

## PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL INITIATIVES DEPARTMENT

### POLICY NOTE 2023 - 2024

- ❖ The Union Planning Commission was replaced by NITI Aayog, with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as its primary objective. Accordingly, the function of the planning bodies both at Union and State levels in the preparation and monitoring of plans and expenditure has been replaced by drawing of focus to the SDGs, based on outcomes and outputs of policies & schemes.
- ❖ Hence, the activities of this department have been restructured to focus on the universal expression at a global level that works towards the 'future we want' covering social, economic and environmental aspects.
- ❖ This department works with all departments in their visioning and monitoring of progress towards achieving SDG targets. The department also functions as the nodal department of the State Government for coordination and interaction with NITI Aayog and the Union Government through PRAGATI (Pro Active Governance and Timely Implementation) e-Samiksha Portals.
- ❖ The Hon'ble Prime Minister directly interacts with Government of India Ministries and State Governments on the issues related to high priority schemes and flagship programmes under PRAGATI portal. This department is regularly uploading the present status of the issues received from the various departments regarding issues raised in the PRAGATI portal.

### MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Co-ordination with the Union Government and NITI Aayog, the successor institution of the Union Planning Commission;
- ❖ Preparation of long term strategic and medium-term operational plans through the State Planning Commission
- ❖ Ensuring balanced growth and development of the State based on economic and social indicators through the implementation of State Balanced Growth Fund (SBGF) Programme
- ❖ Recommending, administering and monitoring schemes under the Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiatives (TANII)

- ❖ Stewarding studies on the formulation and implementation of specific programmes relating to land and water use and impact of changing environmental factors like pollution, global warming etc., through the Tamil Nadu State Land Use Research Board
- ❖ State level co-ordination and monitoring of the Aspirational Districts Programme through the State Planning Commission;
- ❖ Co-ordinating with all departments to focus the State Government's efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Agenda:2030 and monitoring of all SDGs, targets and indicators Promotion of Evidence Based Policy Making in Government;
- ❖ Overseeing the preparation of District Development Plans through District Planning Cells which function as supporting arms of the District Planning Committees;
- ❖ Evaluation of schemes sponsored by Union / State Governments and external agencies through the Department of Evaluation and Applied Research;
- ❖ Reviewing the progress of major infrastructure projects costing more than Rs.100 crore;

## NOTES ON ACTIVITIES

### Sustainable Development Goals

- ❖ Sustainable Development Goals is an agenda of unprecedented scope and significance that has been accepted by all countries and applies to all, considering the different State realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting local policies and priorities. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development – social, economic and environmental. The Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr.Antonio Guterres highlighted social and economic rights and the right to development as a priority while describing 2023 as "a year of reckoning."
- ❖ The Government of Tamil Nadu, guided by the Hon'ble Chief Minister's vision of social justice and equality has a commitment to provide "Everything for Everyone" and is working towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals based on its unique and acclaimed Dravidian Model of Governance.
- ❖ The State scored 66 points and stood third in the SDG India Index baseline report brought out by NITI Aayog. In the second edition released in 2019, it moved up slightly by one point to 67 and retained the third position. The third edition of the Index 2020-21, which is a broadened version, placed the State in the second position with a score of 74

### District Good Governance Index (DGGI)

- ❖ A District Good Governance Index has been prepared on the lines of the Good Governance Index of India, 2021 by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India.

- ❖ The State's DGGI identified 75 Indicators, 25 of which were classified as "Impact Indicators" with a weight of 0.2 each, and "Support Indicators" with a weight of 0.1 each, based on the level of significance to be accorded in strengthening the needy areas to promote the progress of the State's ranking at All-India level.

### **Policy Driven programming for SDGs**

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has been formulating several policies to address issues of concern. The policies 19 for women, children and senior citizens have been prepared by the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department.
- ❖ The Climate Change Mission aims to make the State climate-smart and make the state achieve carbon neutrality much ahead of 2070. It takes up the climate agenda on a priority basis by forming district missions and putting climate officials in place in the State

### **SDG Co-ordination Centre and partnership with international agencies**

- ❖ A SDG Co-ordination Centre under this Department is to commence functioning shortly and will try to improve the indicators and help the State achieve the SDGs even before 2030. The UNDP, who will assist in operationalising the SDGCC, will engage consultants and experts drawn from other UN agencies like UNICEF and UN Women for this purpose.

### **Twenty Point Programme-2006**

- ❖ The Twenty Point Programme (TPP) was formulated as a composite poverty alleviation project in 1975 and was restructured in 1982, 1986 and 2006. Now, it is renamed as "Twenty Point Programme -2006"
- ❖ The main objective of the Programme is to eradicate poverty and improve the quality of life of the poor and under-privileged population.
- ❖ The Programme components span specific issues of reduction in poverty, employment generation, education, housing, health, agriculture, land reforms, irrigation, drinking water, protection and empowerment of weaker sections and consumer protection.

### **STATE PLANNING COMMISSION**

- ❖ The State Planning Commission (SPC) makes its recommendations to the Government on various aspects pertaining to the development of the State and functions as an advisory body. The State Planning Commission is headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister as Ex-Officio Chairman and the present State Planning Commission was reconstituted in June 2021 with 10 members consisting of a Vice Chairman, two Full Time Members and seven Part Time Members.
- ❖ The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Planning and Development Department and the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Finance Department

are ex-officio Members of the State Planning Commission and the Member Secretary is in charge of the administration of the State Planning Commission.

### **Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiatives (TANII)**

- To encourage the culture of innovation in the Government Departments and Government Agencies, Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiatives (TANII) scheme was formulated in State Planning Commission to herald an era of innovation in the State of Tamil Nadu during September 2014.
- Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiatives addresses this issue to foster innovation through funding support for innovative schemes and programmes. Accordingly, the State Innovation Fund has been created with an outlay of Rs.150.00 crore or as determined by the Government every year.

### **Tamil Nadu State Land Use Research Board**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Land Use Research Board (TNSLURB) was constituted in the year 2011 as a permanent body within the State Planning Commission with a view to assess the land resources and advise the Government for policy interventions in the areas of land and water resources

### **Transformation of Aspirational Districts Programme**

- ❖ 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' programme was introduced by the Government of India in the year 2017. The Programme is implemented on the principles of Cooperative Federalism, Convergence (of Union & State Schemes), Collaboration (of Union, State Level Officers & District Collectors) and Competition among districts driven by a mass movement with the strong commitment to raise the living standards of all citizens and ensuring inclusive growth for all.
- ❖ Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar are the districts which have been included from Tamil Nadu in the list of 115 Aspirational Districts identified based on a composite index. The selection of districts is based on certain criteria based on the challenges faced by the districts in terms of Poverty, Health and Nutrition, Education and Infrastructure.

### **Focus Area**

- ❖ Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture & Water Resources, Financial Inclusion & Skill Development and Basic Infrastructure are the core focus areas of the programme.

### **Real Time Monitoring and Ranking**

- ❖ An online monitoring portal for capturing the progress made by the districts in the 49 key performance indicators on a monthly basis has been established by NITI Aayog.

## **Funding Support**

- ❖ NITI Aayog, in addition to this, also provides incentive funding through Externally Aided Projects (EAP), and the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) for the districts based on performance in the key performance indicators.

## **Performance of District**

- ❖ Virudhunagar and Ramanathapuram Districts are progressing steadily since the inception of the programme and have reached a composite index score of 64.8 and 64.1 respectively in January 2023 from their baseline value of 45.6 and 46.8 respectively in April 2018. Ramanathapuram District has also secured a good ranking in overall delta during the month of April 2022 for which Rs. 4 Crore has been awarded to the district

## **Aspirational Blocks Programme**

- ❖ Based on the significant progress made by Aspirational Districts, the template of the Aspirational Districts Programme has now been extended to the Block level. NITI Aayog has launched the Aspirational Blocks Programme in January 2023. Under this programme 500 under developed blocks have been identified across the country.
- ❖ The progress of the blocks are to be monitored in sectors like Health and Nutrition, Education, Agriculture and Water Resources Management, Skill Development and Financial Inclusion, Basic Infrastructure and Self Help Groups (SHGs) along with 5 state specific indicators
- ❖ In Tamil Nadu the following 16 Aspirational Blocks (with one block from each Aspirational District) have been selected for implementation of the programme

## **SDG India Index - Ranking of States / UTs**

- ❖ SDG India Index is being released by the NITI Aayog, Government of India being the Nodal Agency for the country to oversee the progress on the SDG 2030 Agenda. The objective of the Index is to promote healthy competition among the States/UTs in their journey towards achieving the global goals and support the States/UTs in identifying priority areas which demand more attention.
- ❖ The third edition - SDG India Index 3.0 (2020-21) has been released in June 2021, in 64 which all States/UTs are ranked based on their performance across the identified indicators under SDGs. Tamil Nadu has been ranked second with a composite index score of 74.

## **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**

- ❖ Index of Industrial Production (Base year 2011-12) measures the general level of industrial performance in the economy. Monthly Index is compiled based on the production data received from three major sectors viz., Mining, Manufacturing and Electricity sectors consisting of 253 items

## **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**

- ❖ Under “Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana” (PMFBY) scheme, the crop cutting experiments are conducted by Assistant Agriculture Officers and the average yields are estimated to provide indemnity to the farmers affected by natural calamities such as drought, flood, cyclone, attack of pests, diseases, etc.

## **State Income**

- ❖ The State Income Estimates- Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and Net State Domestic Product (NSDP), District Income Estimates and Per Capita Income are computed every year for 17 sectors of the State economy. The GSDP / NSDP estimates in the New Series (Base Year 2011-12) for the years 2019-20 (Revised Estimates),

## **Capital formation**

- ❖ The analysis of the accounts of Non-Departmental Commercial Undertakings (NDCU) of State/Centre and Autonomous Institutional bodies (public and educational institutions) in Tamil Nadu have been completed upto the year 2020-21 and tables have been sent to the Government. Also, the analysis for the year 2021-22 is in progress.

## **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)**

- ❖ Wholesale Price Index of Tamil Nadu is compiled and released every month with base year 2011-2012=100. WPI tracks the changes in the prices of goods before the retail level. Wholesale Prices for agricultural and non-agricultural commodities are collected from 83 centres for compilation of Wholesale Price Index

## **Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW)**

- ❖ Under Central Series, the Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers is compiled and released for 7 centres by Government of India viz., Chennai, Salem, Madurai, Coimbatore, Coonoor, Tirunelveli and Virudhunagar in Tamil Nadu by Labour Bureau, Shimla with base year as 2016=100. The weekly / monthly price details for the compilation of this index are collected by this department staff from 14 markets and sent to Labour Bureau, Shimla

## **SDG Dashboard**

- ❖ This department also contributed to the core team that redesigned the SDG Dashboard, which was developed by the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA) and the dashboard is in use since January 2021.

## **Tamil Nadu State Statistical Training Institute**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Statistical Training Institute (TNSSTI) was established in 2012 with the mandate of imparting statistical training to enrich and enhance statistical knowledge in order to improve the efficiency of staff members working in the Department of Economics and Statistics (DoES).

## **SPECIAL INITIATIVES DEPARTMENT**

- ❖ The Special Initiatives Department, which was formed in the year 2003, processes special initiative schemes/ projects that emanate from different sources, in consultation with respective administrative departments of the Secretariat and other line departments.

## **Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL)**

- ❖ The Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) was incorporated as a State-owned Special Purpose Vehicle under the Companies Act to implement metro rail projects in December 2007. The company was restructured subsequently in the year 2009 as a joint venture with equity stakes of the Central and State Government as 50:50. Under this arrangement, the Government of India

## **Chennai Metro Rail Project-Phase-I (including Extension)**

- ❖ The Phase-I of Chennai Metro Rail Project, covering two corridors, one from Washermenpet to Chennai Airport and another from Chennai Central to St. Thomas Mount, was initially proposed in June 2006.
- ❖ The Government accorded in-principle approval to the project in December 2007 and recommended it to the Government of India for funding and external financial assistance.
- ❖ The Government of India accorded administrative approval for implementing the two corridors under Phase-I in February 2009. The project covering a total length of 45.1 km was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.14,600 crore as a joint venture between the Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The Government of Tamil Nadu also approved the extension of Corridor-1 of Phase-I of the Chennai Metro Rail Project from Washermenpet to Thiruvottriyur / Wimco Nagar by a length of 9.051 km.
- ❖ This proposal was recommended to the Government of India for necessary approval for funding and external assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in October 2010. The Government of India accorded administrative approval for implementing the project at an estimated cost of Rs.3770 crore on 15.06.2016

## Chennai Metro Rail Project- Phase-II

- ❖ The Government of Tamil Nadu, in April 2017, accorded in-principle approval for the Phase-II project covering three metro rail corridors with a total length of 107.55 Km and recommended it to the Government of India for its approval, funding, and for obtaining external loan assistance from bilateral/ multilateral agencies.

## Funding tie ups for Phase-II

- ❖ The loan agreement with JICA for 1st tranche amounting to 75 Billion 519 Million Japanese Yen, was signed in December 2018 and the loan was effectuated in April 2019.

