

Higher Education Department

POLICY NOTE - 2002 - 2003

DEMAND No. 19

1. INTRODUCTION

Social and economic well-being depends heavily on a highly educated and motivated workforce. Higher Education Policy of the State Government plays a crucial role in creating such a workforce. The dawn of the 21st Century has ushered in greater opportunities to harness and embrace information technology to bring about significant changes in teaching and learning methodologies within the State. The major policy thrust of the Higher Education department is to consolidate the educational infrastructure, which has been built up in the State while improving the quality standards. The State would also pay special attention to increase the access ratio with special emphasis on women and other disadvantaged sections of the society. The policy for Higher Education in the State has been formulated in line with the desire of the Hon'ble Chief Minister to make Tamil Nadu the foremost State in the Country in the field of Higher Education.

1.2 The total budget allocation under Demand No.19- Higher Education is **Rs. 793.35 crores**. The State has one of the largest intake capacity in the country for Engineering and Polytechnic Education. The annual intake capacity for Engineering Colleges is about 60,470 and for Polytechnics it is about 45,334.

1.3 As mentioned earlier , the endeavour of the Government is to consolidate the capacities built up while improving the quality of these institutions rather than merely increasing the number of new institutions. In line with this policy, the Government have created a Technological University by converting Anna University into an affiliating type. Anna University will initiate programmes for upgrading the engineering curriculum and syllabi in order to respond to new technological developments and demands of the marketplace. The Government will also initiate steps to train more number of qualified teachers to meet the critical shortage of teachers in technical institutions. Greater emphasis will be laid on encouraging closer interaction between industries and educational institutions so that both parties may mutually benefit. The Anna University will implement the latest e-governance techniques to effectively administer the 219 affiliated Engineering Colleges.

1.4 In the sphere of Technical Education, the Government is committed to improving the Single Window System of admission of students to Engineering Colleges. This year, apart from facilitating distributed counseling from additional Centres, a Web-enabled System is being used for application processing and issue of hall tickets for the Tamil Nadu Professional Course Entrance Examination. More students have been given access to Polytechnic Education due to reduction in the minimum eligibility marks. Deserving but poor students aspiring for engineering education are being granted financial assistance on a case by case basis.

1.5 The Government have sanctioned special reservation of seats in Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu for the inmates of special homes, orthopaedically / physically handicapped / hearing impaired, NSS staff and Indian students from Mauritius. In Arts and Science Colleges, greater emphasis is being laid on introducing more job- oriented courses.

1.6 Tamil Nadu Government has the largest number of accredited colleges in the Country. As a policy, the Government encourages every higher education institution in the State to opt for accreditation either by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in the case of Arts and Science Colleges and Universities or by National Board of Accreditation (NBA) in the case of Technical Institutions. Institutions are encouraged to undertake development of new curriculum and improve the quality of teaching, learning and administration.

1.7 Reduction of minimum educational qualifications to appear for Government Technical Examinations, Typewriting (Junior Grade) has been introduced. The introduction of transparent transfer policy for teaching and non teaching staff which is first of its kind in the country has been welcomed by all sections of society in general and teaching and non teaching community in particular. Effective steps have been taken for curbing unauthorized buildings and use of improperly classified land for setting up self-financing institutions.

1.8 Recent years have been witnessing higher proportion of women enrolling themselves both in undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Arts and Science as well as in Engineering and Management fields of study. With a view to encourage women belonging to SC/ST, free education up to the postgraduate level has been implemented from this academic year onwards.

1.9 In commemoration of the Women's Day Celebration all over the World, it has been proposed to affiliate all Women's Colleges in the region with Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal. Besides this, it has also been proposed to create necessary infrastructure facilities for this University in the next two years.

1.10 A new university, which will focus on the economic and social upliftment of oppressed classes, including Adi-Dravidars, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Tribes, will be set up at Vellore. The above university area will comprise of 4 Districts, namely Vellore, Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore and Villupuram to be named after the great Tamil savant Thiruvalluvar. This university will be a unique and pioneering effort at social transformation.

FINANCIAL OUTLAY

Under Demand No.19 - Higher Education, the total outlay is **Rs.793.35** Crores. Of which **Rs. 10.31 Crores** are for Plan Schemes and **Rs.783.04** Crores are for Non- Plan schemes .

BUDGET ESTIMATE 2002 – 2003

HEAD OF ACCOUNT		PLAN	NON-PLAN	TOTAL
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)
(Rupees in lakhs)				
2059	Public Works Maintenance and Repairs	--	563.40	563.40
2202	General Education			
03	University and Higher Education	143.03	62839.22	62982.25
2203	Technical Education	199.24	14178.37	14377.61
2204	Sports and Youth Services	385.95	-	385.95
2205	Arts and Culture			
104	Archives	7.34	319.65	326.99
2235	Social Security and Welfare	--	24.34	24.34
2251	Secretariat - Social Services	-	190.23	190.23
2551	Hill Areas	33.00	--	33.00
3425	Other Scientific Research	203.70	--	203.70

3454	Census Surveys and Statistics			
	Gazetteer and statistical Memoirs			
110		--	36.28	36.28
02	Capital outlay on Education Sports, Arts and Culture	56.31	0.03	56.34
6202	Loans for Education, Sports Art and Culture	2.00	-	2.00
7615	Miscellaneous loans	-	0.50	0.50
Total		1030.57	78152.02	79182.59
ADD Recoveries		0.22	152.58	152.80
GRAND TOTAL		1030.79	78304.60	79335.39

1. 2. TAMIL NADU STATE COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

The Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education was established as an autonomous body by an Act passed in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly in 1992 with a view to promote and coordinate State Level Higher Education Programmes with those of the University Grants Commission.

2.2 The Government have decided that it is necessary that the colleges and Universities have adequate resources to become Centres of Excellence. As part of this programme the Government are actively considering the report of the Expert Committee constituted by the Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education on establishment of "Centres of Excellence" in the Universities in Tamil Nadu. The departments recommended by the Committee in each university for establishing them as Centres of Excellence will be created by the Government in a phased manner in consultation with Union Planning Commission.

2.3 The libraries in the Universities in Tamil Nadu will be linked for the benefit of students and the members of the teaching community. The Government will actively encourage colleges seeking autonomy. The Government will also encourage the Universities and autonomous colleges to evolve a uniform structure of curriculum and regulations, so that there is compatibility among the courses conducted by various institutions.

3. COLLEGIATE EDUCATION

The Directorate of Collegiate Education since its inception in 1965, has taken various steps for the development in the field of Higher Education by keeping pace with modern trends. The Higher Educational scenario in Tamil Nadu has undergone a remarkably progressive change in the recent years on account of the scientific and technological measures introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu. At present, there are 477 Colleges functioning under the control of Directorate of Collegiate Education.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES

3.2 One of the thrust areas identified for the year 2002-2003 is the introduction of various job oriented courses in Government colleges and promotion of Information Technology. It has been proposed to start Master of Computer Application (MCA) / Master of Business Administration (MBA) courses in Government colleges in a phased manner. During 2002-2003, MCA / MBA courses will be started in 6 Government Colleges.

WOMEN EDUCATION

3.3 Empowerment of women is essential if they are to play their role in modern India. In Tamil Nadu, imparting Higher Education to women, has been engaging the attention of the Government and during 2001-2002, the Government have sanctioned free education to Scheduled Caste / Scheduled Tribe women students up to post graduate level. Another significant step is that the Government is providing free coaching to women candidates appearing for All India Civil Service Examinations at two centres, one at Chennai and another at Madurai.

3.4 Out of 477 Arts and Science colleges and other field specific colleges functioning in the state, 120 are colleges for women. Wherever Women's Colleges are not available, the men's colleges located in the area are giving admission to women candidates also to an extent of 30% of the intake. In 1980-81, there were only about 64,000 women students pursuing higher education. Presently, the women students enrolment in higher education is 2,20,080 which is standing testimony to the studies made by women in higher education.

CONFERRING AUTONOMOUS STATUS TO COLLEGES

3.5 In order to give academic freedom to colleges, the concept of giving autonomous status to colleges was implemented in Tamil Nadu during the year 1978-79. At present there are 44 autonomous colleges in Tamil Nadu. It is pertinent to point out here that the number of autonomous colleges in Tamil Nadu is more than any other state in India.

FREE EDUCATION TO POOR GIRL STUDENTS

3.6 Under 'Periyar EVR Nagammai Free Education to Women Students' scheme, students, whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.12000/-, are exempted from payment of tuition fees in undergraduate courses irrespective of caste and creed. The parental income limit has since been raised from Rs.12,000/- to Rs.24,000/- per annum.

STIPEND FOR TAMIL MEDIUM STUDENTS

3.7 A yearly stipend of Rs.400/- is sanctioned to students who are studying B.A./ B.Sc., in Tamil medium in Government and Aided Colleges. This stipend is sanctioned to the students studying in Tamil medium in Government / Government aided colleges. It is sanctioned to all students studying in Tamil medium irrespective of caste, community and income.

STATE INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH

3.8 In order to strengthen the functioning of the State Institute of English, it has been proposed to bring the Institute under the administrative control of the Directorate of Collegiate Education. To promote skills in teaching English language, various faculty improvement programmes are being conducted for the benefit of college teachers handling undergraduate and postgraduate courses in English literature and courses teaching English as a second language.

RECRUITMENT AND FILLING UP OF THE POSTS OF LECTURERS IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGES

3.9 During the academic year (2001-02) the Government have ordered to fill up the vacancies to the post of Lecturers in Government colleges through Teacher Recruitment Board. The Teacher Recruitment Board is taking steps to recruit suitable candidates for filling up the vacancies.

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

3.10 The students have a vast choice in the matter of scholarships such as National Merit Scholarships (Govt. of India), State Government Higher Education Loan Scholarships, State

Scholarships for the children of school teachers, State Merit scholarships, *Ad hoc* Merit Grants for SC / ST students, State Collegiate Scholarships, Scholarships to Tamil Nadu students pursuing research studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Scholarships to cadets belonging to Tamil Nadu in Rastriya Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, Scholarships to cadets belonging to Tamil Nadu in National Defence Academy, Kadakvasala, Pune, Educational concessions to the children of Defence Service Personnel, Educational concessions to the Children of Ex-servicemen Scholarships to the children of Political sufferers, Grant in Aid scheme of scholarship to students from non Hindi speaking States for post matric studies in Hindi.

INTRODUCTION OF JOB ORIENTED COURSES

3.11 Till 1996-97 vocational courses with University Grants Commission assistance were available only in 2 Government Colleges. Currently, 18 Vocational courses are available in 42 Government colleges.

TEACHERS FACULTY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

3.12 With a view to motivate research activities among the lecturers working in Government colleges and to enable them to equip themselves in line with the developing modern trends, teachers are deputed for research studies leading to M.Phil., and Ph.D., Degrees with UGC assistance. During the academic year 2001-2002, 46 teachers have been deputed to undergo M.Phil., and Ph.D., degrees. During 2002-2003 it has been proposed to depute more number of teachers.

COMPUTER LITERACY PROGRAMME

3.13 Computer Literacy programme for Non-computer science students studying in Government Arts and Science Colleges is being implemented in 60 Government Arts and Science Colleges during the year 2000-2001 and is being continued in this year also.

ACCREDITATION BY NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (NAAC)

3.14 So far 22 Government Colleges have been assessed by the NAAC. Likewise, 40 aided Colleges have also been assessed by the NAAC. It is pertinent to point out here that the State of Tamil Nadu stands first in the whole of India with 62 colleges accredited by the NAAC. 12 more Government Colleges are undergoing the accreditation process and they will be accredited during the coming academic year. A state level seminar-cum-work shop was conducted during October 2001 by the Directorate of Collegiate Education in collaboration with NACC on accreditation.

PROVISION OF FUNDS FOR CARRYING OUT REPAIR WORKS IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGE BUILDINGS

3.15 During the financial year 2001-2002, a sum of Rs.7.00 crores has been provided by the Government to carry out important repairs and maintenance works in Government colleges. For the first time the amount was distributed to all the Government colleges on need basis by conducting consultation sessions with the Principals and Executive Engineers concerned.

FREE COACHING EXCLUSIVELY FOR WOMEN STUDENTS FOR APPEARING FOR I.A.S. / I.P.S. EXAMINATIONS

3.16 In order to make Women students to participate in the I.A.S. / I.P.S. examination, action has been taken to conduct free coaching classes at two centers in Chennai and Madurai.

APPOINTMENT OF GUEST LECTURERS

3.17 In the academic interest of the students, guest lecturers are appointed every year in the existing vacant posts in the Government Colleges. During the year 2001-2002, 650 guest lecturers have been appointed for smooth functioning of colleges.

AWARDING OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RESEARCH STUDENT

3.18 During the current financial year, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.19.92 lakhs for this scheme, under which, 45 students will be benefited.

PLACEMENT CELL

3.19 To provide information on the opportunities for employment in various organisations, a Placement Cell is organised in all Government colleges.

CAREER GUIDANCE CELL

3.20 A Career and Guidance Cell has also been set up to create awareness among the under graduate / post graduate students on the employment opportunities available to them.

TRANSPARENCY IN TRANSFER OF TEACHING & NON-TEACHING STAFF

3.21 In line with the Government's desire to introduce transparent administration, the transfer policy has been revamped. Teaching and non-teaching staff in need of transfer attended counseling sessions during 2001-2002.

3.22 It is proposed to convert all the Government Arts and Science Colleges and Colleges of Education into constituent colleges of the respective universities so as to enable the universities to enlarge the sphere of activities by creating more number of departments and to generate funds from the UGC under Section 12(b) of UGC Act. Further commitment to the Government towards salary component of all the Government colleges will be frozen at the levels prevailing at the time of transferring the colleges to the Universities. In the meantime, the infrastructure facilities of all the Government colleges will be improved and students in those colleges will be benefited. It has been proposed to improve the quality of Distance Education Programme in all the Universities and also to improve University central libraries with greater deployment of information technology.

SPECIAL COACHING TO SC / ST / MBC STUDENTS

3.23 The students studying in Government Colleges particularly in rural areas belonging to SC/ST and MBC find it difficult to get through the University examinations in English, Maths and Science subjects. In order to make them fully conversant with these subjects it is planned to give them special coaching by way of remedial classes outside class hours.