by Bharathiar are housed there.

7.12.Dr. S.R. Ranganathan Memorial Library

In memory of Dr.S.R.Ranganathan, father of Library Science in India who played a unique role in the enactment of the Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, a model library is being established at his birthplace Sirgazhi in Mayiladuthurai District at a cost of Rs.1.32 crore.

7.13.Computerization

Realizing the importance of automation to meet the increasing demands of the reading public, computerization of public libraries has been taken up on priority. Computers with internet facilities have been made available in all the District Central Libraries and full-time branch libraries.

Connemara Public library, Anna Centenary Library, 32 District Central Libraries and 30 full-time Branch Libraries are automated using

Koha open source integrated library management software to automate the circulation of books and activities of technical processing.

7.14. Digital Library service to Rural Libraries

The State has 1926 Branch Libraries and 1915 Village Libraries functioning under the Directorate of Public Libraries. In order to make international magazines and periodicals available to the rural reader, a Digital library will be created in all libraries within the next five years at a cost of Rs.2.40 crore.

7.15. Civil Services study centers

Work is underway to procure books, newspapers and periodicals required for the civil services study centers located at Connemara Public Library, District Central Libraries and in 289 libraries located at the Taluk headquarters functioning all over the State.

7.16.Digitization

Directorate of Public Libraries has taken many initiatives in digitization and preservation of vast pool of knowledge of our culture, history and language which are available in physical format.

The collections of important historical libraries such as Connemara Public Library, Tamil Nadu Archeology Library, Tamil Nadu Archives Library and University & College Libraries in Tamil Nadu and many private libraries have been digitized. More than 30 lakhs pages in 21,043 books, documents and more than 1000 maps and more than 2.54 lakhs palm leaf manuscript pages are digitized.

The general public can use this digital library through the website https://tamilnadupubliclibraries.org. This portal

was inaugurated on 23rdNovember 2021 by the Hon'ble School Education Minister.

7.17.Union Catalogue

To maintain a complete catalogue of all public libraries in Tamil Nadu which is capable of providing the bibliographical details of the holdings of each library, the Directorate of Public Libraries has created a unified catalogue for Connemara Public Library, 32 District Central Libraries, Anna Centenary Library and other Government Aided Libraries in Tamil Nadu. All the catalogues of these libraries are created based on MARC 21 and AACR2 standards with the help of Roja Muthiah Research Library. This union catalogue has been uploaded in Koha Open Source software. The union catalogue was officially launched on 28 December 2021 by the **Hon'ble School Education Minister. Initially,** details of 7 lakhs books have been standardized and uploaded in the union catalogue

and made available for public access through the website https://tamilnadupubliclibraries.org.

7.18. Employment News Mobile App and Website

Job seeking candidates have to search different newspapers, periodicals and websites to find information about the various competitive exams and placements they need. To overcome these difficulties, the Directorate of Public Libraries is implementing a program called "Your Library in the Palm" through the Anna Century Library. Accordingly, "TN Employment News" (Mobile App) and the website www.tnemployment.in have been launched.

7.19. Creating Audio Content for Visually Challenged

Digitally accessible reading contents are created by converting printed text into accessible text, DAISY e-pub 3, and audio formats to enable access for visually challenged

people. All these digital records are uploaded and made easily accessible. These digitized books are distributed to all the District Central Libraries of Tamil Nadu.

7.20."Kavimani Award" for child writers

To promote the children's writing skills, an award named "Kavimani Award" has been initiated by the Directorate of Public Libraries. Three best child writers under the age of 18 are being awarded a cash prize of Rs. 25,000, a shield and a certificate.

7.21.Senthamizh Sirpigal Arangam

In honour of the writers and Tamil scholars who have made significant contributions to the Tamil language, 'Senthamizh Sirpigal Arangam' is being set up in Anna Centenary Library at an estimated cost of Rs.40 lakhs. Work is in progress. The venue will display photographs, manuscripts and works of award-winning Tamil

writers. Programs related to the works of the above mentioned writers will be conducted regularly to encourage the art of writing among the younger generation.

7.22.Readers Forum

In order to promote community participation in the library activities, Readers Forums have been organised in public libraries. They consist of educationists, writers, members of the library and local residents. These forums ensure the comprehensive utilization of the libraries. The libraries conduct various programs such as the introduction of new books and new writers, literary discourses and debates, books exhibitions, oratory, storytelling, essay and quiz competitions with the cooperation of readers forums.

7.23.Donation from Patrons

Donors and patrons participate in the development of Public Libraries in Tamil Nadu. One can become a Patron, a Great Patron, and a Donor of a public library by donating a sum of Rs.1,000, Rs.5,000, Rs.10,000 respectively. The donation is deposited in the banks and the interest credited is being utilized for strengthening the library services.

7.24.Library Events

Every year, on the 12th of August, National Librarians Day is celebrated to pay homage and tribute to Dr.S.R.Ranganathan, Father of Library Science. Library Day is celebrated annually on 22nd May. National Library Week is celebrated every year from 14th to 20th November to create awareness among the public about libraries and to recognize the best contributions of dedicated professionals. 23rd April is also celebrated as World Book Day.

7.25.Library Awards

"Dr.S.R.Ranganathan Award" is conferred to honour librarians for their outstanding performance. The award consists of a silver medal and a cash prize of Rs.5000. Best Library Award is conferred to motivate and encourage the libraries with outstanding service. Library Activist Award comprising a shield worth Rs.5000 each with a certificate is conferred on the presidents of the best performing Readers Forums.

7.26.Budget

The Government has made a budgetary provision of Rs.287.27 crore for this Directorate for the year 2022-23.

8.TEACHERS RECRUITMENT BOARD

8.1.Introduction

The Teachers Recruitment Board was established in the year 1987 and entrusted with the task of recruitment of Teachers for various Departments (viz) Government Schools, Assistant Professors in Directorate of Collegiate Education, Assistant Professors / Lecturers in Directorate of Technical Education and the Directorate of Legal Studies. 1,64,455 Teachers have been selected for Government schools and colleges from the date of inception of Teachers Recruitment Board. Further the Board is the designated nodal agency for conducting TNTET.

8.2.Objectives

The principal objective of the Teachers Recruitment Board is to select eligible teachers based on the needs of various departments. TRB conducts all recruitments in a transparent

manner with the technical support and guidance of TNeGA using advance technology.

8.3. Scheme of recruitment and modernization

Any recruitment process should guarantee full confidentiality. Therefore, TRB takes stringent measures to ensure transparency and accuracy by utilizing technology and computerization at various stages of recruitments. The entire area of the Teachers Recruitment Board premises have been fixed with CCTV surveillance camera facilities.

A well established information centre to address various issues and queries raised by the candidates relating to recruitments is functioning at Teachers Recruitment Board. All the Computer based tests conducted by Teachers Recruitment Board are monitored by CCTV Coverage. Further all district level examinations conducted by Teachers Recruitment Board are

directly monitored from the State Headquarters through online mode.

8.4.Transparency in Recruitment

After conduct of written examination by Teachers Recruitment Board

i) The Board publishes the answer key on the official website of Teachers Recruitment Board. All the objections / representations from candidates are scrutinized and replies furnished on the website.

ii) The Response Sheet and copies of questions are shared to all candidates through the website.

iii) All details and information about the recruitment process are published on the official website of Teachers Recruitment Board. (http://trb.tn.nic.in)

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8.5.Achievements

In the year 2021-22, as per the notification for the direct recruitment of Block Education Officers, Teachers Recruitment Board has recruited 96 qualified candidates through written competitive examination following due process. Teachers Recruitment Board also recruited 60 qualified Computer Instructors Grade-I.

The notification for the recruitment of Lecturers in Government Polytechnic Colleges was issued by Teachers Recruitment Board as detailed below:-

Notification No. and Date	Name of the Recruitment	No. of vacancies notified
No. 14/2019 27.11.2019	Government Polytechnic College Lecturers	1060

The computer based test was conducted from 08.12.2021 to 12.12.2021. Action is being taken to release the results.

The notification for the recruitment of PG Assistants / Physical Director Grade -I and Computer Instructor Grade -I was issued by Teachers Recruitment Board as detailed below: -

Notification No. and Date	Name of the Recruitment	No. of vacancies notified
No. 01/2021 09.09.2021	Post Graduate Assistants / Physical Education Directors Grade I and Computer Instructor Grade-I	2207

Computer based test was conducted from 12.02.2022 to 20.02.2022 for PG Assistants / Physical Director Grade -I and Computer Instructor Grade -I.

8.6. Annual Planner for 2022

A tentative annual planner for 2022 indicating the details of recruitment with vacancy details has been issued by Teachers Recruitment Board. The notification for Teachers

Eligibility Test for 2022 has been issued and the exam will be conducted soon. The recruitment of Secondary Grade and Graduate Teachers, SCERT Lecturers, Assistant Professors in Government Arts and Science colleges, and Lecturers for Government Polytechnic colleges, etc., will be taken up this year.

8.7. Teachers Recruitment Board - Restructuring

As per the orders of the Government, an Expert Committee has been appointed to suggest ways and means to revamp Teachers Recruitment Board in order to improve its effectiveness. The Expert Committee recommendations are being made ready for submission to Government.

8.8. Budget

The Government has made budgetary provision of Rs.4.79 crore to this Directorate for the year 2022-23.

9.TAMIL NADU TEXTBOOK AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION

9.1.Introduction

The origin of Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Service Corporation dates backs to 1961 when **"The Bureau of Tamil Publications"** was established to translate and publish Higher Education books of other languages into Tamil. The Bureau **was named as "Tami**l Nadu Textbook **Society" in 1970 and was subsequently** re-named **"Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation" in 2013,in keeping with its** new mandate of providing various educational kits to the children in Government and Government aided schools, in addition to printing & supplying of textbooks, besides sale of various literary and scientific works. Since then, the Corporation has been rendering its valuable services to the children studying in

Government and Government aided schools as well as to the general public.

9.2.Objectives

➢ Printing of Textbooks with energized contents for all three terms for students studying in Classes 1 to 7 and annual textbooks for students studying in Classes 8 to 12.

➢ Translation of Higher Education books on Engineering, Medicine, Agriculture, Ecology, Law, Veterinary Science, Literature, Siddha Medicine, Fisheries and Physical Education from English to Tamil and printing & publishing the same.

➢ Translating Tamil Literature into English and other South Indian languages.

➢ Re-publication of rare and old Tamil books and ensuring their availability to students, research scholars and the reading community at large.

> ➢ Functioning as the procuring entity for supply of Educational Kits such as School Bags, Shoes etc., for students studying in Government and Government Aided schools.

9.3.Infrastructure

The Corporation has its Head Office in E.V.K Sampath Maligai, DPI Campus, Chennai. It has 22 Regional Offices across the state.

9.4.Printing Of Textbooks

Text Books for all students in Classes I to XII are printed by the Corporation in 80 GSM Elegant Printing paper and 230 GSM Aura fold blue board for wrapper with lamination. All textbooks have QR Codes (Quick Response) to enable easy access to related audio visual content and online question banks.

The details of Textbooks printed for the year 2022-23 are as follows:

Details of Textbooks	No. of books Printed (in lakhs)	Tentative Value (Rs.in Crore)
Textbooks for students of Classes 1 to 12 in Government and Government aided schools.	351.95	206.00
Textbooks for students of Classes 1 to 12 in self financing schools.	154.19	148.00
Tamil Textbook for Classes 1 to 10 for schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education.	13.34	9.7

9.5.Supply Of Textbooks

Free textbooks are provided to all students studying in Government & Government aided schools. Sale copies are provided to private schools as well as to the general public through online mode and through sales counters functioning in DPI Campus, Anna Centenary Library and Adyar Godown. The facility of online sales has also been extended through TACTV centers at Taluk Offices.

9.6.Printing Of Other Books

The Corporation also undertakes the printing of various other books based on the requirement of Departments such as Samagra Shiksha, ICDS, Directorate of Non-formal and Adult Education, Department of Archaeology, DoTE, SCERT, Parents Teachers Association, Adi Dravidar& Tribal Welfare and BC,MBC& Minorities Welfare department. 60.17 lakhs books have been printed in 2021-22 for the above departments at an approximate value of Rs.12.12crores.

9.7.Digitalisation & Re-Print Of Rare Books

The Corporation has so far digitized 875 rare higher education books through the Tamil Virtual Academy and published 635 rare books. Rare books worth Rs.14.14 lakhs have been sold and supplied to many institutions such as Anna Centenary Library, Connemara Library, TNPSC, All India Civil Service Coaching Centre at Anna

Institute of Management, Anna University, Tamil Virtual Academy and Roja Muthiah Research Library (RMRL) or the benefit of the student community. These books were also exhibited at the Chennai Book Fair 2022 to create awareness among the student community and general public. Besides, these books were supplied to all District Libraries for usage.

9.8.New Initiatives

To commemorate the celebration of the 150th birthday of V.O.C, all the books written by him were **edited by Prof.V.Arasu as 'Pannool Thirattu', and V.O.C's commentary on the** Thirukkural was also published by TNTB&ESC. These books were **released by the Hon'ble Chief** Minister on 19.09.2021. Similarly, in view of the death centenary of Bharathiyar, a collection of **Bharathiyar's** works titled 'Manathil Uruthi Vendum' is going to be published this year in association with the Department of Information

and Public Relations. These books will be distributed to around 37 lakhs school children studying in Government & Government aided schools at a cost ofRs.5 Crore. **The book 'Porunai Civilization' was** also published in association with the Department of Archaeology. 10,000 copies in Tamil and 5,000 copies in English of this book have been published this year.

Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation provided Rs.2,00,35,181/- for the purchase of 61 English periodicals and Rs.1,01,82,099/- for the purchase of 68 Tamil periodicals to the Directorate of Public Libraries to promote reading habits, general knowledge and creativity among students.

9.9.Translation Of Scientific And Literary Books Into Tamil

This Corporation is executing two translation projects viz., **'Thisaidhorum Dravidam'** and **'Muthamizh** Arignar

Mozhipeyarpu **Thittam'**. Under **'Thisaidhorum Dravidam'**, 20 Tamil literary works are being translated into English and other Dravidian languages by joining hands with renowned national and international publishers. The following six titles have been released by the **Hon'ble Chief Minister at the 45**th Chennai Book Fair under this scheme.

> ➢ The Cilappatikaram (The Tale of Anklet) translated by R.Parthasarathy (Penguin Random House)

> ➢ Putham Veedu by Hebzeba Jesudhasan (Rupa Publications)

> ➢ Meeran Stories by Thoppil Mohammad Meeran (Ratna Sagar Pvt.Ltd)

> ➢ Essays of U.Ve.Sa (Niyogi Publishers)

> ➢ Katha Vilasam by S.Ramakrishnan (Taylor & Francis)

➢ In Defiance: Our Stories by Dalit Writers (Vitasta Publishing)

'Ponniyin Selvan' **(DC books) and** 'Dravida Iyakkam' **(Malayala Manorama) will be** translated into Malayalam. Similarly, the **'Tamil Commentary on Tirukkural'** written by Muthamizh Arignar Dr.M.Karunanidhi (Hyderabad Book Trust) and the **'Oru** Puli**yamarathin Katha'** written by Sundara Ramaswamy (Hyderabad Book Trust) have been translated into Telugu **and released by Hon'ble** Chief Minister**. 'Maaperum Tamil Kanavu' a Tamil** book written on Perarignar Anna will be translated into English under the title, 'A Grand Tamil Dream' in association with The Hindu publishers.

Under **'Muthamizh** Arignar Mozhipeyarpu **Thittam'**, 204 titles have been identified in various Higher Education streams, of which 50 titleswill be released in June 2022 and another

50 titles will be released in June 2023 as Joint Publications with reputed national & international publishers. The first book released in this category is the Tamil translation of Robert Caldwell's 'The Comparative Grammar of Dravidian or South Indian Family of Languages' which has been translated by P.R.Subramanian as "Dravida Allathu Thenninthiya Kudumba Mozhigalin Oppilakkanam". This book is a joint publication with International Institute of Tamil Studies (IITS) and was released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the 45th Chennai Book Fair.

8870 books relating to Higher Education Entrance Examination (Physics, Chemistry and Biology) Question Banks edited in 6 volumes prepared in collaboration with Pearson India Pvt Ltd at a cost of Rs.2,15,18,200/-have been provided by this Corporation to Government Training Centers. Steps have been taken to provide 2000 copies of the same to Model

Schools in 10 districts in the initial phase.

9.10.Ilanthalir Ilakiya Thittam

In order to make available the best **children's books, the Cor**poration is **implementing the** 'Ilanthalir Ilakiya Thittam' **in** which 104 stories have been received from 22 Authors for review and publication. The same will be brought out in the year 2022-23 in a phased manner.

9.11. Procurement Activities

Educational Kits with 11 items will be provided to the children studying in Government and Government aided schools in Tamil Nadu to fulfil their educational needs and to improve their performance at a cost ofRs.260.02 crores for the year 2022-23.

The Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation has been providing educational services to both school children as

well as the larger public in adherence to the objectives set for it by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

10.FINANCIAL OUTLAY

The outlay for School Education in 2022-23 in Demand No.43 is Rs.36895.89 crore.

Budget Estimate 2022-23				
				(Rupees in Lakhs)
Head of Account		State Expenditure	Schemes shared between State and Centre	Total
Revenue Section				
2051	Public Service Commission	478.83	-	478.83
2059	Public Works	15100.00	-	15100.00
2202	General Education			
	1 Elementary Education	1614740.56	230808.52	1845549.08
	2 Secondary Education	1646446.19	84140.20	1730586.39
	4 Adult Education	216.91	750.00	966.91
	5 Language Development	1660.70		1660.70
Total - General Education		**3263064.36**	**315698.72**	**3578763.08**
2204	Sports and Youth Services	204.17	56.01	260.18
2205	Art and Culture	20795.07	-	20795.07
2225	Welfare of SC & ST and Other Backward Classes	18259.79	-	18259.79
2235	Social Security and Welfare	266.00	-	266.00
2251	Secretariat-Social Services	1129.84	-	1129.84
Revenue Section Total		**3319298.06**	**56.01**	**3635052.79**

Capital Section				
4202	Capital Outlay	54135.17	361.25	54496.42
Loan Section				
7610	Loans to Government Servants	40.00	-	40.00
	Grand Total	3373473.23	316115.98	3689589.21
	Grand Total for Demand No. 43			3689589.21

Under the dynamic leadership of our **Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Government is** committed to provide quality education of the highest order to every child in the State through comprehensive, data-driven educational reforms encompassing the entire gamut of teaching – learning processes with the able participation and cooperation of our teachers and other stakeholders.

Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi
Minister for School Education

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin received a cheque towards CM's Corona Relief Fund from Hon'ble School Education Minister Thiru. Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi on 03.09.2021 at Secretariat.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin visited the Thanjavur Saraswathi Mahal Museum where rare books and palmleaves were displayed on 30.12.2021.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin launched the Illam Thedi Kalvi Programme on 27.10.2021 in Mudaliyar Kuppam, Villupuram District.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin issued appointment orders to visually impaired canditates as Book Binders and Book Binding Assistants in District Central Libraries and Anna Centenary Library on 03.12.2021 at Secretariat.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin issued appointment order to the heir of the freedom fighter Thiru.Jeevaanandham on 14.03.2022 at Secretariat.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin along with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi Thiru. Arvind Kejriwal visited a Government Model School located at West Vinod Nagar, New Delhi on 01.04.2022.

Thiru. Udayanithi Stalin, Member of Legislative Assembly, Chepauk and Thiru. Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, Hon'ble Minister for School Education participated in the second phase of inauguration of the Illam Thedi Kalvi Programme and distributed Note Books to the students on 03.01.2022.

Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration Thiru.K.N.Nehru and Hon'ble Minister for School Education Thiru. Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi distributed Awards to the Best Learning Centres under "Karpom Ezhuthuvom" Iyakkam in Tiruchirappalli on 01.12.2021.

The Hon'ble School Education Minister Thiru.Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi launched the "Nam Palli Nam Perumai" campaign including School Development Plan App, Media campaign App and on-ground campaign with cultural events at Anna Centenary Library on 08.03.2022.

Hon'ble School Education Minister Thiru. Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi inspected the classroom activities and functioning of toilets in a Government school.

The Hon'ble School Education Minister Thiru.Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi conducted a Regional Review Meeting for Educational Officials on 31.03.2022 at Madurai.

Hon'ble School Education Minister Thiru.Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi honoured the best performing Chief Educational Officers and District Educational Officers with Prizes at the Review Meeting held at Anna Centenary Library on 05.04.2022.

School Management Committee Awareness Programmes were held in all Government schools on 20.03.2022.

Illam Thedi Kalvi Centers