



SOCIAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE 2026 – 2027

DEMAND No. 4

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Minister for Social Justice

©
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2026

INDEX

Sl. No.	Subject	Page No.
	Introduction	1
	Administrative Structure	2
I	ADI DRAVIDAR WELFARE	
1.	Educational Development	4
2.	Schools	16
3.	Hostels	21
4.	Government Adi Dravidar Industrial Training Institutes	27
5.	Habitation Infrastructure Development Schemes	28
6.	Social Development Scheme	31
7.	Social Protection	34
8.	Centre for Social Justice and Equity	39
9.	Verification of the Genuineness of Community Certificates	40
10.	Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar and Tribal Art and Literature Development Society	41
11.	Dr. Ambedkar Award	42

Sl. No.	Subject	Page No.
12.	Development Action plan for the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribes	43
II.	Tribal welfare	
1.	Educational Development	53
2.	Educational Scholarship Schemes	67
3.	Socio, Economic and Infrastructure Development Schemes	72
4.	Culture	90
5.	Verification of the Genuineness of Tribal Community Certificates	91
6.	Tribal Research Centre	93
III.	TAMIL NADU ADI DRAVIDAR HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (TAHDCO)	
1.	Economic Development Subsidy with Loan Scheme	100
2.	Livelihood Schemes for Women Self-Help Groups	109
3.	Livelihood Skill Development Training	112

Sl. No.	Subject	Page No.
4.	Entrepreneurship Development Schemes	121
5.	Infrastructure	125
IV	TAMIL NADU STATE COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED CASTE AND SCHEDULED TRIBES	130
V	TAMIL NADU TRIBAL ADVISORY COUNCIL	131
VI	WELFARE BOARDS	
1.	Tamil Nadu Puthirai Vannar Welfare Board	132
2.	Tamil Nadu Cleanliness Workers Welfare Board	133
3.	Tamil Nadu Tribal Welfare Board	134
4.	Tamil Nadu Narikuravar Welfare Board	135

SOCIAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

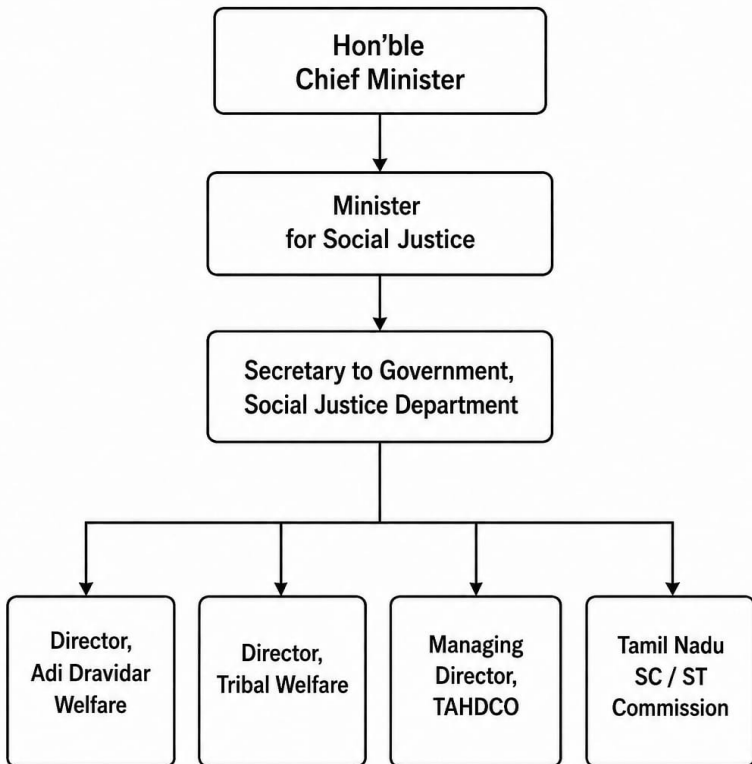
POLICY NOTE 2026-27

INTRODUCTION

The Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department was established as a separate department in 1988 by bifurcating it from the Social Welfare Department. The Department was created to formulate and implement focused schemes for the educational, social and economic advancement of Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities, with the objective of improving their overall standard of living.

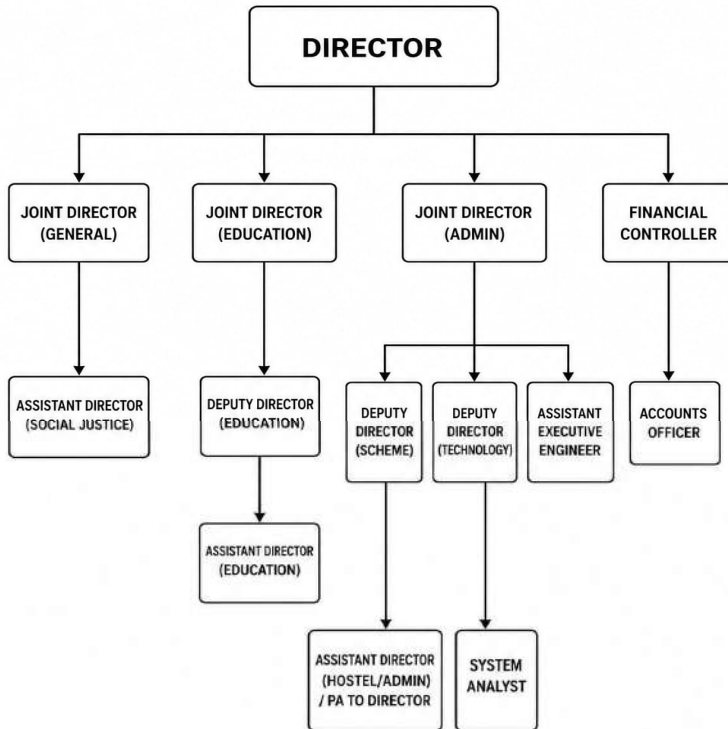
With a view to promoting social harmony and fostering a sense of fraternity among all sections of society, the Department was renamed as the Social Justice Department on 06.07.2026

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

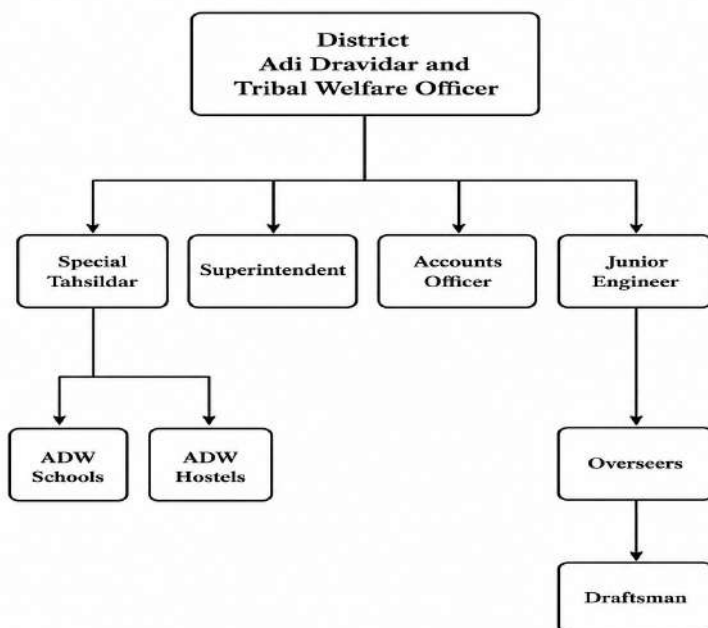


I. ADI DRAVIDAR WELFARE

Administrative structure of the Directorate of Adi Dravidar Welfare



Administrative Structure of DADTWO Office



1. EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Government is committed to the social and economic advancement of Adi Dravidar communities by promoting education and self-reliance. Accordingly, various educational

scholarship schemes are being implemented. In the Budget for the financial year 2026-2027, out of the total allocation of Rs.3195.12 crore to the Adi Dravidar Welfare Department, a sum of Rs.2354.18 crore has been allocated for education-related activities.

1.1 Educational Scholarship Schemes

Recognizing that education is the key to achieving the social and economic advancement of the Adi Dravidar community, the Government has been implementing various educational scholarship schemes to promote and enhance educational development.

Educational Scholarship Scheme from Primary Education to High School Education (Classes 1 to 10)

(i) Educational Scholarship Scheme for the Children of Persons Engaged in Occupations Prone to Health Hazards

This educational scholarship is provided, without distinction of caste or religion and without any income ceiling, to the children of workers engaged in sanitation work and

equivalent occupations who are studying in Classes 1 to 10 in schools.

Details of Educational Scholarship

(Rs. per annum)

Day Scholar	Hosteller
3,500/- (Classes 1 – 10)	8,000/- (Classes 3 – 10)

(ii) Girls Incentive Scheme

The Girls Incentive Scheme is being implemented for girl children studying in Classes 3 to 8, so as to encourage Adi Dravidar and Christian Adi Dravidar girl students studying in Government and Government-aided schools to pursue their education without dropping out, and to ensure 100 percent enrolment.

The incentive provided to girl students under this scheme is as follows:-

(Rs. per annum)

Class	Amount
III to V	500/-
VI	1,000/-
VII and VIII	1,500/-

The data of the girl students are obtained through the Education Management Information System (EMIS) website, and the incentive is credited directly into their bank accounts.

(iii) Educational Scholarship for Students of Classes 9 and 10

This educational scholarship is provided to students studying in Classes 9 and 10 in Government-recognised schools as follows:-

Details of Scholarship

(Rs. per annum)

Day Scholar	Hosteller
3,500/- (Classes 9 – 10)	7,000/- (Classes 9 – 10)

To receive this scholarship, the annual family income should not exceed Rs.2.50 lakh.

(iv) Educational Scholarship Schemes for Higher Secondary School / Industrial Training Courses

With the objective of encouraging Adi Dravidar students to pursue Higher

education, educational fees and academic allowance are credited directly into the bank accounts of students studying courses above Class 10, by way of educational scholarship.

The expenditure on this scheme is shared and implemented by the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 60:40.

To receive this scholarship, the annual family income should not exceed Rs.2.50 lakh.

Details of Scholarship

(Rs. per annum)

	Day Scholar	Hosteller
Schools	2,500/-	4,000/-
Private educational institutions		
Industrial Training Institutes (ITI)	19,300/-	20,800/-
Non – Engineering ITI	15,500/-	17,000/-

(v) Educational Scholarship for students pursuing College / Higher Education

Under this scheme, students who continue Higher education in colleges after completing Higher Secondary school education are provided an educational scholarship comprising an academic allowance appropriate to the course pursued, together with the non-refundable fees payable by the student to the educational institution. Fees are reimbursed to private educational institutions at the rates fixed by the Government.

The expenditure on this scheme is shared and implemented by the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 60:40.

To receive this scholarship, the annual family income should not exceed Rs.2.50 lakh.

Academic Allowance

Group	Courses	Academic allowance per annum (Rs.)	
		Hosteller	Day Scholar
I	Under Graduate and Post Graduate professional degree courses	13,500/-	7,000/-
II	Other professional courses leading to Degree and Diploma qualifications	9,500/-	6,500/-
III	Other Under Graduate and Post Graduate degree courses not included in Groups I and II above	6,000/-	3,000/-
IV	All Higher Secondary education courses and non-degree Diploma courses	4,000/-	2,500/-

(vi) State Government's Special Educational Scholarship Scheme

A Special Educational Scholarship Scheme of the State Government is being implemented on par with the Government of India's scheme, so as to benefit Christian Adi Dravidar students who are unable to benefit from the Government of India's educational scholarship scheme for courses above Class X. Under this scheme, the educational scholarship is credited directly into the students' bank accounts.

To receive this scholarship, the annual family income should not exceed Rs.2.50 lakh.

(vii) Special Scholarship Scheme for Higher Education

This special scholarship is provided to Adi Dravidar and Christian Adi Dravidar students residing and studying in the paid hostels of Government / Government-aided colleges, in order to offset their hostel expenditure.

To receive this scholarship, the annual family income should not exceed Rs.2.50 lakh.

Sl. No.	Courses	Scholarship (per annum)
1	Under Graduate degree and Diploma courses	Rs.7,500/-
2	Post Graduate degree courses and Post Graduate professional courses	Rs.8,000/-

(viii) Educational Fee Concessions

- Adi Dravidar, Tribal and Christian Adi Dravidar students studying in Government and Government-aided schools and colleges are provided, without any income ceiling and up to Under Graduate level, the tuition fees, special fees and examination fees payable by the student to the college.
- In order to encourage women students pursuing Post Graduate studies, special fee and examination fee concessions are provided.

(ix) Internship Scholarship for Students Pursuing Law

An internship scholarship of Rs.10,000/- is provided to Adi Dravidar, Tribal and Christian Adi Dravidar students studying in the final year of law courses in Government law colleges.

Further, an internship scholarship of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand only) and an internship kit (law books, coat, bag, etc.) are provided to 30 Adi Dravidar, Tribal and Christian Adi Dravidar students who have completed the 3-year and 5-year law courses in Government law colleges in Tamil Nadu within the preceding one year, for internship with the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court.

(x) Skill Voucher Scheme (High Skill Incentive Scheme)

A skill voucher for skill training, of up to Rs.25,000/-, is provided to encourage Adi Dravidar, Tribal and Christian Adi Dravidar students who pass Under Graduate, Post Graduate and technical courses with 60 percent or more marks to develop their employability skills.

(xi) State Government Educational Scholarship for Students Pursuing Full-Time Doctoral Research Courses

An incentive of Rs.1 lakh per annum is provided to encourage Adi Dravidar students engaged in full-time doctoral research courses (Ph.D.) to pursue their studies.

To benefit under this scheme, the annual family income should not exceed Rs.8 lakh.

Under this scheme, a scholarship is being provided every year to 2,000 students pursuing research courses in Linguistics, Arts (Education, Commerce, Management, Architecture, Mass Communication, Design), Science, Applied Science (Applied Science, Medical, Engineering) and other disciplines.

(xii) Annal Ambedkar Overseas Higher Education Scholarship Scheme

A scholarship for pursuing higher education in abroad is provided so as to encourage Adi Dravidar, Tribal and Christian Adi Dravidar students to undertake Post

Graduate degree and doctoral research courses in reputed educational institutions abroad.

Eligible students whose annual family income is within Rs.8 lakh are provided an educational scholarship of up to Rs.36 lakh per annum and those whose annual family income is within Rs.12 lakh are provided up to Rs.24 lakh per annum.

To receive this scholarship, students must secure admission in universities ranked within the top 1000 in the QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World University Rankings.

Through this educational scholarship scheme, students are pursuing higher education in globally top-ranked and renowned universities such as the National University of Singapore, the University of Toronto (Canada), the University of Manchester (United Kingdom) and Delft University of Technology (Netherlands).

(xiii) Skill Development Training for Graduates in Journalism and Communication

In order to enhance the employability skills of graduates who have qualified in the field

of Journalism and Communication, from the year 2025-2026 the Social Justice and Equity Centre, in collaboration with the Chennai Institute of Journalism, provides nine days of residential training to 50 graduates. At the end of this training, 30 selected graduates are provided on-the-job training for two months in leading media organisations, together with an incentive of Rs.20,000/- per month each.

2. SCHOOLS

In order to avoid Adi Dravidar students having to travel long distances to pursue their education, Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools have been established and are functioning in areas where Adi Dravidar people reside in large numbers.

Under this Department, a total of 1,338 schools are functioning, comprising 833 Primary schools, 99 Middle schools, 108 High schools and 98 Higher secondary schools. About 75,000 students study in these schools every year.

2.1 School Development Works

- Facilities such as new classrooms, science laboratories, smart classrooms, high-tech laboratories, drinking water and toilet facilities, sports equipment, libraries and kitchens are provided in schools.
- Smart Classrooms have been set up in 119 Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools and Smart Boards in 174 schools. High Tech Labs have been established in 206 schools.
- In 138 Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools, works relating to 180 new classrooms, 45 additional toilets and 16 science laboratories, and the construction of new compound walls in 83 schools, are in progress.

2.2 Refresher Training for Teachers

In order to enhance the learning ability of students studying in the schools of the Adi Dravidar Welfare Department, to create a pleasant learning environment and to increase admissions to leading higher educational institutions, subject-competency development training is provided to graduate teachers

(Mathematics and Science subjects), training to improve teaching skills is provided to Post Graduate teachers, leadership and skill development training is provided to the Headmasters of High and Higher secondary schools, and Higher education admission guidance training is also provided.

2.3 Higher Education Guidance Coaching Classes

Special coaching is provided to students who have studied Class XII in Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary Schools for 19 types of higher education entrance examinations such as JEE, NEET, CLAT, CUET, IITTM, NIFT and NID.

Through this coaching, 58 students have secured admission in the current year in higher educational institutions such as IITTM Noida, NIT in Andhra Pradesh, NIFT Chennai and Bengaluru, and FDDI Chennai.

2.4 Educational Assistance

Textbooks / Notebooks

In order to reduce the financial burden on the families of Adi Dravidar, Christian Adi Dravidar and Tribal students studying in Classes 1 to 12 in the schools of this department, free textbooks are provided. Notebooks are provided to students studying in Classes 1 to 10, through the School Education Department.

Question Bank / Special Guides

Question Bank booklets and Special Guide booklets have been provided at a cost of Rs.1.40 crore to 27,000 students studying in Class 10 and Class 12 in the schools and hostels functioning under this Department.

Uniforms

In order to foster harmony among all students without economic differences becoming apparent, four sets of uniforms are provided in the schools and hostels functioning under the control of this department to students residing

and studying in Classes 1 to 8 through the School Education Department, and to students studying in Classes 9 to 12 through this Department.

Bicycles

Bicycles are provided to Adi Dravidar, Tribal and Christian Adi Dravidar students studying in Class 11 in Government, Government-aided and partially-aided higher secondary schools, with the objective of enabling them to travel to school conveniently.

Under this scheme, bicycles are provided to 1.60 lakh students at a cost of about Rs.70 crore per annum.

Educational Tours to Higher Educational Institutions

In order to encourage among Adi Dravidar and Tribal students an interest in pursuing higher education, students studying in Classes 10 and 12 in the High and Higher Secondary schools of this department are taken on educational tours to higher educational institutions.

Under this scheme, about 11,000 students studying in 206 high / higher secondary schools are taken on educational tours every year at a cost of Rs.50 lakh.

3. HOSTELS

In order to ensure that students belonging to rural areas can readily obtain food and accommodation so as to reside and study at places where educational institutions are situated, hostels have been established by this department near educational institutions and are functioning.

The Adi Dravidar Welfare Hostels functioning under this department and the number of students sanctioned therein are as follows:—

Details of Social Justice Hostels

Type of Hostel	Number of Hostels			Number of Sanctioned Students		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
School Hostels	669	379	1,048	49,249	26,983	76,232
College Hostels	118	113	231	11,608	8,238	19,846

Type of Hostel	Number of Hostels			Number of Sanctioned Students		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
I.T.I. Hostels	21	2	23	1,658	121	1,779
Polytechnic Hostels	6	3	9	348	160	508
Post Graduate College Hostels	12	9	21	897	620	1,517
Total	826	506	1,332	63,760	36,122	99,882

- Five seats have been reserved in every hostel so as to enable the children of Sri Lankan Tamils to reside and study.

3.1 Hostel Development Works

i. Hostel Infrastructure

- In Model Hostels, facilities including a gymnasium, a multipurpose hall with indoor games and a library, and accommodation rooms with attached toilets are provided.
- Seven Model Hostels have been constructed in Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli and the Nilgiris districts.

- Further, 12 Model Hostels are under construction in Chennai, Dharmapuri, Thanjavur, Namakkal, Salem, Kanniyakumari, Krishnagiri and Madurai districts.
- Repair and maintenance works have been completed in 535 hostels at an estimated cost of Rs.100 crore. At present, maintenance works are in progress in 94 hostels at an estimated cost of Rs.28.92 crore.

ii. Hostel Management

- In order to create a good environment for students to pursue their education, maintenance works for running the hostels in an orderly manner, and a hostel management system with surveillance cameras and biometric attendance recording, have been established in all hostels at a cost of Rs.27.15 crore.

iii. Teaching and Learning Rooms

Teaching-learning rooms with modern facilities such as an indoor games room, carrom,

table tennis, chess, computers with internet connectivity, a study room and outdoor seating have been set up in 20 Adi Dravidar Welfare College Hostels in 16 districts.

iv. Welcome Package

Students are staying in school and college hostels are provided a Welcome Package containing a mattress with a mat, a blanket, a pillow with two covers, and articles of daily need such as an ever-silver plate, an ever-silver tumbler, a bucket and a plastic mug. This kit is provided every year to students newly admitted to the hostel. Students already staying in the hostel are provided this kit once in three years.

V. Essential Kit

A kit containing essential articles required by school and college hostel students, such as soap, coconut oil, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo and washing powder is provided three times a year.

vi. Skill Development Training for Hostel Students

Special training is provided to college hostel students and school hostel students relating to the improvement of their abilities in arts, science, sports, technology, software and job skills.

With the objective of developing the individual talents of students residing and studying in Adi Dravidar and Tribal college hostels, competitions are conducted so as to bring out their literary, oratorical and sporting skills.

3.2 Food Charges

- Food charges of Rs.1,400/- per person per month are provided to students are staying in school hostels and Rs.1,500/- per person per month to students residing and studying in college hostels.
- Further, in order to provide special food during festival periods, special food charges of Rs.40/- for school hostel students and Rs.80/- for college hostel students are

provided on five festival days in a year (Pongal, Republic Day, Tamil New Year's Day, Independence Day and Deepavali).

3.3 Common Kitchen

In order to provide uniform, quality and tasty food to students are staying in various hostels, food is prepared in common kitchens and supplied to the hostels in the cities of Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai. Further, the details of the food supplied to the hostels through this common kitchen are monitored through a mobile application.

19 hostels in Chennai city, 9 hostels in Coimbatore city and 17 hostels in Madurai city have been brought under this scheme, and about 4,200 students residing therein are benefiting.

3.4 Provision of Periodicals and Books

In order to improve the general knowledge of students and to enable them to prepare for competitive examinations, including civil services examinations, in the prevailing competitive employment environment, books and periodicals

are provided every year in high schools, higher secondary schools and hostels.

College / School hostels are provided with two Tamil and one English daily newspapers, weeklies such as Employment News, monthly magazines, year books and question banks for competitive examinations.

3.5 Other Facilities

Library facilities, cooking gas connections, drinking water purification units and flour grinding machines have been provided to all hostels.

Further, digital signage boards have been provided to College hostels.

4. GOVERNMENT ADI DRAVIDAR INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTES

Government Industrial Training Institutes are functioning to enable students for undergo industrial training, as follows:-

Sl. No.	Name of District	Location of the Industrial Training Institute	Number of Students
1.	Cuddalore	Chidambaram	253
2.	Tiruvallur	Vadakarai	194
Total			447

5. HABITATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

The Government is implementing various welfare schemes in order to improve the basic amenities in the habitations where Adi Dravidar people reside.

5.1 Iyothee Thass Pandithar Habitations Development Scheme

The "Iyothee Thass Pandithar Habitations Development Scheme" is being implemented in order to provide basic amenities in Adi Dravidar habitations.

Under this scheme, in order to ensure basic amenities for the Adi Dravidar habitation areas in rural and urban areas, facilities such as concrete roads, tarred roads, approach roads to crematoria, compound walls for crematoria, waiting halls, borewell facilities, Anganwadi buildings, Arivu Chudar Centres (Community Halls), construction of overhead water tanks and rainwater drains are provided to Adi Dravidar people on the basis of need.

Under this scheme, 40 Arivu Chudar Centres are being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.40 crore, so as to enable Adi Dravidar and Tribal people to participate in education, skill development and social events.

These works are undertaken through the Directorate of Rural Development and Panchayats, the Directorate of Town Panchayats and the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board.

5.2 Village Knowledge Centres

For the benefit of Adi Dravidar people, 120 Village Knowledge Centres, with facilities

such as a reception area, an integrated training room, an administrative room, computer room / library rooms, a trainers room and toilets, are being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.117.27 crore. Further, 126 Village Knowledge Centres are being constructed at an estimate cost of Rs.125.37 crore.

5.3 Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)

The objective of the Adarsh Gram Yojana is to select villages in which Adi Dravidar people constitute more than 40 percent of the total population, and to create self-sufficient development in those villages by identifying and fulfilling requirements relating to basic amenities such as drinking water, sanitation, education, health and nutrition, agricultural practices, social security, housing, rural roads, financial inclusion, digitisation, electricity and fuel, and livelihood and skill development.

Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.20 lakh per village is provided by the Government of India for carrying out development works in the selected villages.

In the past financial years, 3,112 villages have been declared as Adarsh Gram and 9,505 works were selected at an estimated cost of Rs.622 crore, all of which have been completed.

6. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

6.1 Free House Site Scheme

The scheme of granting free house site pattas is being implemented so as to raise the social and economic status of Adi Dravidar and Tribal people.

Lands are acquired either through individual negotiation or the Land Acquisition laws in force, and house site pattas are granted to eligible beneficiaries.

Under this scheme, the annual income ceiling for beneficiaries has been fixed at Rs.1,00,000/-.

An allocation of Rs.6 crore per annum is provided for this scheme. Further, in accordance with court judgements, a sum of Rs.20 crore is

provided as compensation in cases where land has been acquired.

6.2 Providing Crematoria and Approach Roads to Crematoria

Basic amenities relating to crematoria and approach roads to crematoria are provided for Adi Dravidar habitations. Land is acquired for providing crematoria and approach roads to crematoria under the Tamil Nadu Land Acquisition Act, 31/1978, and also through individual negotiation.

Works relating to the laying of approach roads to crematoria and the construction of compound walls for crematoria are being undertaken under the Iyothee Thass Pandithar Habitations Development Scheme.

6.3 Samathuva Mayanam (Equality Crematorium)

In order to further strengthen the Samathuva Mayanam scheme, which was implemented with the noble objective of ensuring equality even in death, 4 villages near town panchayats where Samathuva Mayanams

are in use have been selected, and a gas cremation platform, vehicles and a dedicated mobile application are being provided at an estimated cost of Rs.8 crore.

6.4 Social Harmony Panchayat / Village

In order to promote caste-neutral social unity, 10 eligible village panchayats in which people live in harmony have been selected from districts other than Chennai, and an incentive of Rs.1 crore each together with the Social Harmony Panchayat Award is provided. Further, 37 villages that practise caste-neutral social unity and appreciable harmony have been selected from 37 districts (excluding Chennai) and a sum of Rs.10 lakh each is provided.

With this amount, multiple development works, including various basic amenities required for the above said villages, are undertaken.

6.5 Funeral Assistance

Financial assistance of Rs.5,000/- is provided towards funeral expenses in respect of

bereavements occurring in Adi Dravidar, Tribal and Christian Adi Dravidar families.

7. SOCIAL PROTECTION

7.1 Prevention of Atrocities Act

In order to provide relief and rehabilitation to victims of atrocities, and to prevent untouchability, oppression, criminal acts and social inequality, the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Amendment Act, 2015, and the Prevention of Atrocities Rules, 1995 and the Amendment Rules of 2016 and 2018, have been enacted and are being enforced by the Government of India.

A technologically-equipped Help Centre (Help Line) has been established for providing legal advice regarding the Prevention of Atrocities Act and for lodging complaints regarding atrocities (Help Centre Numbers: 14566 and 1800 2021 1989)

7.2 State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee, constituted to review the functioning of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2015, and to review the details of the relief and rehabilitation provided to victims of atrocities, has now been reconstituted with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu as its Chairperson.

7.3 Social Justice and Human Rights Unit

In Tamil Nadu, the Social Justice and Human Rights Unit was established in the year 1972 in order to prevent the violence and atrocities committed against Adi Dravidars and Tribals and to foster social harmony. This Wing functions under the leadership of an Inspector-General of Police, with 1 Assistant Inspector-General of Police, 38 Deputy Superintendents of Police, 10 Inspectors of Police, 67 Sub-Inspectors of Police, 151 Police

Constables, 37 special staff and 28 ministerial staff.

The 46 Social Justice and Human Rights Units functioning in all districts are supervised by the Inspector-General of Police and the Assistant Inspector-General of Police. In each District, this Unit monitors the implementation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, through an Assistant Commissioner of Police / Deputy Superintendent of Police, with the assistance of a Statistical Inspector and Police Constables.

7.4 Special Courts

22 exclusive Special Courts have been established in Tamil Nadu so as to enable the expeditious disposal of cases relating to offences committed against Adi Dravidars and Tribals, and to the rehabilitation and relief to be provided to them.

The relief provided to victims of atrocities has been enhanced from a minimum of Rs.85,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/-, and from a maximum of Rs.8,25,000/- to Rs.12,00,000/-.

The enhanced amount is provided to the victim as a solatium from State Government funds.

Under the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989, Government employment has been provided to the legal heirs of 62 victims who died before 14.04.2016 and to the legal heirs of 581 victims who died after that date.

7.5 Other Initiatives

i. Manithaneya Vaara Vizha (Humanitarian Week Celebration)

In order to spread equality among the general public and to create awareness against untouchability, the “Manithaneya Vaara Vizha” (Humanitarian Week Celebration) is conducted every year from 24th to 30th January in all districts of Tamil Nadu.

In the year 2026, a sum of Rs.1,00,000/- was provided to each district, and a sum of Rs.2,00,000/- was provided for conducting the Humanitarian Week Celebration at the State level in one selected district.

ii. Samathuva Virundhu (Equality Feast)

Every year on 26th January, 15th August and 2nd October, and on locally important holidays in the respective districts, a Samathuva Virundhu (Equality Feast) is arranged so as to enable all to come together without distinction of caste. For this purpose, a sum of Rs.25,000/- each is provided to 37 districts (excluding Chennai).

iii. Awareness Training Programmes

- Awareness training was provided at the Tamil Nadu Judicial Academy, Chennai, to 40 Hon'ble Judges and 37 Government Advocates of the exclusive Special Courts of all districts.
- Awareness training relating to the Prevention of Atrocities Act was provided to Deputy Superintendents of Police through the Tamil Nadu Police Academy, in four phases, by way of video conferencing (VC).
- In order to establish equality, which is the very root of social justice, an awareness campaign titled "Samathuvam Kaanpom" is

being conducted among school, college / university students and the general public.

- Awareness programmes are conducted through alternative media.

8.CENTRE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

The Centre for Social Justice and Equity has been established in order to foster thinking relating to social justice and equality by conducting research courses and certificate courses at the Madras School of Social Work, Chennai, and thereby to create awareness among the people. This Centre undertakes activities such as the collection of data relating to social justice and equality, the publication of research works, and the conduct of conferences and seminars.

Research work is carried out through the Madras School of Social Work, Chennai, on: a study of the outcomes of the relief and rehabilitation assistance provided under the Prevention of Atrocities Act relating to Adi Dravidars and Tribals; the protection of the land rights of Adi Dravidar people; an

institutional analysis of the digitisation of Panchami land records; the documentation of the villages that have received the Social Harmony Award; and a study on equality in entrepreneurship and educational development.

9. VERIFICATION OF THE GENUINENESS OF COMMUNITY CERTIFICATES

Community certificates for Adi Dravidar people are issued by officers at the Tahsildar level. In order to conduct a proper enquiry into the petitions received seeking confirmation of the genuineness of the community certificates so issued, to confirm the genuineness of such community certificates, and to safeguard the legal rights of those people, a District Level Vigilance Committee has been constituted as follows:-

District Level Vigilance Committee

1.	District Collector	Chairman	May scrutinise the genuineness of Adi Dravidar (SC) community certificates and pass final orders.
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2.	District Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Officer	Member-Secretary	If this order is not accepted, an appeal may be preferred before the High Court under Article 226 of the Constitution of India and before the Supreme Court under Article 136.
3.	Anthropology Expert	Member	

10. TAMIL NADU ADI DRAVIDAR AND TRIBAL ART AND LITERATURE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

The Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar and Tribal Art and Literature Development Society is functioning in order to encourage works of art, culture and literature relating to the Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities.

The prize money for writers who produce outstanding works in the fields of the short story, the essay, the novel, poetry and history is provided out of the interest accruing on the deposit of Rs.75 lakh held in the Corpus Fund.

Under this scheme, financial assistance of Rs.1,00,000/- each, or the cost of publishing the selected books, whichever is less, is being provided to 11 writers, comprising 10 Adi Dravidar / Tribal / Christian Adi Dravidar writers and 1 writer belonging to a non-Adi Dravidar community.

11.DR. AMBEDKAR AWARD

In order to eradicate caste distinctions in society and to establish equality, the Dr. Ambedkar Award is presented every year on Thiruvalluvar Day by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to a person belonging to Tamil Nadu who has rendered service for Adi Dravidar and Tribal people. Along with this award, a cheque for a prize amount of Rs.5,00,000/-, a citation and an 8-gram gold medal are presented.

From the year 1998 up to the year 2025, the Government of Tamil Nadu has presented the Dr. Ambedkar Award to 28 persons who have rendered service for Adi Dravidar and Tribal people.

12. DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED CASTE AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES

With the objective of improving the social, economic and educational status of Adi Dravidar and Tribal people, the Tribal Sub-Plan has been implemented from the year 1976-1977 and the Adi Dravidar Sub-Plan from the year 1980-1981. In the fund allocation for the welfare schemes implemented in Government departments, funds are allocated to the extent of 20.01 percent and 1.17 percent respectively, in proportion to the population of Adi Dravidar and Tribal people.

On 29.05.2024, the Tamil Nadu Development Action Plan for the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribes Act 20 / 2024 was enacted. The purpose of this Act is to provide for the preparation, approval, implementation and monitoring of the Development Action Plan for the Scheduled caste and the Scheduled Tribes, for the computation and earmarking of funds in proportion to population, and for undertaking matters connected therewith.

Monitoring the implementation of the action plans for the development of Adi Dravidars and Tribals, reviewing the progress of implementation of the schemes, and undertaking statistical analysis, are the principal functions of the Social Justice Department, which is the nodal department. The Secretary to Government, Social Justice Department, functions as the Monitoring Officer at the State level.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, three committees have been constituted by the Government.

12.1 State Council

The State Council, constituted under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, comprises the Ministers concerned, the Chief Secretary, Secretaries to Government, 5 Members of the Legislative Assembly / Parliament belonging to the Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities, and 4 non-official members working for the people of these communities. Its principal function is to approve the Development

Action Plan recommended by the Empowered Committee.

12.2 Empowered Committee

The Empowered Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice Department. The Ministers concerned and the Secretaries to Government are members thereof. Its principal function is to evaluate the implementation and impact of the schemes in force in the respective departments for the development of Adi Dravidars and Tribals, and to report the same to the State Council.

12.3 District Monitoring Committee

This Committee, headed by the District Collector, comprises the departmental officers implementing the schemes for the development of Adi Dravidars and Tribals, and the Members of the Legislative Assembly / Parliament belonging to the Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities in the district. This Committee is responsible for the implementation of the Development Action Plan in each district.

12.4 Fund Allocation

Details of the sectoral fund allocation under the Development Action Plan for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the financial year 2026-2027 are as follows: -

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Sector	Adi Dravidar Development Action Plan	Tribal Development Action Plan
1	Welfare of Adi Dravidar, Tribal, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities	3356.74	710.96
2	Housing and Urban Development	986.67	157.16
3	Rural Development	5089.01	328.48
4	Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme	8932.90	557.29
5	Water Supply and Sanitation	379.82	17.00
6	Agriculture and Allied Activities	1201.35	57.59
7	Education, Sports and Culture	1226.13	132.30

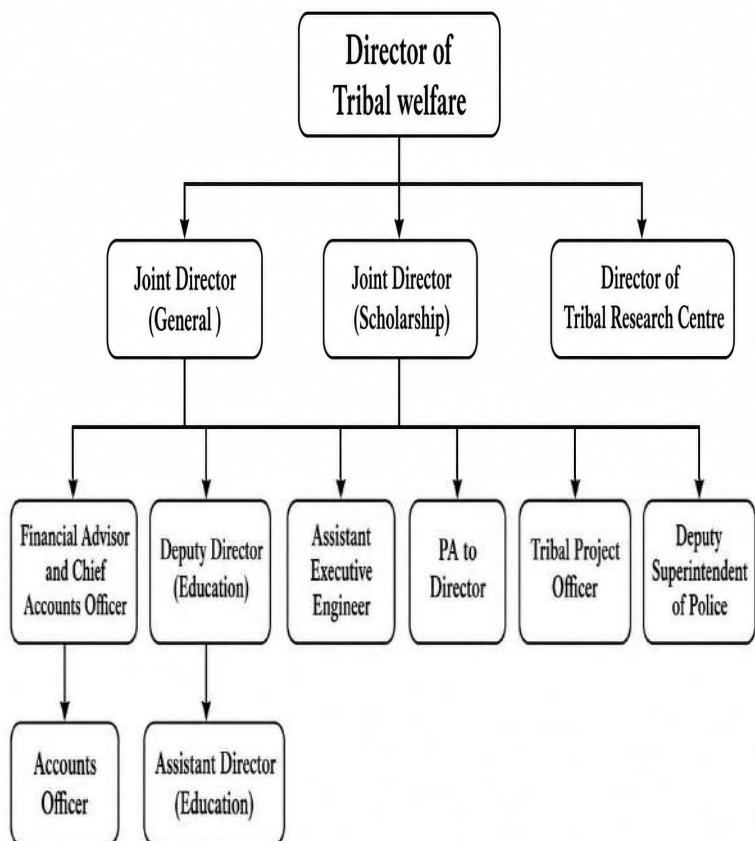
Sl. No.	Sector	Adi Dravidar Development Action Plan	Tribal Development Action Plan
8	Public Health – Family Welfare	916.98	91.39
9	Transport	330.00	-
10	General Economic Services	2396.71	-
11	Labour and Labour Welfare	86.97	9.83
12	Special Area Programmes	30.44	7.43
13	Industry and Minerals	274.70	2.92
14	Other Social Services	16.53	6.38
Total		25224.96	2078.73

II. TRIBAL WELFARE

The Tribal people of Tamil Nadu live geographically in rural and hill areas, and their developmental needs differ from that of other people. Therefore, a separate Directorate was required in particular for implementing special infrastructure and livelihood schemes suited to hill areas, and schemes relating to small industries, agriculture and animal husbandry for the welfare of Tribals.

Accordingly, a separate Directorate of Tribal Welfare was created out of the Directorate of Adi Dravidar Welfare in the year 2000 and has been functioning since then.

Administrative structure



As per the 2011 Census, 8,41,558 people belonging to 37 Scheduled Tribe sub-groups reside in Tamil Nadu. Tribals constitute 1.17 percent of the total population of Tamil Nadu.

The particulars of the 37 Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu, as per the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Act, 2022, are as follows:-

- (1) Adiyan
- (2) Aranadan
- (3) Eravallan
- (4) Irular
- (5) Kadar
- (6) Kammara (excluding Kanniyakumari district and Shencottah taluk of Tirunelveli district)
- (7) Kanikaran, Kanikkar (in Kanniyakumari district and Shencottah taluk of Tirunelveli district)
- (8) Kaniyan, Kanyan
- (9) Kattunayakan
- (10) Kochu Velan
- (11) Konda Kapus

- (12) Kondareddis
- (13) Koraga
- (14) Kota (excluding Kanniyakumari district and Shencottah taluk of Tirunelveli district)
- (15) Kudiya, Melakudi
- (16) Kurichchan
- (17) Kurumbas (in the Nilgiris district)
- (18) Kurumans
- (19) Maha Malasar
- (20) Malai Arayan
- (21) Malai Pandaram
- (22) Malai Vedan
- (23) Malakkuravan
- (24) Malasar
- (25) Malayali (in Dharmapuri, North Arcot, Pudukkottai, Salem, South Arcot and Tiruchirappalli districts)
- (26) Malayakandi
- (27) Mannan
- (28) Mudugar, Muduvan
- (29) Muthuvan
- (30) Pallayan
- (31) Palliyan
- (32) Palliyar

- (33) Paniyan
- (34) Sholaga
- (35) Toda (excluding Kanniyakumari district and Shencottah taluk of Tirunelveli district)
- (36) Uraly
- (37) Narikoravan, Kurivikkaran

INTEGRATED TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AREAS

In the blocks situated in the hill areas of the seven districts of Salem, Namakkal, Kallakurichi, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruchirappalli, Dharmapuri and Tirupathur in Tamil Nadu, 10 hill areas in which Tribals constitute 50 percent or more of the total population have been classified as Integrated Tribal Development Programme Areas, as follows:-

Sl. No.	District	Project Areas
1.	Salem	Yercaud, Pachaimalai, Arunoothumalai and Kalvarayan Hills
2.	Namakkal	Kolli Hills
3.	Kallakurichi	Kalvarayan Hills

Sl. No.	District	Project Areas
4.	Tiruvannamalai	Jawadhu Hills
5.	Tiruchirappalli	Pachaimalai
6.	Dharmapuri	Sitheri Hills
7.	Tirupathur	Jawadhu Hills and Yelagiri Hills

Seven Project Offices, headed by District Project Officers, have been functioning since the year 2018 for implementing the schemes for Tribals in these areas.

1. EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

With the noble objective that the best way to bring about the social and economic advancement of Tribal people is to provide them with proper education and to make them self-reliant, the Government is implementing various educational development schemes such as residential schools, hostels and educational scholarships.

1.1 Residential Schools

As most Tribal people reside in hill and forest areas, Tribal residential schools with food

and accommodation facilities were started near their habitations. The present number of students studying in these schools are as follows:-

Students Details Government Tribal Schools (2025- 2026)

Schools	No. of Schools	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary Schools	207	4,334	4,115	8,449
Middle Schools	48	1,940	1,860	3,800
High Schools	25	1,159	982	2,141
Higher Secondary Schools	35	5,289	4,699	9,988
Model Schools (EMRS)	8	1,499	1,408	2,907
Total	323	14,221	13,064	27,285

1.2 Model Residential Schools (EMRS)

In order to provide English-medium education to Tribal students, 8 Model Residential (EMRS) Higher Secondary Schools, with 480 students per school from Class 6 to Class 12, are being run with the financial contribution

of the Government of India and the State Government, as follows:-

Sl. No.	District	Location	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Kallakurichi	Vellimalai	240	81	321
2	Salem	Abhinavam (Girls' School)	-	461	461
3	Nilgiris	M. Palada	150	99	249
4	Namakkal	Sengarai	289	152	441
5	Tiruvannamalai	Puliyampatti	243	227	470
6	Tirupathur	Keezhur	213	169	382
7	Chengalpattu	Kumizhi	157	108	265
8	Salem	Yercaud	207	111	318
Total			1,499	1,408	2,907

1.3 Hostels

Apart from the residential schools, hostels with infrastructure including food and accommodation facilities for Tribal students have been established and are being maintained as follows:-

Details of Hostels and Students (2025-2026)

Hostels	No. of Hostels	Boys	Girls	Total
School Hostels	38	781	1,050	1,831
College Hostels	5	-	340	340
Industrial Training Institute Hostels	6	443	-	443
Total	49	1,224	1,390	2,614

1.4 Forest Department Schools

For Tribal students living in hill areas, the Forest Department runs 18 schools in the districts of Tiruvannamalai, Tirupathur, Vellore and Coimbatore, similar to the schools of the Tribal Welfare Department. Currently, 2,533 students are studying in these schools.

Schools	No. of Schools	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary Schools	4	121	117	238
Middle Schools	11	529	457	986
Higher Secondary Schools	3	709	600	1,309
Total	18	1,359	1,174	2,533

The salaries for the teaching and non-teaching posts of these schools, the food charges for the 632 Tribal students residing in the hostels, and other expenditure are met out of the funds allocated through this Department.

1.5 Industrial Training Institutes

In order to secure employment for Tribal students in hill areas, five Industrial Training Institutes with hostel facilities are being run in collaboration with the Employment and Training Department, so as to enable them to undergo industrial training, as follows:-

Sl. No.	District	Location of the Industrial Training Institute
1	Nilgiris	Gudalur
2	Salem	Karumanthurai
3	Tiruvannamalai	Jawadhu Hills
4	Coimbatore	Anaikatti
5	Namakkal	Kolli Hills

Industrial training courses including Tailoring, Electrician, Wireman, Fitter, Plumber, Welder, Advanced CNC Machining Technician,

Mechanic Motor Vehicle and Mechanic Electric Vehicle are being provided in these Industrial Training Institutes. In the year 2025-2026, industrial training was provided to 559 students.

The salaries of the training instructors and office staff working in these Industrial Training Institutes and other office expenditure, as well as the study / training stipend and food charges for the hostel students, are met out of the funds allocated through this Department.

1.6 Schools and Hostels Run by Non - Governmental Organisations

(i) School with Hostel

In respect of the primary and higher secondary schools run by a voluntary organisation for Tribal students in Jawadhu Hills, Tiruvannamalai district, the salaries for 36 teaching and 7 non-teaching posts, and the grant towards food charges and other expenditure for the 570 Tribal students residing in the hostel, are being provided on par with students of Government residential schools.

About 1,750 students are studying in this school from Class 1 to Class 12.

Further, one school in Salem district and three schools in Kallakurichi district are being run by voluntary organisations as residential schools with hostel facilities for the benefit of Tribal students.

For these schools, the salaries for the teaching and non-teaching posts, and the food charges and other expenditure for about 1,700 Tribal students residing in the hostels, are being provided as a grant.

(ii) Hostels

For about 150 Tribal students studying in school hostels run by voluntary organisations in Coimbatore and Virudhunagar districts, food charges and other expenditure are being provided as a grant on par with students of Government residential schools.

1.7 Schools and Hostels Development

- Facilities such as classrooms, science laboratories, smart classrooms, high-tech laboratories, drinking water and toilet facilities, sports equipment, libraries and kitchens are provided in schools.
- Smart Classrooms have been established in 71 high schools, higher secondary schools and hostels.
- Works relating to new classrooms, toilet facilities, science laboratories and the construction of new compound walls are in progress in 36 schools.
- The Arasaveli Government Tribal Residential Primary and Higher Secondary School in Tiruvannamalai district has been developed as a Model School. In order to enable a larger number of students to reside and study in this school, one boys' hostel and one girls' hostel, each accommodating 200 students, are under construction.

- Student hostels are under construction in nine residential schools in Kallakurichi, Salem and Tiruvannamalai districts.

1.8 Other Welfare Schemes for Tribal Students

- **Supply of Textbooks and Notebooks**

In order to reduce the financial burden on the families of Tribal students studying in Classes 1 to 12 in the schools of this Department, textbooks are provided, and notebooks are provided to students studying in Classes 1 to 10, through the School Education Department.

- **Special Guides**

Special guides are being provided to about 4,500 students studying in Class 10 and Class 12 in the schools and hostels functioning under this Department.

- **Uniforms and Blankets**

In order to foster harmony among all students without economic differences becoming apparent, four sets of uniforms are provided

every year in the schools and hostels functioning under this Department to students residing and studying in Classes 1 to 8 through the School Education Department, and to about 8,500 students studying in Classes 9 to 12 through the Tribal Welfare Department.

Further, blankets are being provided once in two years to about 21,000 students residing and studying in residential schools and hostels.

- **Sweaters and Raincoats**

Sweaters, raincoats and ankle boots are provided through the School Education Department to students studying in Tribal residential schools situated in hilly locations.

- **Food Charges**

Food charges of Rs.1,400/- per month per school hostel student and Rs.1,500/- per month per college hostel student are being provided to students residing and studying in residential schools and hostels.

In order to provide special food during festival periods, special food charges of

Rs.40/- for school hostel students and Rs.80/- for college hostel students are provided on five festival days in a year (Pongal, Republic Day, Tamil New Year's Day, Independence Day and Deepavali).

- **Bicycles**

With the objective of helping Tribal students studying in Class 11 in Government, Government-aided and partially-aided higher secondary schools to reach their schools on time.

- **Free Bus Service**

A free bus service is provided through the Transport Department to students studying in the residential schools of the Tribal Welfare Department.

- **Educational Tours to Higher Educational Institutions**

In order to kindle among Tribal students an interest in pursuing Higher education, students studying in Classes 10 and 12 in high and Higher Secondary schools are taken on

educational tours to higher educational institutions.

- **Welcome Package**

In order to meet the personal needs of students newly admitted to school and college hostels, a Welcome Package containing a mattress with a mat, a blanket, pillows with two covers, and articles of daily needs such as a stainless steel plate, tumbler and a bucket are provided.

Students already admitted to and residing in the hostel are provided this kit at an interval of three years.

- **Provision of Periodicals and Books**

In order to improve the general knowledge of students and to enable them to prepare for competitive examinations, including civil services examinations, in the prevailing competitive employment environment, books and periodicals are provided every year to high schools, higher secondary schools and hostels.

- **Best School**

Every year, one higher secondary school is selected as the Best School on the basis of various factors including student enrolment, reduction in dropout, pass percentage and admission to higher education, and a sum of Rs.5 lakh is provided to improve the infrastructure of the school.

- **Higher Education Coaching**

Special coaching is being provided to boys and girls studying in Tribal residential higher secondary schools and in the 8 Model Schools (EMRS) so as to enable them to qualify in higher education entrance examinations including JEE, CLAT, NIFT, NEET and CUET. Through this, about 400 students have so far succeeded in competitive examinations and secured admission in various higher educational institutions.

- **Evening Special Coaching**

Coaching is being provided through special teachers to students studying from Class 9 to Class 12.

- **Vehicle Facility for Tribal School**

Since students residing in remote forest and hill areas have to walk long distances to school, and in order to prevent dropout and enable them to travel safely, 26 vehicles have been purchased and are in use for students studying in 21 residential schools in the seven districts of Dharmapuri, Erode, Salem, Kallakurichi, Nilgiris, Tiruvannamalai and Tiruchirappalli. Through this scheme, 104 students were newly admitted in the last academic year and 440 students have been newly admitted in the current academic year (2026-2027).

2. EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

i. Girls Incentive Scheme

In order to enable Tribal girl children to continue their school education and to prevent school dropout, an incentive is being provided as follows, without any ceiling on the annual family income, to all Tribal girl children studying in Classes 3 to 8:-

(in Rs. – per annum)

Sl. No.	Class	Incentive
1	III to V	500/-
2	VI	1,000/-
3	VII and VIII	1,500/-

This assistance is being credited directly into the bank accounts of about 35,000 girl students.

ii. Pre-Matric Educational Scholarship Scheme for students of Classes 9 and 10

Under this educational scholarship scheme, an educational scholarship is provided to about 30,000 Tribal students studying in Classes 9 and 10 whose annual family income is within Rs.2.50 lakh.

The expenditure on this scheme is shared by the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 75:25.

(in Rs. – per annum)

Particulars	Hosteller	Day Scholar
Maintenance Allowance	5,250/-	2,250/-
Assistance (Books)	1,000/-	750/-

The above educational scholarship is credited directly into the Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of the students.

iii. Post-Matric Educational Scholarship Scheme for courses above Class 10 (Higher Secondary and College)

This educational scholarship is provided to Tribal students whose annual family income is within Rs.2.50 lakh and who are pursuing higher education in Class 10 and courses above that level.

The expenditure on this scheme is shared by the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 75:25.

The above educational scholarship is credited directly into the Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of the students.

This educational scholarship scheme has two components, namely Tuition Fees and Maintenance Allowance.

Tuition Fees

- For students pursuing higher education above Class 10 in Government and Government-aided educational institutions, the tuition fees fixed by the Government are provided.
- For students studying in self-financing educational institutions, the tuition fees fixed by the Fee Fixation Committee are provided.

Academic Allowance

An Academic allowance is being provided so as to encourage Tribal students studying in schools and colleges to continue their studies. Academic allowance is provided under four groups, according to the course pursued by the students.

(Rs. per annum)

Group	Courses	Academic Allowance	
		Hosteller	Day Scholar
I	Under Graduate and Post Graduate Professional degree courses	12,000	5,500
II	Other Professional courses leading to Degree and Diploma qualifications	8,200	5,300
III	Other Under Graduate and Post Graduate degree courses not included in Groups I and II	5,700	3,000
IV	All Higher Secondary education courses and other non-degree courses	3,800	2,300

This assistance is being credited directly into the bank accounts of about 18,000 school students and 22,000 college students.

iv. Special Scholarship for Higher Education

In order to offset the hostel expenditure of about 1,100 Tribal students whose annual family income is within Rs.2.50 lakh and who are residing and studying in paid hostels, a special scholarship is credited directly into the bank accounts of the students, as follows:-

Sl. No.	Courses	Scholarship (in Rs. per annum)
1	Under Graduate Degree and Diploma courses	Rs.7,500/-
2	Post Graduate Degree and Diploma courses; Under Graduate / Post Graduate professional courses	Rs.8,000/-

v. Other Educational Scholarship Scheme

Without any ceiling on the annual family income, the following educational fees are being credited directly into the bank accounts of all Tribal students studying in Government and Government-aided educational institutions:-

- Special fee, examination fee and tuition fee for all students pursuing Under Graduate courses in schools and colleges.
- Special fee and examination fee, in order to encourage women students pursuing Post Graduate studies.

vi. Nursing Training Scholarship Scheme

An educational scholarship of Rs.70,000/- per annum is provided for three years to Tribal women students pursuing diploma courses in private nursing colleges.

3. SOCIO, ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

Schemes are being implemented for creating infrastructure in Tribal habitations and for the development of socio, economic and livelihood of Tribal people.

3.1 Aandror Development Scheme

In order to ensure hygienic drinking water, improved road facilities, modern solar lights, street lights, houses with toilet facilities, internet

facilities, and improvements to school and hostel infrastructure, and to provide livelihood development schemes and skill training for Tribal people effectively in the areas where Tribals reside, the "Aandror Development Scheme" is being implemented.

This scheme is being implemented at an estimated cost of Rs.1,000 crore over four years, at Rs.250 crore per annum. Of this amount, Rs.225 crore has been allocated for infrastructure and Rs.25 crore for economic and livelihood development.

i. Infrastructure

Funds have been allocated for the works implemented under the Aandror infrastructure scheme, and the following works are being undertaken through the Forest Department, the Rural Development Department and the Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO):-

- Community halls
- Houses

- Value addition godowns
- Vehicle facilities for schools
- Medical services
- Basic infrastructure works (roads, electricity connections, drinking water facilities, new drainage and channels, and the like)
- **Community Halls**

23 community halls are under construction through the Rural Development Department in the Tribal villages of Nilgiris district where Tribal people reside in large numbers.

- **Houses**

200 houses, each of 300 square feet, are under construction through the Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation for houseless Tribal people belonging to the Gudalur, Nelliylam Municipality and the Devarsholai, Ulikkal, Sholur, Adhikaratti Town Panchayat areas in Nilgiris district.

1,000 houses, each of 300 square feet, are under construction through the Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation

and the District Administration for economically backward Tribal families residing in the plains and hill areas of 19 districts.

The differential amount has been provided in respect of 4,418 houses constructed by the Rural Development Department under the scheme for improving the living conditions and basic amenities of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) — JANMAN — so as to provide them houses at the same cost as constructed through Tribal Welfare Department.

- **Millet Value Addition Centre**

A value addition godown and common processing centre for ragi, little millet and kodo millet produced by Tribals has been established at Arasanatham in Dharmapuri district, through which 350 Tribals are benefiting.

- **Medical Services**

- **Ambulance Facilities**

In order to render prompt assistance during emergency medical needs to Tribal people residing in remote and not easily

accessible areas, 25 new specially designed ambulances have been provided through the National Health Mission for Tribal people residing in the hill areas of Dindigul, Tiruvannamalai, Krishnagiri, Erode, Tirupathur, Kallakurichi, Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Coimbatore districts.

➤ **Cellular Therapy Centre**

A Cellular Therapy laboratory (5,000 sq.ft) is being established at the Government Institute of Child Health, Egmore, Chennai, for the advanced medical facilities required for diseases such as Sick Cell Anaemia and Thalassemia, which arise from the iron deficiency commonly found among Tribals.

➤ **Sickle Cell Anaemia Awareness**

Awareness is being created through ASHA workers, with the support of the National Health Mission, for awareness activities relating to Sick Cell Anaemia and Thalassemia.

• **Basic Infrastructure Works**

357 basic works are in progress in 19 districts in the areas where Tribal people

reside, including basic infrastructure facilities such as roads, new drainage channels, repair of Anganwadis, drinking water, burial sheds, cremation platforms, platforms, small bridges, threshing floors, burial pathways, electricity connections, repair of libraries, Anganwadi centres, community halls and Forest Department works.

ii. Aandror – Livelihood Schemes

In order to improve the livelihood of Tribal people, funds are allocated under the Aandror livelihood scheme for agricultural occupations, animal husbandry, fish rearing, the starting of self and joint enterprises relating to traditional occupations, and value addition to minor forest produce.

iii. Employment Counselling and Skill Development Training

In order to provide assured employment in leading private organisations through skill development training to adequately educated Tribal youth, the Tribal Welfare Department is functioning in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu

Skill Development Corporation and the organisations with which memoranda of understanding have been entered into for livelihood schemes. Accommodation, quality food, a Government certificate on completion of training, and employment counselling in private organisations are provided as follows:-

- **Light and heavy vehicle driver training:**

Training and employment were provided to 36 Tribal youth from Salem, Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Dindigul, Erode and Cuddalore districts through the Institute of Road Transport, Gummidipoondi.

- **Tailoring and garment training:** Provided to 50 Irular Tribal women from Tiruvallur district through the National Institute of Fashion Technology, Taramani.

- **Public health assistant training:** Training and employment were provided in two phases to 128 Tribal women from Erode, Salem, Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Dindigul, Kallakurichi, Tiruvannamalai and Cuddalore districts through Madras Christian College and RMD Specialities Hospital.

- **Farm machinery repair and maintenance training:** Provided in four phases to 100 Tribal youth from 7 districts through ICAR-CIAE (Indian Council of Agricultural Research – Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering).
- **Training in modern technology in horticultural crops:** Provided to 25 Tribal farmers from Salem, Kallakurichi, Tiruvannamalai and Dindigul districts through ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru (Indian Council of Agricultural Research – Indian Institute of Horticultural Research).
- **Training in food production and services:** Provided to 77 Tribal youth from Erode and Coimbatore districts.
- **Training in Air Conditioner / Refrigerator Mechanic:** Provided to 58 Tribal youth from 7 districts.
- **Training in Computer Numerical Control (CNC) and Customer Relationship Management (CRM):** Provided to 176 Tribal youth.

- **Animal husbandry training:** Provided to 25 Tribal youth from Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu through the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University.
- **Two-wheeler and four-wheeler repair and maintenance training:** Provided to 75 Tribal youth.
- **Lift operator training:** Provided to 10 Tribal youth from Vellore, Tiruvannamalai and Kallakurichi districts.
- **Beauty and hairdressing training:** Provided to 37 Tribal women from Salem, Dindigul, Erode and Tiruvannamalai districts.

iv. Aandror Velanmai Melanmai Thittam

The Aandror Velanmai Melanmai Thittam has been formulated to implement livelihood schemes for Tribal people, in collaboration with governmental and non-governmental voluntary organisations. Its principal objectives are livelihood schemes such as farm / non-farm occupations, improvement in animal husbandry, modern brackish-water fish rearing, and value addition centres relating to Minor Forest Produce

(MFP), and these are being implemented in 13 districts. This scheme is implemented through six governmental institutions, such as ICAR-NBFGR (National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources) and the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, and four non-governmental organisations.

- **Farm Machinery Hiring Centres**

20 Tribal farmers' associations have been formed and farm machinery hiring centres established in the districts of Salem, Tiruvannamalai, Kallakurichi, Nilgiris, Tirupathur, Erode, Namakkal, Dharmapuri, Vellore, Coimbatore, Perambalur and Tiruchirappalli. This comprises a 90% Government subsidy and a 10% contribution from the farmers' association. Through these centres, modern machineries including tractors, harvesters, seed drills, power tillers, power sprayers and rotavators have been provided, and about 4,700 Tribal farming families are benefiting. This scheme, which increases the cultivated area by shifting from traditional agriculture to modern farm machinery methods, is being implemented with the

objective of reducing the cost of cultivation by 30% and doubling the yield.

- **Ainthinai – Pasumai Pannai Thittam**

In order to improve the economy of the Tribals residing in the districts of Kallakurichi, Tiruvannamalai, Dharmapuri, Coimbatore, Erode, Krishnagiri, Nilgiris, Namakkal, Tiruvallur, Tiruchirappalli, Cuddalore and Tirupathur, the “Ainthinai Pasumai Pannai Thittam through Tribal Farmers' Associations” is being implemented. This scheme is being implemented for the economic advancement of Tribal people by protecting the traditional agricultural practices of Tribals and, using modern scientific technology, increasing agricultural productivity through the use of heritage seeds and natural fertilisers suited to the natural environment and the nature of the agricultural land. As another component of this scheme, value addition centres and solar-powered millet grinding centres have been established and are functioning through Tribal farmers' associations and Tribal women's self-help groups.

About 3,800 Tribals are benefiting through this scheme.

- **Special Livelihood Scheme in the Kalvarayan, Bargur and Kadambur Hill Areas**

In order that the Tribals residing in the Bargur and Kadambur Hills of Erode district and the Kalvarayan Hills of Kallakurichi district may achieve economic advancement, special schemes such as multi-tier cropping, modern approaches in traditional agricultural practices, animal husbandry, and value addition centres for minor forest produce and millets are being implemented in collaboration with central and state governmental institutions, namely the Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram, Annamalai University, Chidambaram, and the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai.

Under the scheme, 1,175 Tribals are benefiting under this scheme.

Through the various schemes set out above, the Aandror Livelihood Scheme is being implemented for the livelihood of Tribal people.

3.2. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME UNDER ARTICLE 275(1) OF THE CONSTITUTION

Through the financial assistance scheme under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India, funds are allocated from the Consolidated Fund of India for improving infrastructure in the areas where Tribals reside.

3.3. SCHEME FOR IMPROVING THE LIVING CONDITIONS AND BASIC AMENITIES OF PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TRIBAL GROUPS (PVTG) – JANMAN

With the objective of ensuring the comprehensive advancement of the people belonging to the six Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) residing in the plains and hill areas of Tamil Nadu, namely Todar, Kothar, Kurumba, Irular, Paniyar and Kattunayakan, this scheme is being implemented with the coordination of nine line departments. Through this scheme, houses, safe drinking water, education, health and nutrition services, road facilities, electricity facilities and livelihood schemes are being implemented.

Multipurpose Centres and Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVK) centres for value addition to Tribal agricultural produce and minor forest produce have been established and are in use.

- **Multipurpose Centres**

In order to provide a variety of essential services such as a community hall, an Anganwadi centre and a health centre at a single centre in the areas where Tribals reside, funds have been allocated for 60 Multipurpose Centre buildings of 2,200 square feet each. Works relating to 43 Multipurpose Centres have been completed and works relating to 17 Multipurpose Centres are nearing completion.

- **Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVK)**

Under this scheme, 20 centres for value addition to Tribal agricultural produce and minor forest produce (VDVK) have been established, with the financial contribution of the Government of India and the State Government, in the districts of Tiruvannamalai, Salem, Chengalpattu, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Ariyalur, Tirupathur, Namakkal and Vellore and

value-added products are being sold through them. 4,803 Tribals are benefiting through this.

District	Value-Added Product	No. of Units
Ariyalur	Cashew value addition	1
Salem	Minor forest produce	2
Tiruvannamalai	Honey processing, Tamarind processing and Millet value addition	5
Chengalpattu	Herbal tea and herbal hair oil production	2
Coimbatore	Tamarind processing	3
Nilgiris	Honey value addition and spice preparation	2
Namakkal	Areca leaf plates and coconut oil production	2
Tirupathur	Tamarind processing	2
Vellore	Minor forest produce	1

3.4. Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA)

In order to ensure sustainable development in the villages where Tribal people reside in large numbers, funds are allocated through various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India to raise the standard of living by ensuring that all the essential services, including basic infrastructure facilities, drinking water, sanitation, education, road facilities, electricity, housing, livelihood development, skill development and social security reach them in full.

Through this scheme, works such as the construction of hostels in the Kariyakovilvalavu and Maniyarpalayam residential schools, toilet facilities in 72 residential schools, the creation of a Forest Rights Act Cell (FRA Cell) for implementing the Forest Rights Act, the establishment of a Centre of Competence (CoC) a specialised centre relating to Sickle Cell Anaemia at the Institute of Child Health (ICH), Egmore, Chennai and the establishment of Tribal Multipurpose Marketing Centres in the five

districts of Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Tiruvannamalai, Kallakurichi and Erode, are in progress.

3.5 The Forest Rights (Recognition) Act, 2006

In order to legally recognise the forest related rights of Tribals living in forests and of other communities traditionally dependent on forests, the "Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006" is being implemented.

As per the Act, Tribals dependent on forests prior to 13.12.2005, and other communities who have been residing in forests for three generations (75 years) prior to that date and are dependent on forests, are eligible to obtain forest rights.

The following forest rights are granted under this Act:-

- Individual rights
- Community rights
- Community forest resource rights
- Community development rights

- Habitation rights of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups

Three committees, namely the Gram Sabha, the Sub-Divisional Level Committee and the District Level Committee, function to scrutinise the applications received under this Act and to recognise the rights. A State Level Monitoring Committee headed by the Chief Secretary reviews the functioning of this Act.

Under the Act, 21,742 individual rights have so far been granted to 18,647 persons, and 763 community rights have been granted.

Initiatives for Implementing the Forest Rights Act

- An Atlas covering the districts where Tribals reside in large numbers (FRA Atlas) has been published.
- An information technology portal (FRA IT Portal) has been created.
- State level Forest Rights Cells (State level FR Cell) have been established.

- Grant of forest rights through the online portal.
- State level skill development training was provided to District Forest Officers and District Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Officers regarding the implementation of the Forest Rights Act, and the work of granting forest rights has been expedited.
- 1,525 special camps were conducted for Tribals to make fresh claims for individual forest rights and community rights, and 38,663 applications have been received.
- Field inspections are being carried out by the Forest Rights Committee to ascertain the genuineness of the claims, and land survey is being undertaken.

4. CULTURE

Documentation of Tribal Languages

In order to protect the linguistic wealth and culture of Tribals and to carry them forward to the next generation, works relating to the documentation of Tribal languages and their

recording in audio and visual formats are being undertaken.

As a first phase, linguistic experts have been selected to document the linguistic wealth of the Todar, Kanikkarar, Narikuravar, Irular and Kurumbar Tribal people whose languages are spoken in Tamil Nadu. The documentation work has been carried out under the supervision of the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru and has been uploaded to the digital repository.

5. VERIFICATION OF THE GENUINENESS OF TRIBAL COMMUNITY CERTIFICATES

The authority to issue community certificates for Tribals has been vested in the Revenue Divisional Officers / Sub-Collectors with effect from 11.11.1989.

The following three State Level Scrutiny Committees have been constituted to scrutinise the genuineness of the community certificates issued to Tribals, in respect of the communities for which verification is sought on the basis of the issue of community certificates and of complaints, and to pass final orders:-

State Level Scrutiny Committees

Secretary to Government / Additional Secretary / Joint Secretary, Social Justice Department	Chairman
Director of Tribal Welfare / District Forest Officer / District Revenue Officer	Member Secretary
Director, Tribal Research Centre / Anthropology Expert	Member

Regional Vigilance Cells

Vigilance Cells headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police are functioning in the four regions viz., Chennai, Salem, Vellore and Madurai to conduct field inspections regarding the genuineness of Tribal community certificates and to submit reports to the State Level Scrutiny Committees.

Further, the Social Justice and Human Rights Wing, which functions in all districts under the Inspector-General of Police, is also engaged in the work of ascertaining the genuineness of Tribal community certificates,

and conducts field inspections and submits reports to the State Level Scrutiny Committees.

6. TRIBAL RESEARCH CENTRE

The Tribal Research Centre was started in the financial year 1983-84 at Muthorai Palada in Nilgiris district, for the purpose of conducting research on the way of life, culture, language, socio-economic and educational status of Tribals.

i. Functions of the Research Centre

- Conducting research studies on Tribal communities.
- Recording social, economic, religious, political and psychological changes among Tribals.
- Publishing monographs on the life and culture of Tribal communities.
- Researching the languages of Tribals.
- Recommending the inclusion of the most backward and oppressed communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Tamil Nadu.
- Researching the basic needs of Tribals.

- Providing training and a proper perspective regarding Tribal cultures and development.
- Maintaining the Tribal museum in order to preserve the cultural heritage of Tribals.
- Preparing perspective plans for the development of Tribals.
- Undertaking time-bound studies relating to the Tribals of Tamil Nadu.
- Conducting evaluation studies of the development schemes implemented by governmental and non-governmental organisations.
- Organising seminars and workshops on the institutions in Tribal areas and on Tribal development issues.

ii. Tribal Research Centre Development Works

The following works are in progress to improve the campus of the Tribal Research Centre functioning at Udthagamandalam, Nilgiris district:-

- Model Tribal village

- Establishment of a canteen
- Land levelling
- Site development
- Seating arrangements
- Entrance plaza
- Laying of a forest pathway
- Construction of a public toilet

iii. Important Activities Undertaken in 2025-2026

- Higher education awareness training was conducted for the teachers of Model Schools (EMRS) and Government Tribal Residential Schools (GTR).
- With the objective of preserving and promoting the traditional customs and culture of the Irular Tribal people, the Masimagam Festival was conducted at Mamallapuram.
- With the objective of encouraging cultural exchange and the sharing of traditional knowledge, a Tribal exchange visit was undertaken to Pechiparai village, Kanniyakumari district, from 19.05.2026 to

22.05.2026. Representatives belonging to five Tribal communities, namely Irular, Paliyar, Narikuravar, Kani and Todar, participated in it.

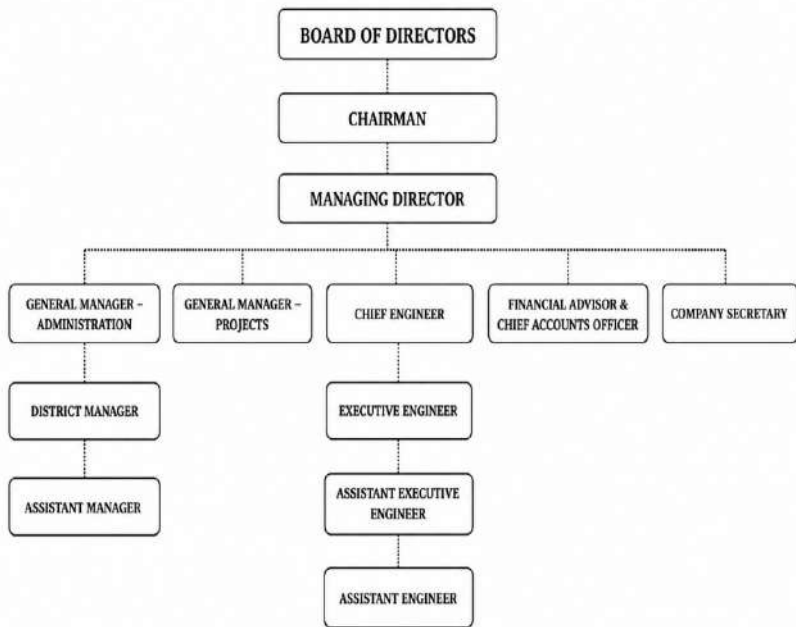
- Under the Tribal exchange visit scheme, a field visit was undertaken to the State of Odisha from 17.06.2026 to 24.06.2026. 35 persons participated in it, and a field study was conducted on best practices relating to the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA) and the implementation of livelihood schemes.

III. TAMIL NADU ADI DRAVIDAR HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (TAHDCO)

The Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO) was established in February 1974. The Corporation was created to effectively implement initiatives such as the education, basic infrastructure and economic development through various projects, including entrepreneurship and skill development, training, maintenance of school and hostel buildings for the welfare of Adi Dravidar and Tribal people. The paid-up capital of the board has been shared by the State and Union Government in the ratio of 51:49 since 1980.

The present authorized capital of the corporation is Rs.200 crore and paid-up share capital is Rs.147.11 crore.

Organization Chart



Board of Directors of TAHD CO

- Chairman
- Secretary to Government, Social Justice Department
- Managing Director, TAHD CO
- Joint Secretary, Finance Department

- Director, Adi Dravidar Welfare
- Director, Tribal Welfare
- Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women
- Joint Secretary to Government, Social Justice Department
- Chairman / Managing Director, National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation
- Managing Director, National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation
- Chairman / Managing Director, National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation
- Independent Directors -2

Administrative Structure

Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation Limited (TAHDCO) is governed by a Board of Directors comprising one Chairman, 10 official Directors and two non-official Directors. The Board deliberates upon and approves the activities and

programmes of TAHDCO, and policy decisions are taken by the Board of Directors. So far, 240 of the Board of meetings have been conducted.

Sources of Funds

Financial resources received from various Government schemes, including proportionate funding based on the cost of construction works and Government of India has sanctioned administrative expenditure for the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, and funds received under various sources of schemes.

1.Economic Development Subsidy with Loan Scheme

i. Vetri Thozhil Munaivor Thittam

To uplift the livelihood of Adi Dravidar and Tribal community and ensure sustainable development, it has been decided to implement the Vetri Thozhil Munaivor Thittam. Under this scheme, first-generation entrepreneurs will be provided with capital subsidy and interest subsidy on the total project cost.

The annual family income of the beneficiaries should not exceed Rs.3 lakh. In the financial year 2026-2027, an amount Rs.75 crore has been allocated for this scheme.

ii. Mannin Magal Thittam

It has been decided to implement the Mannin Magal Scheme with the objective of transforming Adi Dravidar and Tribal women agricultural labourers into landowners. Under this scheme, beneficiaries will be given modern agricultural training.

Agricultural land must be purchased from non SC / ST community members. A subsidy of 50% of market value or up to Rs.5 lakhs will be provided. Full exemption from stamp duty and registration charges will be granted by the Government. In the financial year 2026-2027, an amount Rs.20 crore has been allocated for this scheme.

iii. Agricultural Empowerment Scheme

To enable Tribal farmers to undertake agriculture by constructing well or borewell, the Fast Track Electricity Connection Scheme has

been implemented under the scheme. 90% Government subsidy with 10% beneficiary contribution are directly provided to the Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDC).

To avail the benefits, annual family income should not exceed Rs.3. lakh, and the land must be owned by the applicant.

Subsidy amount as per Horse Power

Horse Power	90% Subsidy	10% Beneficiary Share	Total Cost
5 H.P	2,25,000	25,000	2,50,000
7.5 H.P	2,47,500	27,500	2,75,000
10 H.P	2,70,000	30,000	3,00,000
15 H.P	3,60,000	40,000	4,00,000

In the financial year 2026-2027, an amount Rs.2.33 crore has been allocated for this scheme.

iv.Subsidy-Linked Loan Schemes through Other Departments

Similar to the subsidy-linked loan schemes implemented through TAHDCO for Adi Dravidar and Tribal beneficiaries, other departments also extend support through various programmes like Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme (AABCS), New Entrepreneur and Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS), Unemployed Youth Employment Generation Programme (UYEGP), Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME).

V.Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)

Under the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY), funded by the Union Government, various programmes are being implemented for the welfare of Adi Dravidar communities. These include economic development schemes, skill development training, and basic infrastructure facilities. As per scheme norms, 50% of the project cost or

Rs.50,000 (whichever is lower) is provided as subsidy. Beneficiaries are largely engaged in activities such as animal husbandry, poultry farming, fish farming, purchase of fishing boats and nets, running petty shops, flower/vegetable/fruit stalls, stationery shops, beauty parlours, bakeries, and construction of borewells.

The government has constituted a committee consisting the District Manager as chairman, Regional Project Manager as a member and a representative nominated by the Managing Director, TAHDCO as a member to review the applications submitted for subsidized loans on the TAHDCO website and to ensure that banks provide loans quickly under schemes implemented by Union and State Government.

vi. National Financial Corporations

TAHDCO is acting as the state agency that secures low-interest loans from the following Financial Development Corporations of the Union Government and provides various term loans to eligible beneficiaries:-

- National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC)
- National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)
- National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation (NSKFDC)
- **National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC)**

Welfare Societies have been formed by organizing small-scale entrepreneurs from the Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities, enabling them to access micro-credit finance at low interest rates through the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC). Beneficiaries are registered as members of these Societies under the scheme. Furthermore, to facilitate implementation, TAHDCO has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu State Apex Cooperative Bank (TNSCB), which in turn has signed MoUs with all District Central Cooperative (DCC) banks.

Welfare Societies comprising 60 small-scale entrepreneurs have been established;

635 members have received micro-credit loans totalling Rs. 848.41 lakhs along with subsidies amounting to Rs.321 lakhs to engage in businesses such as flower and vegetable vending, community hall management, fishing, and crab farming.

Additionally, livelihood-oriented entrepreneurship initiatives are being implemented by dovetailing them with subsidies provided under State and Union Government schemes, based on eligibility criteria.

- **National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)**

TAHDCO has registered tribal associations under an integrated organization called the Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar and Tribal Advancement Society (TATAS) in accordance with the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 across Tamil Nadu, with the objective of improving the livelihoods and socio-economic status of tribal communities. Through the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), micro-credit assistance has been provided to promote

self-employment, economic empowerment and sustainable livelihood opportunities among tribal communities.

A total of 90 societies has been formed, comprising 2,597 members. Financial assistance amounting to Rs.1,278.19 lakhs as micro-business loans, along with Rs. 236.22 lakhs as subsidy, has been provided to the members for undertaking various livelihood activities such as bead-making, fishing and crab farming. The beneficiaries are currently engaged in these income-generating activities.

- **National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC)**

To ensure sustainable livelihood, generate income, and improve socio-economic status of Safai Karamcharis / Cleanliness Workers through small-scale industries, self-employment, and various income-generating business activities, 135 welfare societies were formed with financial assistance from the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation. Consequently, small business loans amounting to Rs. 47.47 crore were disbursed to

959 members, enabling them to engage in various trades.

vii. Education Loan

TAHDCO sanctioned Rs.8.66 crore towards Educational Loan to 311 students belonging to Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities to pursue their studies in India and abroad. These loans were obtained from financial Corporations such as The National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, and The National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation undertaken by Government of India. TAHDCO disbursed Education Loan to students with meagre interest rate. Out of these beneficiaries, 43 students are currently pursuing their studies Abroad.

viii. Education Loan through Banks

Similar to TAHDCO, Central Government offers Education loan to students through The Vidya Lakshmi Portal. This is a digital platform for the students to apply Education Loan with

minimum interest from multiple banks to pursue their studies.

2. Livelihood Schemes for Women Self-Help Groups

i. Maintenance and Management of Community Halls

Community halls are being constructed to conduct auspicious events. For each community hall thus constructed, a Women's Livelihood Group consisting of 5 members is formed to handle its maintenance.

Through the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, a loan of Rs. 2.50 lakh per community hall along with a subsidy of Rs.2.50 lakh by dovetailing with the Union Government's Scheme for Development of Adi Dravidars has been provided to purchase necessary utensils, tables, chairs, and event decoration items for the community hall. These groups are maintaining the community halls by collecting a very low usage fee from the beneficiaries.

In future, all the community halls constructed by the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department will be provided to the Self-Help Groups for such maintenance. This will bring the community halls to long-term use and ensure additional income for the women.

ii. Ready-made Garment Unit

Providing the Uniform for students through self-help group members who received Tailoring training from TAHDCO, Rs.2.50 lakh uniforms are provided for 60,000 students of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Schools, Hostels and Model Residential Schools (EMRS) and Hostels. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs.6 crore has been provided to the 2700 self-help group members for stitching charges. So, women who are living in rural areas got additional income. Uniforms are provided to the students at the beginning of the academic year.

iii. Polivu Health Care Society

Polivu Health Care Society was started by five women's groups consisting of 60 Adi Dravidar women and supplies the items such as

soap, coconut oil, shampoo and washing powder to 60,000 students staying in Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare hostels throughout Tamil Nadu. Through this scheme, self-help groups have manufactured the products upto Rs.3 crore per year and earned an income of up to Rs.18 lakh.

iv. Catering Management Services in Hostels

To prepare hygienic food for the students studying in Model Residential Schools, self-help groups have been formed with tribal women living in the school areas and provided training at the Indian Institute of Hotel Management located in Taramani, Chennai. Modern cooking equipment has been provided by the Tribal Welfare Department at the rate of Rs.5 lakh per hostel. Through this, quality food is provided to 2,800 students and 40 self-help group members are receiving a monthly salary of Rs.25,000 along with dividends.

3. Livelihood Skill Development Training

Various skill development training programmes are being provided to Adi Dravidar and Tribal youth to enhance their skills, acquire knowledge in new technologies and secure employment. Coaching is also provided to students and competitive examination aspirants to enable them to succeed in competitive examinations. The annual family income of the youth to avail these training programmes should not exceed Rs.3 lakhs.

As per the guidelines of the Government of India, training programmes in the following sectors are being provided in association with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC), in accordance with the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF):

- Tourism and Hospitality Sector
- Banking, Financial Services and Insurance Sector
- Information Technology / Information Technology Enabled Services (IT/ITES)

- Aviation and Aerospace Sector
- Healthcare and Medical Sector
- Capital Goods and Industrial Sector
- Beauty and Wellness Sector
- Logistics and Warehousing Sector
- Media and Entertainment Sector
- Training for Competitive Examinations
- Training for Language Proficiency Examinations
- Entrance Examination Training for pursuing higher technical education in reputed colleges abroad

i. Coaching for students qualified in Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission Group 1 Preliminary exam

160 Under Graduate and Post Graduate Adi Dravidar and Tribal students who qualified in TNPSC Group 1 Preliminary Examination were provided training for TNPSC Group 1 Mains Examination in collaboration with leading training institutes in Chennai at a cost of Rs.121 Lakh. Trained candidates were selected and posted as

Deputy collector, Assistant Director of Rural Development and District Employment Officers.

ii. German Language Training

120 candidates from Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities possessing educational qualification in B.Sc Nursing, General Nursing Midwifery (GNM), B.E. Mechanical Engineering, B.E. Electrical and Electronics Engineering, B.E. Bio Medical Engineering, B.Tech Information Technology were provided placement linked German Language Training in collaboration with leading training institutes at the cost of Rs.199.44 lakh to work in Companies located at Germany.

iii. Higher Education Entrance Exams Training (IELTS)

In order to secure admission in Higher educational institutions in foreign countries 34 SC/ST students were provided Training for clearing IELTS mandatory eligibility test in collaboration with leading training institute at the cost of Rs. 16.19 Lakh.

iv. Degree in Hotel Management and Catering Technology

36 students who had passed the 10th and 12th standard examinations were provided financial assistance at the cost of Rs. 67.42 lakh for Adi Dravidar and Tribal students to pursue B.Sc – Hospitality & Hotel Administration or Diploma in Food Production at Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Taramani, Chennai. After completion of their courses, they were working in leading hotels.

v. Chartered Accountant, Company Secretary, Cost and Management Accounting Training

72 Adi Dravidar and Tribal candidates who have completed B.Com degree were provided training to crack competitive exams like Chartered Accountant – Intermediate, Company secretary – Intermediate, Cost and Management Accountant – Intermediate, in collaboration with leading training institute in Chennai at the cost of Rs 71.59 Lakh.

vi. Degree in Data Science and Application, IIT Madras

Training for the entrance examination at the cost of Rs.3.41 lakh is provided to 95 students to help them pursue four-year online degree program in 'B.S. in Data Science and Applications , B.S. Electronic Systems offered by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT),Madras. Financial assistance is also provided to those who qualify. Students can pursue this online course simultaneously while continuing their regular in-person degree courses.

vii. International Air Transport Association (IATA, Canada) approved training

260 graduates from Adi Dravidar and Tribal community were trained by a leading institute accredited by the International Air Transport Association (IATA), Canada in the field of Cabin Crew, Passenger Ground Services and Reservation Ticketing, Air Cargo Introductory and Dangerous Goods

Regulations and Foundation in Travel and Tourism at the cost of Rs.346.7 Lakh.

The trained candidates are now employed in major organizations and airlines such as Air India, Indigo, GMR Aviation, Bird Aviation, the Airports Authority of India, Sri Lankan Airlines, Menzies Aviation, and Hindustan Aeronautics.

viii. Occupational English Tests Training for medical professionals to work abroad.

Occupational English Test (OET) training has been provided at a cost of Rs.18.68 lakh to 35 students who have completed B.Sc./ M.Sc in Nursing.

ix. Patient Medical Record Maintenance Training

Training for maintenance of patient medical records at a cost of Rs.64.26 lakh was provided to 306 nurses holding Bachelor's or Master's degrees or diplomas in nursing; they are now employed in leading hospitals.

x. CNC Operator Training

Training in CNC machine operation was provided to 30 students who had minimum educational qualification of 10th standard at a cost of Rs.40.43 lakh; these students are now employed in leading manufacturing companies.

xi. Fashion Designing Course

Training has been provided to 79 students who completed a bachelor's degree as the minimum educational qualification at a cost of Rs.21.04 lakh, enabling them to secure employment in fashion studios or establish their own fashion studios.

xii. Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence training was provided to 82 youths holding bachelor's degree as the minimum educational qualification at a cost of Rs.17.67 lakh, and they have also been placed in jobs at reputed companies.

xiii. Beautician and Hair Dressing Training

Training and employment opportunities have been provided to 167 youths who have studied up to eighth standard at a cost of Rs.41.61 lakh, enabling them to secure jobs in various beauty and hair styling salons or to set up their own beauty salons.

xiv. Fork Lift Operator Training

Training in operating Fork Lift machinery was provided at a cost of Rs. 16.73 lakh to 60 youths who had passed 10th standard, and they have also been given employment opportunities in various import-export companies.

xv. Videography and Video Editing Training

30 Adi Dravidar and Tribal youths, who had passed 12th standard as the minimum educational qualification, were provided training in Videography and Video Editing at a

cost of Rs.16.50 lakh and subsequently secured employment with leading media organizations.

xvi. Aari and Embroidery Training

Aari embroidery training was provided at a cost of Rs.11.55 lakh to 30 Adi Dravidar and Tribal youths who had passed the 10th standard, the minimum educational qualification thereby enabling them to engage in self-employment.

xvii. Food and Beverage Course

49 Adi Dravidar and Tribal youths, who had passed the 10th standard as their minimum educational qualification, were provided with Food and Beverage Training for employment in star hotels at a cost of Rs.6.10 Lakh and have also been given job opportunities in leading star hotels.

4. Entrepreneurship Schemes

Development

i. Mudalipalayam and Ingur Industrial Estates

The Mudalipalayam Industrial Estate in Tiruppur District, comprising 100 industrial sheds, and the Ingur Industrial Estate in Erode District, comprising 200 industrial sheds, were established for the industrial and entrepreneurial development of Adi Dravidar and Tribal entrepreneurs.

At the Mudalipalayam Industrial Estate, out of the 100 industrial sheds, 51 sheds have been allotted through sale and the beneficiaries are engaged in textile and knitwear-related business. Further, 7 sheds have been allotted on a lease basis. Applications have been received and are under scrutiny for the lease allotment of the remaining 42 sheds. At present, as a first phase, Plug & Play Ready-to-Occupy Sheds with all basic infrastructure facilities are being established over an area of 50,000 sq. ft.

At the Ingur Industrial Estate, out of the total 200 industrial sheds, 13 sheds have been allotted on a lease basis. Applications have been received and are under consideration for the lease allotment of the remaining 187 sheds. At present, as a first phase, Plug & Play Ready-to-Occupy Sheds with all basic infrastructure facilities are being established over an area of 50,000 sq. ft.

Upon completion of the renovation works and construction of the Plug & Play Ready-to-Occupy Sheds, steps are being taken to allot the industrial plots on a lease basis and the Plug & Play sheds on a rental basis, enabling Adi Dravidar and Tribal entrepreneurs to establish and expand their enterprises at affordable lease/rental rates and thereby achieve sustainable economic advancement.

ii. Entrepreneurship Programme

Awareness

The Entrepreneurship Special Exhibition and Seminar is being conducted to encourage Adi Dravidar and Tribal entrepreneurs and to

create new business and entrepreneurial opportunities for them.

More than 15,000 products manufactured by Adi Dravidar and Tribal entrepreneurs, along with products manufactured by business enterprises, Government and Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) schemes, and services offered by nationalised and private banks, were showcased through various stalls. The exhibition had a footfall of approximately 30,000 people.

The Vendor Development Programme (VDP) was conducted with the objective of establishing structured linkages between Adi Dravidar and Tribal entrepreneurs and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). Through this programme, efforts are being made to enhance market access, create awareness about procurement procedures, and facilitate long-term business linkages for Adi Dravidar and Tribal entrepreneurs.

iii. Arts Workshop

The Arts Workshop , a training programme, will be conducted with the objective of introducing Adi Dravidar and Tribal students and youth to the evolution, significance and future opportunities in folk arts, theatre arts, literary arts and visual arts.

Around 400 Adi Dravidar and Tribal youth will participate in the workshop and received full-day training through various training sessions conducted by expert trainers in the fields of folk arts, theatre arts, literary arts and visual arts. In addition, field visits to important places associated with art and culture were organised. The participants also conducted valedictory performances and presentations to showcase their learning and artistic skills.

Among the participants, 40 individuals who demonstrated exceptional interest and talent in these art forms were selected for further encouragement and development. To enhance their artistic skills and motivate them to continue their practice and engagement in the

respective fields, an incentive of Rs.10,000 per month for two months, totalling Rs.20,000 per participant, was provided.

5. Infrastructure

To undertake works such as Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Schools, Hostels, Shopping Complexes, Community Halls, Tribal Housing and Basic Infrastructure Facilities, 9 Divisions have been established under the Technical Wing. These Divisions are headed by Executive Engineers and assisted by Assistant Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers. A total of 4,665 construction works are being executed using modern facilities at a cost of Rs.1,374.64 crore.

i. School and College Hostels

To facilitate students to stay and pursue their studies in hostels, Modern facilities such as indoor sports halls, study rooms, gym and other facilities are provided. These hostel buildings are being constructed in 20 districts under the State

Government funds and the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) scheme.

ii. Schools

To provide students with modern infrastructure facilities such as science laboratories, additional classrooms, toilet facilities, repair and maintenance works are being carried out in 11 districts using State Government funds and in 8 districts through NABARD Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jati Abhyuday Yojana (PMAJAY) and Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) funds.

iii. Learning cum Teaching Room

With the objective of enabling students to pursue their education effectively, acquire additional skills and to showcase their talents, Computers and internet connectivity have been established in 55 college hostels and 49 works have been completed and utilized by students. The remaining 6 works are nearing completion.

iv. Shopping Complexes

With the objective of improving the basic economic conditions and livelihood opportunities of Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities construction, repair and maintenance works relating to 30 Shopping complexes are being undertaken in 11 districts. 11 works have been completed and utilized, while the remaining 19 works are under progress.

v. Village Knowledge Centres

Under the NABARD Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), 246 Village Knowledge Centers are being constructed in 30 districts at a cost of Rs.242.63 crore, with facilities such as common halls, stages and separate office rooms to facilitate various activities of the local people. 91 works have been completed and utilized, while the remaining 155 works are under progress.

vi. Community Halls and Multi-purpose Centres

To enable Tribal people to conduct auspicious functions and other events near their

places of residence, Community Halls are being constructed in 5 districts under the State Government funds. In addition, 60 Multipurpose Centers are being constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) at a cost of Rs.35.68 crore. 43 works have been completed and utilized, while the remaining 17 works are under progress.

vii. Basic Infrastructure Facilities

To improve the livelihood of Tribal people and provide basic infrastructure facilities in Tribal habitations, various works are being undertaken through State Government funds, Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAAGY) and funds under Article 275(1) of the Constitution.

viii. Tribal Housing

Under the Aandror Mempaattu Thittam, houses are being constructed for Tribal families. Each house has a plinth area of 302 sqft and constructed at a unit cost of Rs.5.07 lakh in the plains and Rs.5.73 lakh in hilly areas. A total of

3,260 houses are being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.174.38 crore.

Details of Works undertaken by TAHDCO

Category of Works	No. of Works	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
Hostels	49	50716.34
Schools	182	18601.67
Village Knowledge Centres	246	24264.56
Shopping Complexes	30	1810.6
Multipurpose Centres	60	3567.69
Repair and Maintenance	349	674.93
Habitations and others	489	14389.97
Tribal Housing	3260	17438.34
Total	4,665	1,37,464.10

IV. Tamil Nadu State Commission for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes

To safeguard the legal rights of Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Tribes at the State Level and to resolve their issues, "The Tamil Nadu State Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes" was established as an autonomous body on 13.10.2021.

The Commission functions under the Chairmanship of a former Justice of Madras High Court. A Vice Chairman and five members have also been nominated to this Commission.

The Managing Director, TAHDCO is the Member secretary to the Commission.

As on 22.08.2026, 6045 cases have been resolved out of the 8965 petitions received by the commission.

V.TAMIL NADU TRIBAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

As per Rule 4(1) of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution of India, the Tribal Advisory Council was constituted on 04.09.1961 to advise the Government on the policies, schemes and activities relating to the welfare and advancement of Tribal people.

With the Minister for Social Justice as Chairman, the Council functions with 3 official members, 2 Members of the Legislative Assembly belonging to the Tribal community, 13 non-official members (Tribals) and 2 non-Tribal non-official members. The Director of Tribal Welfare is the Member Secretary of this Forum.

VI.WELFARE BOARDS

1. Tamil Nadu Puthirai Vannar Welfare Board

The Puthirai Vannar Welfare Board was constituted on 15.10.2009 for the educational, social and economic development of the Puthirai Vannar people living in Tamil Nadu, and for implementing schemes beneficial to them.

In this Board, with the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice as Chairman, 13 official members and 13 non-official members have been appointed.

Assistance such as old age assistance, maternity assistance, educational assistance, marriage assistance, natural / accidental death and funeral assistance, and spectacles assistance is provided to the Puthirai Vannar people.

The Director of Adi Dravidar Welfare is the Member-Secretary of this Board.

2. Tamil Nadu Cleanliness Workers Welfare Board

The Tamil Nadu Cleanliness Workers Welfare Board was constituted on 11.06.2007 for the social, economic and educational development of cleanliness workers and for providing them with appropriate welfare schemes.

This Board functions with a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, 12 non-official members and 14 official members. The Managing Director of TAHDCO is the Member-Secretary of this Board.

Identity cards have been issued to 2.63 lakh members of this Board. So far, welfare scheme assistance to the value of Rs.41.20 crore has been provided to 26,240 members. Further, an expenditure of Rs.42.54 lakh has been incurred in respect of 57,665 members who participated in medical camps.

3.TAMIL NADU TRIBAL WELFARE BOARD

The Tamil Nadu Tribal Welfare Board was constituted on 20.04.2007 in order to achieve planned and definite advancement in the educational, social and economic status of the Tribal people of Tamil Nadu.

With the Minister for Social Justice as Chairman, this Board further functions with 8 official members, 12 Tribal non-official members, 2 Members of the Legislative Assembly belonging to the Tribal community and 3 non-Tribal non-official members. The Director of Tribal Welfare is the Member secretary of this Board.

Through this board, assistance for education, marriage, pension, natural death and accidental death, funeral assistance and various other welfare scheme assistance are being provided.

4. TAMIL NADU NARIKURAVAR WELFARE BOARD

The Tamil Nadu Narikuravar Welfare Board was constituted on 27.05.2008 for the educational and occupational development of the Narikuravar and for providing various welfare assistance.

Consequent upon the Government of India issuing a notification on 03.01.2023 including the Narikuravan and Kurivikkaran communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes as the 37th community in Tamil Nadu, a Government Order was issued for the Narikuravan and Kurivikkaran communities to receive all constitutional, protective and welfare schemes with effect from 17.03.2023.

The Narikuravar Welfare Board has been functioning under the Tribal Welfare Department, transferred from the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department, with effect from 23.08.2023.

With the Minister for Social Justice as Chairman, this Board further functions with 8 official members and 13 non-official members. The Director of Tribal Welfare is the Member secretary of this Board.

Through this Board, assistance for education, marriage, pension, natural death and accidental death, funeral assistance and various other welfare scheme assistance are being provided.

WEBSITE FOR THE WELFARE BOARDS

The websites <https://tntwd.org.in> has been developed and is presently functional for facilitating various activities of the Tamil Nadu Tribal Welfare Board and the Tamil Nadu Narikuravar Welfare Board, including online enrolment of members, submission of applications for welfare schemes, issuance of electronic Welfare Board identity cards, and scrutiny of welfare scheme applications.

Further, applications for various welfare scheme assistance are received through the online portal, and the eligible beneficiaries are provided assistance through the system.

— VANNI ARASU
MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



Review Meeting of the Social Justice Department held on 08.07.2026 chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.



State Council Meeting on the Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister held on 04.08.2026.



Inspection of the M.C. Raja Social Justice Hostel at Saidapet by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 17.07.2026.



Review Meeting on TAHDCO activities chaired by the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice Department held on 01.07.2026.



The Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice Department distributed admission letters to Tribal students who got admission in the National Institution (CIPET, Bhubaneswar).



The Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice Department distributed appointment orders to Tribal youth for the post of Driver in the Chennai Metropolitan Transport Corporation.



Release of the awareness campaign song "Samathuvam Kaanbom" by the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice Department on 04.08.2026.



The Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice Department inspecting the quality of food and basic amenities at a Social Justice Hostel.



Tribal Research Centre, Udhagamandalam.



Tribal Museum, Udhagamandalam.



Adi Dravidar Welfare School Class Rooms, Chengalpattu District.



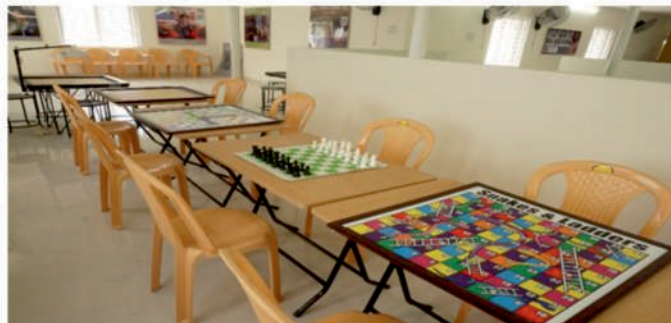
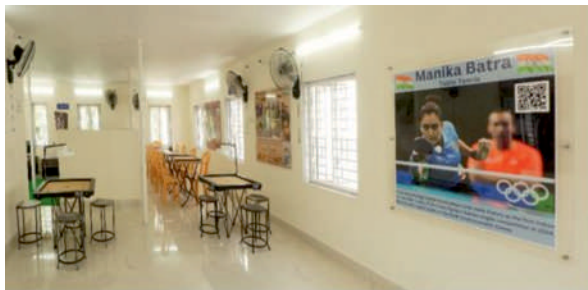
Tribal Welfare School Class Rooms, Kallakurichi District.



Social Justice Hostel, Tiruchirappalli District.



Social Justice Girls' Hostel, Kallakurichi District.



Social Justice Hostel - Learning cum Teaching Room, Rayapuram College Women's Hostel, Chennai.



Village Knowledge Centre, Kallakurichi District



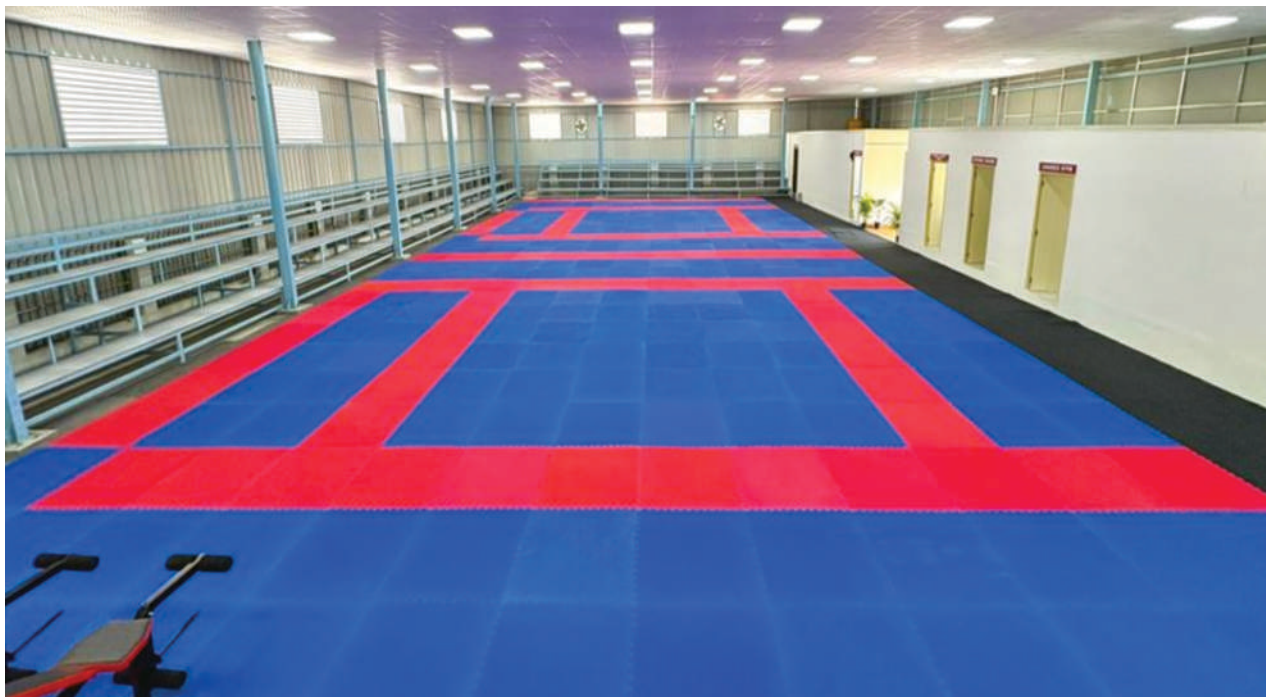
Tribal Multipurpose Centre, Krishnagiri District.



Basic infrastructure works in Tribal habitations.



Tribal Houses, Kallakurichi District



Social Justice Department - Kabaddi Sports Arena, Kannagi Nagar, Chennai.



Livelihood programmes for Tribal communities.



Student - Parent Counselling



Book distribution



Door-to-door Counselling



CIPET Exam



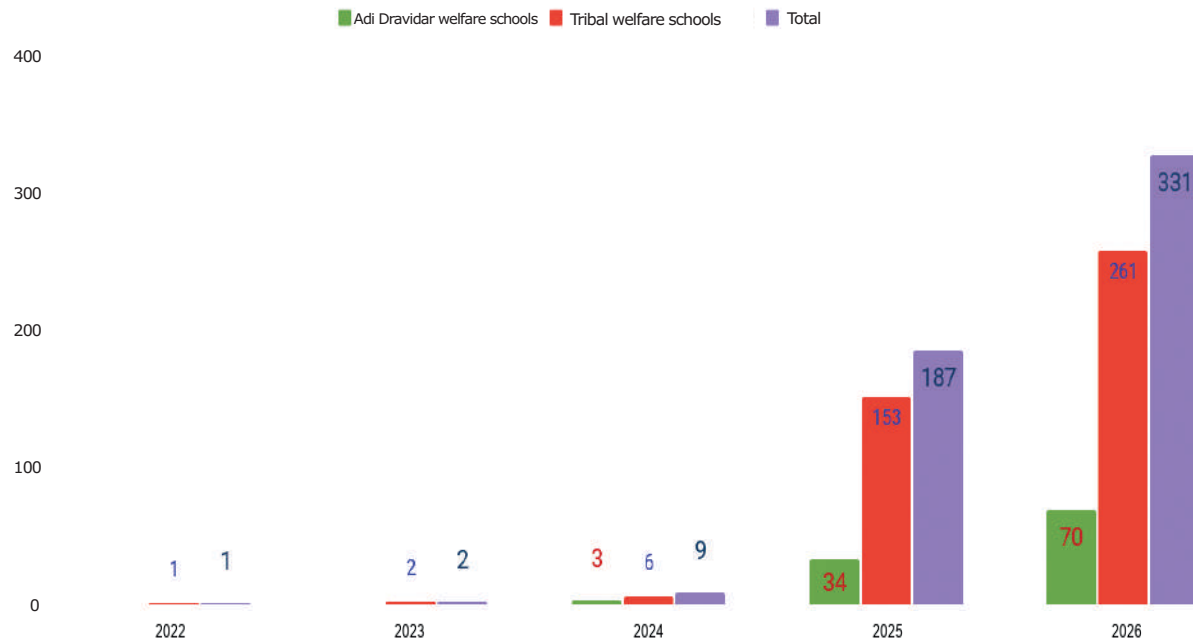
Kumizhi Camp



One-on-one Counselling

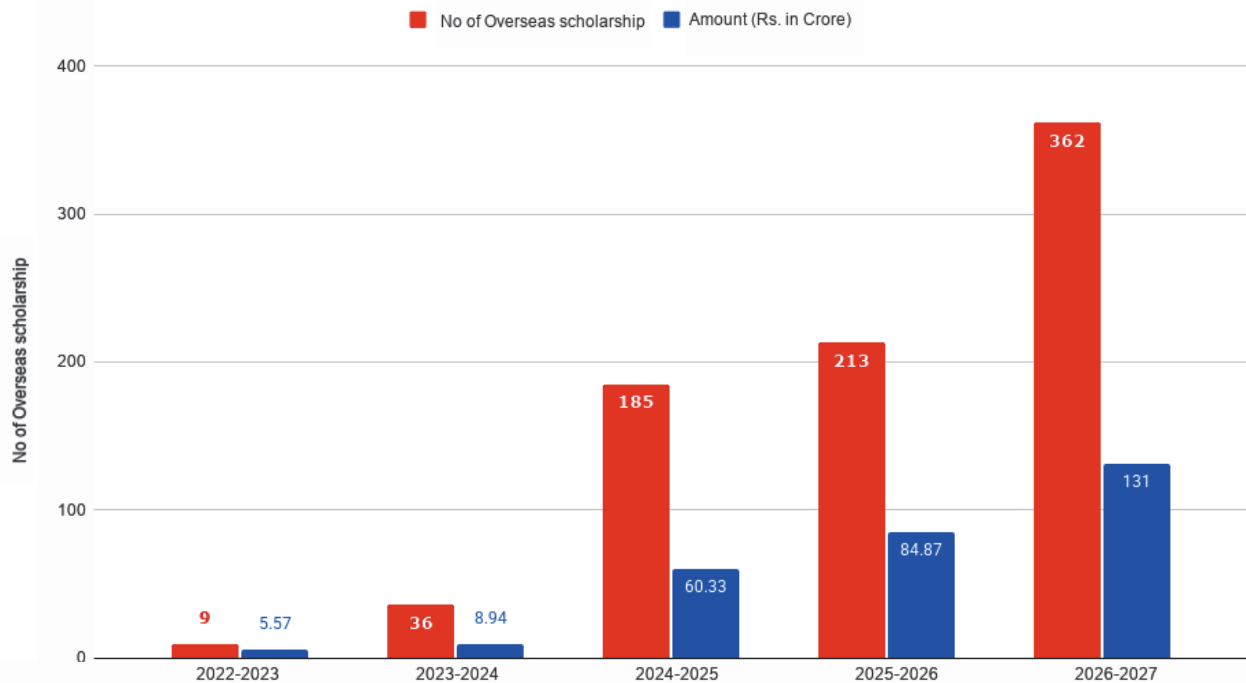
Initiatives in schools for encouraging Higher Education.

Admission in Premier Institutions



Details of students who got admission in Premier Educational Institutions.

Annal Ambedkar Overseas Scholarship Scheme



Details of students benefited under the Annal Ambedkar Overseas Scholarship Scheme.

