



CURRENT AFFAIRS TOPICS FOR RAPID REVISION TEST IV

1. Anna Marumalarchi Thittam
2. Namaku Naame Scheme
3. Ennum Ezhuthum Mission
4. TANSIM, TANSEED, NEEDS, UYEGP
5. Tamilnadu Rural Transformation Project
6. Tamil Nadu CM's Road Development Programme
7. Urban Wage Employment Programme
8. Role of TANSIDCO
9. Tamil Nadu Bio-diversity Board
10. Tamil Nadu State Environment Policy, 2017

ANAITHU GRAMA ANNA MARUMALARCHI THITTAM

INTRODUCTION:

This Government launched a landmark scheme called the 'Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam. The scheme aims at substantial injection of resources into the Village Panchayats in the State in five years so that they can provide the statutory services as envisaged under Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 and provide infrastructure in rural areas. The scheme was formally inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 21.01.2007 at Tirumathalampakkam Village of Vellore District.

2021-22

This current Government will re-launch the Anna Marumalarchi Thittam with an outlay of Rs. 1,200 crore during 2021-22. This programme will ensure that gaps in basic infrastructure at habitation level are addressed.

SALIENT FEATURES:

The Centrally sponsored schemes usually have tight guidelines and do not offer

the flexibility to take up works that may be locally desirable nor do they provide funds enabling Village Panchayats to carry out their statutory functions under the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. The Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam endeavours to plug both these gaps in the Centrally sponsored schemes by providing untied funds of Rs.5 lakhs (out of Rs.20 lakhs allocation per Village Panchayat), with the remaining funds to be spent on stipulated items. Further, funds from other schemes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department and other departments such as Highways, Public Works, Social Welfare, Health, Education, Agriculture Engineering, and TWAD among others is also dovetailed as far as possible into the Village Panchayats taken up under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam. The Government's intention is to ensure the convergence of at least Rs. 1 crore of funds under various Governmental schemes to each AGAMT Village Panchayat.

COMPONENTS/WORKS UNDER THE SCHEME

The works under the scheme are broadly classified into two categories:

- a) Compulsory works
- b) Optional works

Following are the compulsory works:

- i. **One Pond/ Oorani / Tank per village:** At least one Pond/Oorani is to be constructed at a cost of Rs.3-5 lakhs in each AGAMT village and it should have Bathing ghat, Baby pond, Retaining wall etc. In case of a Pond or Oorani being unavailable in the village, Temple tank or Minor Irrigation tank can be taken up for desilting in the village. Desilting the pond for a minimum depth of 2 metre from the existing level and the baby pond for further depth of 1 metre has been stipulated
- ii. **Sports Centers:** A School Sports Centre at an outlay of up to Rs.1.5 lakhs or Community Sports Centre at an outlay of up to Rs.1 lakh is to be put up in each AGAMT village. The Village Panchayats have been permitted to incur an expenditure of up to Rs.10,000 per year for replacement of sports consumables in AGAMT Sports Centres
- iii. **Burial ground / Cremation Ground:** Burial ground in each AGAMT village will be improved with approach road, Compound wall, Cremation shed, Water facility and Lighting
- iv. **Libraries:** A library will be opened in each AGAMT village. A new building may be constructed or an existing building may be modified suitably and books worth at least Rs.50,000 are to be bought and furniture worth Rs.50,000 procured

for the library. An Honorary Librarian is to be appointed for each AGAMT library.

- v. **Water supply:** For this component under the tied component, a minimum of Rs.1 lakh should be provided and based on needs, additional allocation can also be made.

Following are the Optional works:

- i. **Village Shandy:** Village shandies are to be improved wherever available.
- ii. **Cement Concrete roads:** can be taken up for an amount not exceeding Rs.3 lakhs of tied funds.
- iii. **Inland Fishery:** Fish ponds are to be taken up wherever feasible and preference given to the Self Help Groups for getting fishery rights.
- iv. Extension of streetlights and installation of Sodium Vapour lamps / Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) / Fluorescent Tube lights.

An amount of 1% of the total allocation is to be used for IEC activities.

SELECTION OF WORKS

Selection of works to be taken up under AGAMT is done by a committee consisting of the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats), Assistant Engineer (RD)/ Block Engineer, the Panchayat President concerned and Village Administrative Officer. The works should be got approved by the Grama Sabha.

STATE SCHEMES: NAMAKKU NAAME THITTAM

INTRODUCTION

Namakku Naame Thittam is a participatory demand driven scheme launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu during 1997-98 Budget Speech to promote and strengthen the Self Help and Self-reliant attitude of the community. The Scheme involves the community directly in the developmental process from planning stage through resource mobilization, execution to the maintenance stage. State Government financial support supplements the efforts of the community besides technical support. This Scheme gives enough scope for covering all the felt needs of the public.

'Namakku Naame Thittam' introduced during 1997-98 was in vogue till 2000-01. This Scheme was implemented with a different name 'Village Self Sufficiency Scheme' in 2001-02 and was renamed as 'Self Sufficiency Scheme' on 17.7.2002 and implemented till 2005-06. 'Namakku Naame Thittam' has now been revived during 2007-08.

2021-22

The Namakku Naame Thittam was a highly popular scheme introduced by late Hon" ble Chief Minister Muthamizharignar Kalaingar. This scheme will be reintroduced to take up locally important projects in partnership with local communities. A provision of Rs.100 crore has been made for this programme during 2021-22.

BRIEF GUIDELINES

Namakku Naame Thittam is being implemented as State Sponsored Scheme with a minimum of one-third amount as public contribution and two-thirds contribution from Government as grant in both Rural and Urban areas. Under this Scheme, the public themselves can select works as they need and execute it as per the provisions in the guidelines of the Scheme.

The public contribution should be remitted by means of demand draft to the Collector in the name of "Namakku Naame Thittam". The contribution from Local Bodies, Universities or Public Sector Undertakings will not be accepted under this Scheme.

Construction of Government and Local Body School Buildings (including Compound Walls, Libraries, Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Veterinary Dispensaries, Noon Meal Centres, Hostels, Creation of Water Supply Sources, Public Distribution Shop Buildings, Bridges and Culverts, Upgradation of Roads and Streets, CC Pavements, Parks, Play Grounds, Traffic Islands, Fountains, Street lights, Purchase of Furniture, Computers and equipments for Government and Local Body Schools and Libraries and construction of class rooms, laboratories and toilets in Government aided schools and colleges and maintenance of all community assets (including white washing, colour washing and painting of walls)) can be undertaken under Namakku Naame Thittam. Construction of Class rooms/Lab/Toilets to 100%. Government aided and 100% Tamil Medium Schools.

Works taken up under this Scheme can be entrusted to the contributors themselves on optional basis in respect of the works in which the Government contribution is 50% or less in terms of the value of work. All types of works(including desilting

works) prohibited under Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme have also been banned under Namakku Naame Thittam.

For 2007-08, a sum of Rs.50.00 crores was allotted by Government of Tamil Nadu for the implementation of this Scheme. A sum of Rs.50.00 crores has been allotted by Government of Tamil Nadu for the implementation of this scheme in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11.

Many people belonging to Tamil Nadu and living abroad wish to contribute to schemes that will benefit their place of birth and people living therein. On the lines of the Namakku Naame Thittam implemented with the participation of local people and with a view to facilitating Tamils living abroad to make contributions, the Government has also decided to set up a Society to implement various activities as desired by them. They can make substantial donations to this society and can specify the works they wish to be taken up. These works will be executed with due recognition of the sponsor in these works. The donors will be enabled to know the progress of works sponsored by them through the internet.

ENNUM EZHUTHUM MISSION

INTRODUCTION:

Tamil Nadu government is going to launch TN Ennum Ezhuthum Mission along with Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme. The goal of the Tamilnadu Ennum Ezhutthum Mission is to improve basic literacy and numeracy among children studying in Classes 1 - 3. It also aims to ensure that every child attains the fundamental skills of reading, writing and doing basic arithmetic.

Tamil Nadu Ennum Ezhuthum Mission 2022

The state govt. of Tamil Nadu will start the proposed Ennum Ezhuthum – “Literacy and Numeracy” mission for school students. It is a project initiated by the DMK government this year. The new mission will be attached to the Illam Thedi Kalvi (education at doorsteps) scheme. The primary objective is to raise basic literacy and numeracy level among 1st to 3rd class children. Literacy and Numeracy Mission will ensure that every child attains the fundamental skills of reading, writing, and doing basic arithmetic.

UNIVERSAL FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY (FLN) IN TAMILNADU

Ennum Ezhuthum Mission is a part of the mega project of the govt. aiming to achieve Universal Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) by 2025. Ennum Ezhuthum was proposed to be launched when the schools were opened for these 1st to 3rd standards. However this academic year, schools could not be opened due to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.

ENNUM EZHUTTHUM TO BE ATTACHED WITH ILLAM THEDI KALVI

Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme is still active and the government has proposed to mingle the literacy programme with education at doorsteps. The decision to begin literacy and numeracy mission at Illam Thedi Kalvi came since the authorities have no clue when the schools were reopened again for Class 1, 2 and 3.

COURSE MATERIALS FOR TN ENNUM EZHUTHUM SCHEME

The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) had already prepared course materials for the Ennum Ezhuthum Scheme. More than 20 lakh children from over 25,000 government and government-aided schools are expected to be benefited from the literacy and numeracy scheme. Moreover all the teachers, who were deputed for fieldwork, would be distributing the course materials to the children during Illam Thedi Kalvi programme.

In addition to this, the teachers would spend five days to test the children's fundamental skills with regard to reading, writing, and knowledge of basic arithmetic based on the course materials. Children performance report would be submitted to the SCERT, which would create a database based on the report cards. A robust monitoring mechanism is also being put in place to track the performance of each and every child. On the basis of performance of the children, the teaching methods will be altered. Tamil Nadu government would be spending about Rs. 66 crore for Ennum Ezhuthum Mission and course materials will also be improved periodically.

TAMIL NADU STARTUP AND INNOVATION MISSION (TANSIM)

TANSIM was established in March 2021 as a Section 8 company to focus exclusively on startups and innovation. The mission of TANSIM is to create, support and nurture a vibrant startup ecosystem in Tamil Nadu resulting in innovation and entrepreneurship driven employment and economic growth. TANSIM will focus on driving entrepreneurship and innovation in the State through the following priority actions:

Creating a conducive ecosystem for encouraging entrepreneurship and innovations.

- ✓ Ensuring adequate resources are channeled to the startup ecosystem. 132
- ✓ Extending support to social entrepreneurship for a positive social impact and inclusion.
- ✓ Establishing global accessibility, connections and partnership.

TANSIM is branded and promoted as StartupTN

TANSIM Portal The web portal www.startuptn.in has been launched to serve key activities including the following:

- ✓ Online registration of startups and stakeholders to be facilitated.
- ✓ 'One Stop Shop' for startups to avail all schemes, grants, programmes, grievance redressal etc.
- ✓ Unified platform for all activities of TANSIM and a digital ecosystem
- ✓ Source of dynamic data that allows the Government of Tamil Nadu to make data driven policy decisions. All startups registered in the StartupTN portal are provided booster kits including free credits and trial versions of various softwares, and other services at a subsidized cost in partnership with various corporates like Amazon Web Services, Freshworks, Chargebee, Microsoft and Vakilsearch.

TANSEED - SEED GRANT AND MATCHING GRANT FUNDING SUPPORT

Under the Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Grant Fund (TANSEED) programme, eligible startups are supported with grants upto Rs.10 lakh each. In exceptional cases, the above seed grants will be extended upto Rs.50 lakh as a matching grant to eligible startups who raise equal amount of funding from venture capital firms. Under TANSEED scheme during 2021 JanuaryFebruary, 9 startups were given with Rs.5 lakh each, totaling of Rs.45 lakh as seed grants, with the support from Head Start Foundation. The second edition of TANSEED was launched on 23.07.2021 to support 20 startups with a seed grant of Rs.10 lakh each.

Support to Incubators

TANSIM aims to build a world class network of incubators in Tamil Nadu that are capable of creating and supporting startups that are either self-sustaining or investable. This will be achieved by supporting the Incubators through funding, mentoring, and capacity building.

TANSIM in association with Headstart organized a "ScaleUp-Incubator Capacity Building" programme to support early stage incubators in the State. The aim of the program was to enable the incubators to gain insights, learn about global best practices, and gain access to networks & tools to close the existing gaps in the incubator and march towards a truly scalable and sustainable model of running the incubator successfully. 25 incubators across Tamil Nadu including those in Tier II and Tier III cities participated in the programme, spanning across 12 weeks. A range of topics from idea funneling, introduction to investment, procurement processes, network strengthening and CSR opportunities to Government schemes and incentives to incubators were covered. Out of 25 incubators who have undergone training, the top 12 incubators were selected and given with grants of Rs.3.5 lakh each.

TANSEED - Incubator Revolving Fund

This Fund aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization. The Seed Fund will 136 be disbursed to eligible startups through eligible incubators across Tamil Nadu. A grant of up to Rs.50 lakh each would be provided to selected incubators, provided the Technology Business Incubator (TBI) mobilizes fund in the ratio of 1:3 (TANSEED: TBIs) through industry or from its own resources.

NEW ENTREPRENEUR - CUM-ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME - (NEEDS)

"New Entrepreneur - cum - Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS)" was formulated by the Government of Tamil Nadu to assist educated youth in becoming first-generation entrepreneurs and is being implemented.

The beneficiaries should be in the age group of above 21 years and below 35 years for General Category and above 21 years and below 45 years in special categories and women. The minimum education qualification of any Degree /Diploma /ITI /Vocational training from recognised institutions is required. About 1,000 aspirants are to be selected every year. 19% is reserved for SC/STs. A target of 50% is assigned to women with the priority for destitute women. Selected candidates are given Entrepreneurship Development Programme training for 15 days by Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute, Chennai. Necessary hand-holding will be done to assist them in preparing the project for starting their own manufacturing or service venture and to avail term loans from the Banks/Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation Limited (TIIC). Subject to availability, they will also be provided with plots/sheds in the Industrial estates of Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation Limited (TANSIDCO).

Individual-based Capital subsidy at the rate of 25% of the project cost (not exceeding Rs.50 lakh), is being given along with 3% interest subvention on term loan throughout the entire repayment period by the Government. The minimum project cost is above Rs.10 lakh and the maximum project cost is up to Rs.5 crore. Promoter's contribution is 10% of the project cost for the general category and 5% for the special category.

During the current financial year 2021-22, as on 31.07.2021, 151 final sanctions were given with an individual-based subsidy component of Rs.24.81 crore. In respect of disbursement of individual-based subsidy, Rs.18.37 crore was disbursed to 239 beneficiaries and an amount of Rs.3.26 crore was disbursed as interest subsidy to 274 beneficiaries. The budget allocation for this scheme in the current year is Rs.100 crore. As a sub-set of the scheme, NEEDS-SIM, Special Initiative for Migrants, has been approved with a view to help the Non-resident Tamils who returned to their native places due to the spread of COVID-19. The sub-set will be implemented till 2023-24.

UNEMPLOYED YOUTH EMPLOYMENT GENERATION PROGRAMME (UYEGP)

With a view to creating employment opportunities for the marginalized sections of the society, the State Government is implementing the Unemployed Youth Employment Generation Programme (UYEGP). The entrepreneurs can avail loans to start their ventures having a project outlay of up to Rs.15 lakh for manufacturing activities and up to Rs.5 lakh for services and business activities. Subsidy assistance at the rate of 25% of the project cost (Maximum Rs. 2,50,000/-) is provided under this scheme. The beneficiary contribution under the scheme is 5% for Special Category and 10% for General Category.

The upper age limit for the General Category is 35 years and for the Special Category comprising SC / ST / BC / MBC / Minority / Women / Ex-servicemen / Differently abled / Transgender is 45 years. Any individual above 18 years and with a minimum educational qualification of pass in VIIIth standard is eligible to benefit under the scheme. The applicants who intend to benefit under this scheme can file their applications online.

A subsidy of Rs.3,300 lakh was disbursed to 3,591 beneficiaries in the year 2020-21. During the current financial year 2021-22, as on 31.07.2021, an amount of Rs.762.62 lakh was disbursed as subsidy to 785 beneficiaries. The budget allocation for this scheme is Rs. 41.88 crore for the current year.

TAMILNADU RURAL TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

INTRODUCTION:

Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project (TNRTP) is an innovative Project that aims at rural transformation through strategies that look beyond poverty alleviation by building sustainability and prosperity of rural communities through rural enterprise promotion, access to finance and employment opportunities in the selected blocks of Tamil Nadu.

The Project will build on existing institutional capital and investments made by TNEPRP, TNSRLM and NRLP.

The Project will be operational in 120 blocks covering 3,994 village panchayats spread across 26 districts of Tamil Nadu.

RURAL ENTERPRISE ECOSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

The main objective of this component is to create an enabling rural business development ecosystem. It will include undertaking diagnostics (district analysis, value chain analysis, sector/sub-sector identification), identification of potential enterprises through participatory methods for promotion of rural enterprises (group and individuals), strengthening of existing rural enterprises, identifying market and value chain development opportunities, provide business development support services and informed pathways to develop sustainable business. The component will also focus on promoting women-led enterprises and green enterprises.

MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

The objective of this component is to bridge the demand supply gap for new enterprises and group enterprises to access finance from formal financial institutions. Matching grants would be intended for first time entrepreneurs, women led businesses, enterprise groups, producer collectives and other types of enterprises perceived as a challenge by the financial sector.

The Matching Grant Program (MGP) is set up to incentivize the repayment of borrowers and generate momentum amongst the financial institutions to lend to the above said enterprises. Matching Grant will be available to the borrowers together with the loans sanctioned by the PFI (Participating Financial Institutions). On prompt repayment of 70% of the loan amount, the borrower is eligible for 30% waiver from the Project.

SKILLS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

This sub-component will target skill upgrades for 80,000 youth (40,000 through convergence with existing flagship government skilling schemes and 40,000 through community based skilling provision). The sub-component will also aim to have 40 percent women among the total beneficiaries trained.

This component will also include pre and post training services including identification and mobilisation of targeted youth.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The objective of this component is to provide support services, develop management and monitoring systems, create delivery processes for Financial Management, Project Management, Human Resource Management, Social, Environmental and Tribal safeguards and Information Communication Technology (ICT) for effective implementation of the project.

TAMIL NADU CM'S ROAD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION:

In a massive restoration of the road network in the districts, the state government on Friday announced "Chief Minister Road Improvement Scheme" to widen the roads connecting taluk headquarters and the district headquarters in the next ten years.

BUDGET:

The government will spend 3,200 crore in this fiscal to widen the roads to two lane and four-lanes to facilitate free movement of traffic. About 2,000km panchayat/panchayat union roads will be upgraded to 'other district roads'. It has been decided to upgrade 2,200km state highways to four-lane and 6,700km to two lane based on high traffic density. "In the first phase, a 250-km long network will be widened to four-lane at a cost of 2,000 crore and another roads up to 600 km would be expanded into two-lane highways at a cost of 1,200 crore.

POLICY

A policy note tabled in the assembly outlines the longterm vision of the government for the next 10 years, including upgradation of all state highways with high traffic density to four-lane, and elevated highways in the most-congested areas in the cities. All railway level crossings on state highways and major district roads will get rail over bridges.

The state highways will be widened to four-lane in urban areas at a cost of 400 crore, a 10% of which will be availed from comprehensive road infrastructure development programme. It has also been decided to replace 648 causeways to high-level bridges at a cost of 609.71 crore.

New bypasses will be built in Sivaganga, Parthibanur, Kamudhi, Thiruthuraipoondi, Ambasamudram, Bhavani, Aruppukkottai (west) and Uthiramerur, where acquisition of land had been completed by the highways department.

Karur town will get a bypass and link road. In a first, Madurai will get a 200 crore vehicular subway at Inner Ring Road to facilitate runway extension in the airport. With loans from NABARD, 75 river bridges will be constructed at a cost of 425 crore.

PROJECTS:

Detailed project reports will be prepared to build elevated highways connecting head post office and court roundtana, and Odathurai bridge and Mallatchipuram in Trichy, and Nelpettai to Avaniapuram in Madurai to reduce the travel time to the airport. There are plans to construct bridges in Viraganur and Aruppukkottai junctions in Madurai, and near a new bus stand in Tirunelveli town. "The government will also take up road safety measures at a cost of 350 crore to reduce accidents and prevent fatalities. The highways department will lay concrete roads around Arunachaleswarar Temple in Tiruvannamalai at a cost of Rs. 15 crore.

URBAN WAGE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION:

The Tamil Nadu government has proposed an urban employment scheme at a cost of 100 crore to improve the livelihood of urban poor.

It will be launched on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

It is needed as the urban population in Tamil Nadu is growing fast and it would reach 60% of the total population by 2036.

FEATURES:

Under the scheme, workers will be used for activities such as desilting of water bodies and maintenance of public parks and other places.

50% of the total person-days under the scheme would be earmarked for women.

Women and men would be paid the same wages for the same unskilled and semiskilled work.

The TN Urban Employment Scheme is based on the recommendations made by a committee led by former Reserve Bank of India Governor C. Rangarajan.

The scheme was introduced in 2005 as a social measure that guarantees “the right to work”.

OBJECTIVES:

Generation of paid rural employment of not less than 100 days for each worker who volunteers for unskilled labour.

Proactively ensuring social inclusion by strengthening the livelihood base of rural poor.

Creation of durable assets in rural areas such as wells, ponds, roads and canals.

Reduce urban migration from rural areas.

Create rural infrastructure by using untapped rural labour.

50% PERSON DAYS UNDER JOB SCHEME TO BE SET ASIDE FOR WOMEN

No less than 50% of the total person days under the Tamil Nadu Urban Employment Scheme will be earmarked for women. Women and men will be paid the same wages for the same unskilled and semi-skilled work.

The scheme, to be fully funded by the State government, is based on the recommendations of a committee led by former RBI Governor C. Rangarajan. Under it, job-seekers will be enumerated and slotted in three categories – unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled. It will give gainful employment to the urban poor by engaging them in the creation and maintenance of public assets such as parks, playgrounds, storm-water drains, roads and buildings and rejuvenation of waterbodies.

100 crore allocated

An initial allocation of 100 crore has been made during 2021-22 for the scheme, which is aimed at improving livelihood and social security by increasing job opportunities and through creation and maintenance of public assets. It will be implemented in two zones in the Greater Chennai Corporation, one zone each in 14 municipal corporations, one municipality each in seven regions and one town panchayat each in 37 districts during 2021-22.

Job-seekers from every household will be registered and given a job card. Those having the cards can apply for employment in their urban local bodies. The workers will receive wages once in a week.

“The workers will be given specified wages, which will be fixed through a proper time and motion study. The wages will be paid on the basis of the outcome of the work indicated against the approved/notified daily rate,” says a government order.

All payments will be made through the Electronic Fund Management System. There will be an online management information system to monitor the implementation of the scheme.

ROLE OF TANSIDCO

INTRODUCTION

TAMIL NADU SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED TANSIDCO, an undertaking of the Government of Tamil Nadu was incorporated in 1970 as a limited company with a specific objective of playing a catalytic role in the promotion and development of MSMEs in Tamil Nadu.

Activities of TANSIDCO

- i. Establishment of New Industrial Estates.
- ii. Maintenance of Government and TANSIDCO Industrial Estates.
- iii. Up-gradation of infrastructure facilities of existing Industrial Estates.
- iv. Formation of Private Industrial Estates.
- v. MSME Cluster Development by Setting up of Common Facility Centres and Common Production Infrastructure Centres.

TANSIDCO maintains 122 Industrial Estates (41 Government and 81 TANSIDCO) with 14,195 developed industrial plots / sheds in 8,260 acres across the State and is committed to develop new industrial estates with quality infrastructure for the balanced industrial ecosystem.

TANSIDCO envisages industrial infrastructure facilities like motorable roads, stormwater drains, culverts, water supply system, sewerage system, street lighting, green belt, parks and other amenities in the Industrial Estates. The details of 122 Industrial Estates is given in Annexure-2.

The authorised share capital of the Corporation is Rs.45 crore and the paid up share capital is Rs.25.14 crore. TANSIDCO has earned a profit of Rs.10.78 crore for the financial year 2020-21.

Exclusive Women Industrial Parks

TANSIDCO has developed 5 women industrial parks having 1,226 industrial plots in the following locations.

1. Thirumullaivoyil (Tiruvallur District)
2. Thirumudivakkam (Kancheepuram District)
3. Karuppur (Salem District)
4. Valavanthankottai (Tiruchirappalli District)
5. Kappalur (Madurai District)

Product Specific Industrial Estates

TANSIDCO has developed 5 product specific industrial estates comprising 490 industrial plots and 25 sheds for industrial development as detailed below. 1. Integrated Technical Textile Park at Thandarai (Chengalpattu District) 2. Integrated Textile/ Apparels Park at Punjaikalakurichi (Karur District) 3. Integrated Food Park at Echampadi (Dharmapuri District) 4. Integrated Sea Food Park at Sakkarai-kottai (Ramanathapuram District) 5. Pharma Park at Alathur (Chengalpattu District)

New Industrial Estates under formation

TANSIDCO is establishing 8 new Industrial Estates in the following 7 Districts at a total project cost of Rs.225 crore.

Up-gradation of infrastructure facilities in the existing Industrial Estates

For up-gradation of infrastructure facilities in the existing Industrial Estates, TANSIDCO avails 60% of total project cost as grant of Union Government and 30% of total project cost from the State Government and so far completed 14 projects at the cost of Rs.29.64 crore. The following 7 up-gradation projects at a total project cost of Rs.37.50 crore are under implementation in 6 Districts.

Formation of Private Industrial Estates

The association of entrepreneurs who come forward to set up new Private Industrial Estate at the outskirts of towns / cities is assisted with Government grant at 50% of total project cost limited to a maximum of Rs.10 crore. Under this scheme, one private industrial estate at Mopiripalayam Village, Coimbatore District was completed at a total project cost of Rs.24.32 crore and developed 120 industrial plots. At present, the grant amount is increased to Rs.15 crore. Following 2 Private Industrial Estate projects are under implementation at a total project cost of Rs.33.65 crore with Tamil Nadu Government grant -in aid of Rs.16.83 crore.

TAMIL NADU BIO-DIVERSITY BOARD

INTRODUCTION:

The Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board was constituted on 29 April 2008 vide G.O. (Ms) No. 38 Environment and Forests (FR-5) Department under Section 22 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, with the Hon'ble Minister for Forests as the Chairman of the Board. Since its constitution, senior IFS officers have been appointed as the Member Secretaries to the Board and until 2017, these officers also held additional charges. Through the efforts of the various Member Secretaries over the years, the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Rules were notified on 9 November 2017, Environment and Forest. The Rules came into effect from 6 December 2017 after which the Boards' activities took off to achieve new heights.

VISION OF THE BOARD

Conservation and sustainable use of India's rich biodiversity and associated knowledge with people's participation, ensuring the process of benefit sharing for the well-being of present and future generations.

MISSION OF THE BOARD

Ensure effective implementation of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, for conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources.

FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD:

Advise the Government of Tamil Nadu on matters related to conservation of biodiversity, its sustainable use and access and benefit-sharing.

Provide technical assistance and guidance to various departments of the Government on the implementation of the Act.

Regulate requests for commercial utilisation or bio-survey and bio-utilisation of any bio-resources under the Act by Indians (Section 7 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002).

Facilitate the updating and implementation of the State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

Take steps to build a database and create an information and documentation system for bio-resources and associated traditional knowledge, through biodiversity registers and electronic databases, to ensure effective management, promotion, and sustainable use of these bio-resources.

Advise and direct local bodies and Biodiversity Management Committees to effectively implement the Act and to facilitate their meaningful participation in all activities relating to conservation, sustainable use, and equitable benefit-sharing.

Ensure that biodiversity and biodiversity-dependent livelihoods are integrated into all sectors of planning and management, from local to state levels, to enable them to contribute effectively towards conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Recommend in consultation with local bodies, the notification of areas of biodiversity importance as Biodiversity Heritage Sites, as directed under Section 37(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, and aid in the management and conservation of these heritage sites.

TAMIL NADU STATE ENVIRONMENT POLICY, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

The Tamil Nadu State Environment Policy 2017 prepared by the Department of Environment, Government of Tamil Nadu follows the Vision Tamil Nadu 2023 launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu, which identifies preservation of ecology and heritage as a key underlying the Vision Tamil Nadu 2023.

The State Policy is the outcome of extensive consultations with Experts in different disciplines. The Department of Environment undertook extensive consultations and constituted four sub-committees to provide inputs to this Policy on Industry, Coastal Management, Natural Resources and Institutional Framework.

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the Policy are to:

1. Conserve, Nurture and Renew Environmental Resources essential for habitat and life-support, livelihoods, economic growth, quality of life and human well-being;
2. Integrate environmental well-being into developmental programmes, including poverty alleviation, inclusive economic growth and social well-being;
3. Enhance preparedness to deal with climate change impacts through a systematic approach and implement relevant adaptation/mitigation mechanisms taking into account priorities identified under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC);
4. Improve Environment Governance and institutional capacity involving articulation of a comprehensive policy framework and enforce environmental legislation, policy, standards and safeguards.

VISION:

The Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) has formulated the Vision TN 2023 with the aim of catapulting Tamil Nadu onto a higher economic growth trajectory, while ensuring that it benefits all sections of society. By 2023, Tamil Nadu aspires to become India's most prosperous and progressive State with no poverty, and where its people enjoy all the basic services of a modern society and live in harmonious engagement with the environment and with the rest of the world. Integrate environmental well-being into developmental programmes by weaving environmental considerations into policy formulation, planning and implementation of developmental programmes and projects in an environmentally sustainable manner, while achieving other positive developmental outcomes including poverty alleviation, inclusive economic growth and social well-being.

AGRICULTURE:

Government is giving thrust to preserve the prime agricultural lands and control its diversion for non- agricultural purposes by recommending suitable and profitable cropping system, reclamation of problem soils, identification and conversion of fallow lands for agriculture, increasing the productivity of agricultural lands by village based Integrated Nutrient Management through stratified soil sampling and analysis, promotion of organic farming, integrated farming, diversified farming, rainfed area development and appropriate market linkages to enable the farmers to take up agriculture as a lucrative profession.

WATER RESOURCES:

Government of TN (GoTN) would initiate measures to augment water sources for farmers (while enabling increase of area under cultivation from the current levels) through extensive expansion of watershed development programmes and creation of rain-water harvesting structures, so as to make water available for agriculture in a sustainable manner without excessive ground water abstraction beyond recharge potential.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

The Government of TN (GoTN) accords the highest priority to preserve, protect its ecological footprint and environmental resources, in light of the responsibility placed upon it as per Section 48 of the Constitution of India which specifies that “the State shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the Country”. The land-use policy would accord priority to protection and preservation of vulnerable ecosystems including forests, bio-reserves, wetlands, coastal ecosystems and other such habitats critical to the environmental health of the State.

