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SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

I. POLICY

The Vision of Tamil Nadu is to provide universal elementary and secondary education for all school age children. This statement is supported by the provision made in the State Budget 2012-2013 for a record sum of Rs.14552.82 crore, the highest allocation ever for any department in the State. The **Hon'ble Chief Minister** in her **Vision Tamil Nadu-2023+** has stated the following as one among the Ten Vision Themes,

“Tamil Nadu will provide the best infrastructure services in India in terms of Universal Access to Education+”

The Policy Note, 2012-13 of the School Education Department highlights the important initiatives that are being taken by the Department for achieving the vision of the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** for the benefit of the children of Tamil Nadu.

A road map has been drawn to fulfill the vision by providing **Access** to schools, **Teachers**, **Quality Education**

and **adequate Infrastructure** to position Tamil Nadu as the **numero uno** State in the Country.

Tamil Nadu is one of the pioneers in implementing the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 by issuing the Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011 in November 2011. This has provided an opportunity to children belonging to the weaker sections and disadvantaged groups namely, children whose parental income is less than Rs.2 lakhs per annum, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Most Backward Classes, Backward Classes, Transgenders, children of Scavengers, HIV affected children, Orphans and differently abled children to get admission in the self finance private schools. A reservation of 25% in all self finance private schools is made for this purpose. This is made with the specific objective of reducing the social gap and to provide equality in education.

As stated in the Budget 2012-13, all efforts will be taken to ensure education for all children in the age group of 6-14 by providing the required number of schools/admissions in private schools in the neighbourhood, within a reach of 1 km for children going to primary schools and 3 km for children going to upper primary schools.

To dispel the myth that a school is only for those children who are normal and who can afford, the State has envisaged special initiatives to cover children with special needs (CWSN), Out of School Children (OoSC), children from remote areas, sparsely populated areas, without adult care. Many programmes have been initiated for reducing the gender and social gaps by providing schools for girl children belonging to SCs/STs & Minorities. For the first time transportation arrangements are being made to bring the children to regular schools from 361 habitations in nine districts which are in remote/forest/hilly areas. An amount of Rs.62.66 crore has been provided in the year 2012-13 for implementing various programmes for the welfare of the above categories of children.

The present Net Enrollment Rate of 99.63% in primary and 98.88% in upper primary will improve with the initiatives to provide access to all categories of children. These efforts by the Government will surely ensure that the State achieves 100% enrollment level of children between the age group of 6 to 14 by the end of the academic year 2012-13.

The concern of the State is not only to provide Universal Elementary Education, but also to provide

Universal Secondary Education. The State has already commenced many strategic initiatives to fulfill the **Vision of the Hon'ble Chief Minister** to provide Universal Secondary Education by 2023. As a first step, a record 710 middle schools were upgraded to high schools and 100 high schools were upgraded to higher secondary schools in 2011-12. To continue the same, it is proposed to upgrade another 100 high schools to higher secondary schools in the year 2012-13 also. This would increase the number of Government High Schools from 2234 to 2744 and Government higher secondary schools from 2,388 to 2,588.

Access to high schools for children in the educationally backward blocks is ensured by the sanction of 26 model schools in 2012-13 at a cost of Rs.78 crore. These model schools will give an opportunity to children in the educationally backward rural blocks to get access to elementary and secondary education.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced a 'Special Cash Incentive' scheme in 2011-12 in order to encourage secondary education and to reduce the dropouts at the secondary and higher secondary level by giving Rs 1,500 for students of Class X and XI and Rs 2,000 for students of class XII. In the year 2011-12 an amount Rs.

313.13 crore has been deposited in the names of the students and 18,54,686 students have benefited. This scheme will be continued in the year 2012-13 also, an amount of Rs. 366.70 crore has been provided for this scheme and 21,36,112 students will benefit from the same.

Infrastructure to schools, in the form of additional class rooms, drinking water facilities, toilets, separate toilets for girls and differently abled children, kitchen sheds, compound walls, has been given top priority. **The Hon'ble Chief Minister** in her statement under Rule 110 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules, dated 26.8.2011 had already announced an amount of Rs.1082.71 crore for providing the above mentioned infrastructural facilities in the Government primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools and the works are in progress. This trend is continued in 2012-13 also and an amount of Rs.1507.66 crore has been earmarked for providing infrastructure facilities to primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools.

Having provided the access and necessary physical infrastructure, it is the duty of the Government to impart quality education in all the schools. It is the desire of **the Hon'ble Chief Minister** that students in plus two should get

access to good quality education and hence a special scheme for providing laptops was announced. In the year 2011-12, out of 5,30,729 students, 5,640 students have been provided with laptops. The remaining 5,25,089 students and the 5,50,947 students for the year 2012-13, in all 10,76,036 students will be provided with laptops by the end of 2012-13.

A landmark initiative, the Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) System will be introduced in the year 2012-13 for classes I to VIII in order to enable the children to acquire analytical thinking, problem solving skills, life skills so as to equip the children to face the challenges in a more competent manner when they step out of the schools. The aim of the Government is to move the children away from mere rote learning to understanding concepts and acquiring knowledge. Hence, at the primary level itself the children would be introduced to a Simplified Activity Based Learning (SABL) methodology incorporating the required quantum of Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic (RRR) skills. The continuous evaluation inbuilt in the SABL will assist the teacher and parent to help the child perform better. The Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation will be scaled up to class IX in the year 2013-14 and to class X in the year 2014-15.

The Trimester Pattern in the schools is another innovative initiative to improve the quality of education as this would help the children learn the syllabus of the term with better understanding and more intensity. Learning is not merely a test of memory but should be more of grasping, retaining and understanding the concepts. In the Trimester pattern the book load has been reduced by 50% of the weight carried earlier thereby saving the children from musculoskeletal problems like kyphotic posture, scoliosis etc.

There is no doubt about the fact that improvement in quality of education can be achieved only by strengthening the schools with the required number of teachers. Hence, the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** sanctioned 49,365 teacher posts in 2011-12 to overcome the problem of non-availability of teachers in the schools. These teachers would be appointed in 2012-13 by the Teachers Recruitment Board.

The policy of the Government to conduct written examination for recruiting teachers and the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET), a mandate of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 will, no doubt, bring in the best of teaching talent in the schools of Tamil Nadu.

Capacity building of teachers is one of the important factors to improve the quality of teaching in the State. To achieve this, the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** has sanctioned the upgradation of the existing Directorate of Teacher Education, Research and Training (DTER) to the **State Council for Education, Research and Training (SCERT)**. This is a very important milestone in the history of School Education Department as it would pave the path for an organized and systematic methodology of training the teachers. The teachers would not only be trained in their relevant subjects but would also be trained in the areas of motivation, attitude change and other important soft skills. A special focus will be given to train the teachers with respect to handling the psychological problems of children. In today's world, there is also a dire necessity to counsel the teachers in order to make them understand on how a child should be handled and how a teacher should refrain from abusing the child both physically and mentally.

Learning with joy and without burden is what every child wants to do. From the year 2012-13 the children going to the Government and Government Aided schools will not only be learning with joy but will also have their own identity with their SMART CARDS and will be proud owners of four sets of uniforms, a pair of footwear, school bag, geometry

box, atlas, colour pencils. An amount of Rs.566.39 has been provided in 2012-13 for the benefits to be given to the students.

Having given all that is required for learning, the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** has been very magnanimous in providing notebooks for the students from Standard I to X in Government and Government Aided Schools in the budget for 2012-13 at a total cost of Rs.150 crore.

The Special Incentives, Laptops, uniform, school bags, educational kits, Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation, Trimester pattern and Capacity Building of teachers will not only place the children of Tamil Nadu in the National level but will also help them to set a mark for themselves in the International arena.

The Government has received the appreciation of the students for the hall tickets with photographs which was issued for the recently held Board examinations as it prevented impersonation.

The **Hon'ble Chief Minister's** decision to issue mark sheets with added security features and photograph will be a very valid document for the students and will prevent fake

certification and forgery. 19,67,831 students will be issued the novel mark sheets for the current Board examinations.

The Information and Communication technology initiatives of the Government would reach a new height in 2012-13 when a separate Education Channel will be introduced in the **Arasu Cable Television Network**. This would bring quality education to the students at their homes after schools hours. It would help all the students to get the best tutorials, seminars, lectures and other related programmes which otherwise would not have been accessible to them.

The **Hon'ble Chief Minister** has constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of the Minister for School Education, Sports and Youth Welfare with experts from the field of education to study the existing systems, curriculum, syllabus etc., and suggest necessary changes to upgrade the quality of education, infrastructure facilities, monitoring mechanism and all other required changes in order to place Tamil Nadu in the number one position in the country.

The National Curriculum Framework, 2005 has laid down parameters for improving the system and quality of education in the country and every State has been asked to

frame their own Curriculum framework for achieving universal quality education. In line with this, the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** has now initiated steps to draft the "Tamil Nadu curriculum Framework, 2012" which would set very high standards for the State in future.

The higher secondary education is meant to be the stepping stone to Universities, Colleges and other higher education. Hence, there is a need to tune the present syllabus in the higher secondary to that of what is required in higher education. The last revision to the higher secondary syllabus was done in the year 2004-2005. The **Hon'ble Chief Minister** has now given consent to form a High Level Committee to study and recommend changes to the existing higher secondary syllabus so as to equip the children to face higher education with ease and comfort.

The School Education Department with seven Directorates, two Societies namely Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madyamik Shiksha Abhiyan exclusively formed for the promotion of elementary and secondary education, Teachers Recruitment Board and Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation has been striving hard to achieve universalisation of education. The Budget of 2011-12 of Rs.13333.66 crore has been increased by 9.15% to

Rs.14552.82 crore in 2012-13 to enable the School Education Department to carry out the vision.

Under the able guidance of the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** the State is poised to set very high standards of education for the children of Tamil Nadu by giving access to schools, quality education, adequate infrastructure and thereby achieve the '**Vision of Tamil Nadu**' to provide universal elementary and secondary education to all.

II. FINANCIAL OUTLAY

The outlay for School Education in 2012-13 in Demand No.43 is Rs. **14552.82** crore. Of this Rs.**2694.73** crore is under Plan Schemes.

Budget Estimate 2012-2013				
		(Rupees in Lakh)		
	Head of Account	Plan	Non-plan	Total
Revenue Section				
2059	Public Works	0.00	4042.00	4042.00
2202	General Education			
	01 Elementary Education	119239.88	579349.33	698589.21
	02 Secondary Education	105597.96	594769.74	700367.70
	04 Adult Education	500.01	121.50	621.51
	05 Language Development	2.52	1446.45	1448.97
	Total - General Education	225340.37	1175687.02	1401027.39
2204	Sports & Youth Services	494.54	232.87	727.41
2205	Art & Culture	0.01	4957.60	4957.61
2225	Welfare of SC & ST and Other Backward Classes	13465.60	44.41	13510.01
2235	Social Security and Welfare	0.00	346.07	346.07
2251	Secretariat-Social Service	0.00	476.72	476.72
	Revenue Section Net Total	239300.52	1185786.69	1425087.21
Capital Section				
4202	Capital Outlay	30172.29	0.00	30172.29
	Capital Section Total	30172.29	0.00	30172.29
Loan Section				
7610	Loans to Government Servants	0.00	4.91	4.91
7615	Miscellaneous Loans	0.00	0.49	0.49
	Loan Section Total	0.00	5.40	5.40
	Grand Total	269472.81	1185792.09	1455264.90
	ADD – Recoveries (Under Revenue Section)			17.31
	Grand Total for Demand No. 43			1455282.21

PART – II SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 2012-2013

Sl. No.	Details of the Scheme	Allocated outlay (Rs. in lakhs)
Secretariat - School Education Department		
1.	Computerisation of School Education Department	24.00
School Education		
2.	Provision of Laboratory Equipments to 100 Government Higher Secondary Schools	100.00
3.	Increasing Library Facilities for 100 High/100 Higher Secondary Schools.	40.00
4.	Provision of Computer Aided Language Learning Laboratories (CALL LAB) for 250 Government Higher Secondary Schools	25.00
5.	Computerisation of Directorate of School Education	33.50
6.	Provision of Fifteenvehicles for Chief Educational Officers and District Educational Officers for those whose old Vehicles already condemned.	90.00
7.	Purchase of Generator for Directorate of School Education	15.00
8.	Provision of Water Purifier system for Directorate of School Education	0.60
Elementary Education		
9.	Construction of 4 new Assistant Elementary Educational office Buildings	72.50
10.	Provision of Desktop Computers to the 32 District Elementary Educational officers and 3 Audit Wings in Trichy, Madurai and Cuddalore Districts	17.50
11.	Replacement of two jeeps to district	12.00

	Elementary Education Officers by replacing of condemned old vehicles for Karur and Tiruvarur Districts	
12.	Computerisation of Directorate of Elementary Education and Assistant Elementary Educational Offices with computers Printers, OHP, Fax Machines etc. with accessories	6.45
13.	Provision of furniture to the conference hall in the Directorate of Elementary Education	38.00
14.	One more bore well and motor for Directorate of Elementary Education	0.70
15.	Providing Water Purifier System for the use of Directorate of Elementary Education.	0.60
16.	Provison of furniture item to the staff of Directorate of Elementary Education	15.00
17.	Purchase of five Mobile Science Lab Van by replacing existing condemned vehicles	50.00
18.	Awareness Programme on RTE Act, 2009 to 413 Educational Block	33.04
19.	Conduction District Level Awareness Programme on RTE to 32 Districts	8.00
Matriculation Schools		
20.	Provision of Furniture for the office of the Inspector of Matriculation Schools, offices	1.50
21.	Provision of 2 Laptop computer for Director & Joint Director of Matriculation Schools	0.90
22.	Provision of Fax machines to all 15 Inspector of Matriculation Schools.	2.25
23.	Provision of Steel Rack and furnishing of Record Room for custody of	4.01

	permanent Records.	
Non-Formal and Adult Education		
24.	Provision of one Jeep for Joint Director	6.00
25.	Provision of 3 Air Conditioner for Director, Joint Director and Computer Room	1.20
26.	Provision of 1 Dot matrix High speed printer to the bill Section	1.50
27.	Provision of furniture for Director Room of Non-Formal and Adult Education	1.10
28.	Provision of Two Computer with Accessories for DAEO, Erode and Villupuram	1.00
29.	Provision of one Laptop to officers of Directorate of Non-Formal and Adult Education	0.45
30.	Provision of Wind Solar Hybrid System in the Non-Formal and Adult Education	10.50
Government Examinations		
31.	Digitalisation of records for Government Examination	10.00
32.	Construction of office . cum . godown to the office of the regional deputy director of Government Examinations, vellore.	60.00
33.	Purchase of Vehicles by replacement of four old Vehicles.	24.00
34.	Provision of 4 Laptops to officers of the Directorate of Government Examination	1.80
35.	Purchase of computer for data entry and processing	6.00
36.	Installation of surveillance camera with C.C.T.V	2.50
Teacher Education Research & Training		
37.	Strengthening of Directorate of Teacher	10.50

	Education Research & Training	
38.	Strengthening of District Institute of Education & Training	16.50
39.	Upgrading the Status of Directorate of Teacher Education Research & Training into State Council of Education, Research & Training	6.40
Public Libraries		
40.	Construction and Establishment of Children wing in Coimbatore District Library.	50.00
TOTAL		800.00

III. TAMIL NADU RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION RULES, 2011.

The Government of India have enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 for providing free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. The Act came into effect from 1st of April, 2010. **The Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011** was issued in November, 2011 to ensure implementation of the Act.

State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT) has been designated as the nodal agency to organize training on RTE Act by the Government. The Joint Director (Schemes), SCERT has been nominated as the Nodal Officer for clarifying RTE related queries and supervising RTE related Activities. An RTE cell has been created in SCERT with telephone connections (044-28278742, 28211391) open to public to clarify their queries.

Documents developed

SCERT has developed a training manual incorporating the Central Act, Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011, the Government Orders issued by the Government. Besides, a booklet of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), Information

Brochure has been prepared by SCERT and these materials have been provided to all the officers of education department, principals of matriculation schools, headmasters and teachers.

Training Programmes

The Government have proposed to organize training to all stakeholders in order to implement the Act effectively. The training on RTE Act, Rules and Government Orders has been organized for Chief Educational Officers, Additional Chief Educational Officers, Principals of DIETs, District Educational Officers, District Elementary Educational Officers, Inspectors of Matriculation Officers, Assistant Elementary Educational Officers, BRC Supervisors, Block Resource Teacher Educators, Headmasters and teachers. SCERT has organized a series of training programmes to various stakeholders of education department. The list of training programmes held is as follows.

1.	Orientation Training to all CEOs, DIET Principals, DEOs, DEEOs and IMS
2.	Key Resource Person Training to HMs and DIET faculty
3.	Resource Person Training to all BRTEs of Krishnagiri District
4.	Orientation Training for the selected Principals and HMs of Matriculation, Anglo-Indian, Aided, Self-financing and CBSE schools

5.	Capacity Building Programme for DIET faculty members
6.	Key Resource Person Training to BRTEs from each district
7.	Training to Office bearers of Teacher Associations, PTA members and Principals of self-financing schools
8.	District level training to AEEOs, BRC Supervisors and BRTEs
9.	Training to all Primary and Upper Primary teachers by SSA
10.	Training to the Principals and Correspondents of Matriculation Schools

Programmes on the Anvil

In order to sensitize the public on the RTE Act in all districts through cultural programmes, 30 volunteers in each block will be selected. These volunteers would be given orientation training on the RTE Act, Rules, Government orders and Guidelines. The volunteers in turn, would sensitize the public through cultural programmes on implementation of RTE Rules.

IV. POLICY AND SCHEMES

1. WELFARE SCHEMES

1.1. Introduction

This Government has the welfare of the children as its priority, as a result of which many benefits have been given to the children. This would not only encourage the children to go to school but would also help them in improving their performance.

In addition to the existing schemes of providing noon meal to children in the classes I to X, supply of one set uniform to the children in the classes I to VIII, textbooks to children in classes I to XII, supply of bicycles to children in Class XI to children studying in Government and Government Aided schools, Bus passes to children studying classes I to XII in all schools the following new schemes have been announced and implemented.

WELFARE MEASURES TO STUDENTS - NEW SCHEMES

1.2. Supply of Four sets of Uniforms

In order to benefit school going children, supply of two sets of uniforms for children studying in Government /Government Aided schools in classes I to VIII were ordered

to be supplied in the year 2011-12. 46.97 lakh children have been supplied with two sets of uniforms at a cost of Rs.164.72 crore.

Realising that two sets of uniforms may not be adequate for the children, this Government has announced supply of four sets of uniforms for children in classes I to VIII for the year 2012-13. To keep in pace with the changing trends the boys studying in classes VI to VIII will be provided with full pant and shirt and the girls studying in classes VI to VIII will be provided with Salwar Kameez. A sum of Rs.329.89 crore has been allotted in the budget, 2012-13 for the supply of uniforms to 48.63 lakh children.

1.3. Special Cash Incentive scheme

With a view to reducing the dropping out of children from schools in higher classes, this Government is implementing a scheme of giving special cash incentives to all students studying in the 10th, 11th and 12th standards in Government and Government aided schools. An incentive of Rs.1500 for tenth and eleventh students and Rs.2,000 for twelfth students is being deposited in the name of each student in a public sector finance company and will be given as cash with interest on completion of schooling. In the year 2011-12, Rs.313.13 crore has been invested in the names of

students and in the coming financial year, a sum of Rs.366.70 crore has been provided in the Budget in order to benefit 21.36 lakh students.

1.4. Supply of Laptops to students of class XII

The Government have issued orders for providing Laptop Computers free of cost to the students studying in Standard XII in all the Government / Government aided schools and in the State to facilitate them in acquiring better learning skills.

For the year 2011-2012 Laptops were to be given to 5,30,729 students studying in classes XII in 3,118 Government and Government Aided Higher Secondary Schools, of which 5,640 Laptops have been distributed to the students. The remaining 5,25,089 students and the 5,50,947 students for the year 2012-13 in all 10,76,036 students will be provided with Laptops by the end of the year 2012-13.

1.5. Supply of Footwear

Children with bare feet may be susceptible to certain contagious diseases. In order to prevent the same, the Government have announced supply of a pair of footwear without cost to all school children studying in Government / Government Aided schools from Standard I to X. A sum of Rs.100 crore has been allocated in the budget, 2012-13. This scheme will benefit 81 lakh children.

1.6. Educational Kits

In order to make the learning process easy and child friendly, Special educational kits will be provided to students during 2012-13. Under this scheme the following kits will be given to the students.

Item	Standards	Number of Students (Numbers in lakh)
School Bag	I to XII	92.28
Colour Pencil	I to V	35.00
Geometry Box	VI to X	46.01
Atlas	VI to X	46.01

The above items will be supplied to the students in the academic year 2012-13. An amount of Rs.136.50 crore has been provided in the budget, 2012-13.

1.7. Supply of Notebooks

As the Government is providing all the items required for students the only other item left out was notebooks. Hence, the Government have proposed to provide notebooks also without cost to all the students from Standard I to X in Government and Government Aided schools from the coming academic year. A sum of Rs.150 crore has been provided in the Budget, 2012-13. Under this scheme 81 lakh students will be benefited.

1.8. Introduction of Chess Game

Chess game will be introduced for all students in Government / Government Aided schools in the age group of 7 to 17 years from the year 2012-13. Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu and the Directorate of School Education have jointly undertaken the task of establishing Chess clubs in the schools with the main objective of nurturing talents in students and conducting School, Zonal, District and State Level competitions.

Training will be offered to the teachers at school level, district level and state level in order to take forward this programme to National and International level.

WELFARE MEASURES TO STUDENTS – ONGOING SCHEMES

1.9. Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme

Free Noon Meal Under Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme is being given to 46.97 lakh children in classes I to X for the year 2011-12, and to 48.63 lakh children in classes I to X for the year 2012-13.

1.10. Supply of Textbooks

Textbooks for all subjects are supplied to all children studying in standards I to XII in Government and

Government Aided Schools. 7.6 crore number of textbooks were printed and 92 lakh students were benefitted in the year 2011-12.

As the Government has introduced the trimester pattern for the year 2012-13, 8 crore number of textbooks are being printed and 92 lakh number of students will be benefitted.

1.11. Bus Pass

Bus Pass is being given to the students from Standard I to XII studying in all schools to enable them to access school. By this scheme 14.02 lakh students are being benefitted.

1.12. Financial Assistance for students who have lost their bread winning parents

This scheme is meant for the students whose bread winning parent (father or mother) dies in an accident or is rendered permanently incapacitated. The Government is keen to ensure that the school children's education is not affected under these unforeseen dire circumstances. The students studying in I to XII Standards of Government, Government Aided Schools will get Rs.50,000/- and it will be deposited in the name of the student in a public sector

undertaking. 4,968 students have been benefitted under this scheme till 2011-12.

AWARDS / BENEFITS TO TEACHERS

1.13. Dr.Radhakrishnan Award

Tamil Nadu Government have been giving the Best Teacher Award since 1960. From 1997 the name of the Award has been changed as Dr.Radha Krishnan Award and is being given every year on the 5th of September. In the year 2011-12, 359 teachers have been recognised and awarded with cash prize of Rs.5000/-, Silver medal and a Certificate of Appreciation.

1.14. National Award for Teachers

The National Award for teachers has been instituted by the Government of India for the best teachers from all over India. In Tamil Nadu, 22 teachers from Primary, Middle, High and Higher Secondary Schools are being given this award. The teachers selected by the Government of India are given the National Award by the President of India on the Teachers Day at New Delhi. The National Award consists of a cash prize of Rs.25,000/, a Silver Medal and a Certificate of Appreciation.

1.15. National Foundation for Teachers Welfare

National Teachers Welfare foundation was established in 1962. The Hon'ble Minister for School Education is the Ex-officio Chairman of the Foundation. It functions under the supervision of the Director of School Education who acts as its Ex-officio secretary. The expenditure for implementing the Teachers Welfare Scheme is met from the sale of Teacher's Day Flag.

1.16. Medical Assistance for Teachers

Under this scheme, Rs.50,000/- or 75% of the total expenditure whichever is less, is sanctioned as financial assistance to teachers or their dependents afflicted with serious ailments.

1.17. Educational Assistance to children's of teachers

A stipend of Rs.5,000/- and Rs.2,500/- respectively is given for the children of teachers, who pursue professional degree course or diploma course. An amount of Rs.41.00 lakh was disbursed towards Education Assistance to 842 students for the year 2011-12.

2. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) INITIATIVES

2.1. Introduction

The Government has laid out an ICT road map for developing the basic skills and concept of ICT as a part of the core of school education along side reading, writing, mastering other subjects.

Presently, all the high and higher secondary schools in Tamil Nadu are provided with computers, printers, multimedia projectors, UPS along with required furniture. All these schools have also been given internet connectivity. Educational software and CD ROMs, CD and application software have also been provided as an integral part of the ICT package.

The purpose of providing the above ICT package is to establish an enabling environment in the school to promote the use of computers so as to help the children to think analytically and use self learning skills for understanding the subjects. The online facility enables the students to assimilate information from various sources for better understanding.

The Government have also trained the teaching faculties to learn the use of ICT tools and various applications so as to help the students to access information on various subjects, to prepare students at the secondary and higher secondary level and to enable the students to master in computer literacy and the basic computer skills.

The above objectives of using ICT and IT enabled services for imparting good quality education has led to the following initiatives of the Government.

2.2. Education Management Information System (EMIS)

Currently, the School Education Department, operates with the help of the National Informatics Centre for communication and website. This Department with such a vast network and database surely requires a portal by itself. With this in mind the Government have announced creating an Education Management Information System (EMIS).

The portal of the School Education Department will have the entire database of schools, teachers, students, officials by the end of 2012-13. The portal/website, the Education Content Server (ECS), Intra-Departmental Communication etc., will be activated. By the end of 2012-13 entire data base of all the schools will be uploaded into

the EMIS making it available to all users. This will surely improve the quality of communication and data and will help in data analysis and data mining.

2.3. SMS based attendance

The Honorable Chief Minister has announced that in order to monitor the proper functioning of teachers a SMS based application will be developed for monitoring the attendance of the teachers. A special application has been developed for the same and integrated as a part of the EMIS. This application will be activated when the schools reopen on the 1st of June 2012 for the next academic year. The attendance of the teaching and non-teaching staff will be communicated by the Headmasters to the Central Server which will in turn transmit the information to all the higher officials of the School Education Department. This will bring discipline and ensure availability of teachers in the class rooms.

2.4. Smart Card

A unique identification of every child is very essential in order to monitor the migration of the child, drop out from schools, health status etc. From 1st of June 2012, all the children in the Government and Government Aided schools will be provided with the Smart Card which will consist of all

the details pertaining to the child and the same will be stored in the central server. This complete data of the children will be very useful for providing all the facilities to the children as per their requirements. This Card is also integrated with the EMIS.

2.5. Education Content Server (ECS)

Having provided Laptops and Computers to the Children it is essential to provide relevant content to help them perform better. The EMIS server would have e-versions of various contents and resources that would help the teaching, learning process for both curricular and co-curricular activities. The unique feature of this ECS would be that contents could be updated online on a regular basis.

2.6. ICT in schools

This programme is a component of the centrally sponsored scheme of the eleventh plan wherein computers are provided to schools on a sharing basis of 75:25 between the Government of India and State Government. 431 high schools and 1910 higher secondary schools totally 2341 schools will be provided Information and Communication Technology facility through the BOOT+ model over a period of five years commencing from the year 2011-12 at a total cost

of Rs.149.82 crore and as first instalment for the year 2011-12 an amount of Rs.31.21 crore has been sanctioned by the Government. This scheme is expected to benefit 29,06,184 students.

2.7. Smart Schools

In Smart Schools the emphasis would not only be on the use of Information Technology but also on the use of skills and values that will be imparted in the next millennium. It is expected that such smart schools will help the students to perform better with the use of ICT.

Five smart schools have been sanctioned under the State Government scheme at a cost of Rs.25 lakh per school at a total cost of Rs.1.25 crore. Thiruchendurai, Aylapettai, Ettarai, Somarasampettai and Inamkulathur Government Higher Secondary Schools in Tiruchirapalli District will be provided with Smart Class facilities.

Five other Smart Schools have been sanctioned during 2011-12 at a cost of Rs.25 lakh per school for a total of Rs.1.25 crore. R.Puthupalayam, Namakkal District, Periyakulam, Theni District, Veeracholan, Virudhunagar District, Palani, Dindigul District, Melur, Madurai District Government Higher Secondary Schools will be provided with

Smart Classes under the scheme with the assistance of Central Government shared between centre and state in the ratio of 75:25.

2.8. Project Shiksha

This is a programme being done in collaboration with Microsoft. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with Microsoft for providing comprehensive computer training to teachers in Government Schools. The MOU will be extended for the year 2012-13 to cover 25 teachers per batch per block in seven districts.

2.9. ICT @ Schools

The ICT in schools programme has been enabling high and higher secondary schools with computer facilities. Hence, this Government has announced '**ICT @ Schools programme**' to provide computer facilities to the primary and upper primary schools so as to train the children at a very young age in the use of computers. Under this programme 20,420 schools will be provided with computers commencing from the year 2012-13 in a phased manner up to 2015-16. Along with the computers multimedia projectors with screens will also be supplied to the schools. This will help the middle schools, high schools and higher secondary

schools to be integrated and will help to learn the subject through the computer with the help of internet.

2.10. Computer Education to Students in Standards VI To X

Computer science courses both in Tamil and English medium has been introduced for standards VI to X. The books for this course will be distributed to students studying in Government High and Higher Secondary Schools.

2.11. Computer Aided Language Learning Laboratories (CALL Lab)

In 248 Government Higher Secondary Schools, the existing computer labs have been converted into Computer Aided Language Labs by providing software and hardware materials at a cost of Rs.25.00 lakh.

3. ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

3.1. Introduction

The States Endeavour is to ensure that all children between the age group of 6-14 are enrolled in the school system. It is with this noble cause that the Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011 was notified by the Government in November 2011. The State aims not only to provide necessary infrastructure for primary and upper primary education, but also will ensure 100% enrolment of children between the age group of 6-14 in the regular school system by the end of 2012-13.

The State, in order to focus on primary education set up a separate Directorate in the year 1986 to cater to the needs of primary education. In the past two and half decades this Directorate has been instrumental in the growth of primary education and has helped to achieve the present Net Enrolment Rate (NER) of 99.63% in primary and 98.88% in upper primary respectively. As assured in the Budget 2012-13 this Directorate will strive hard to achieve the 100% enrollment level in the State.

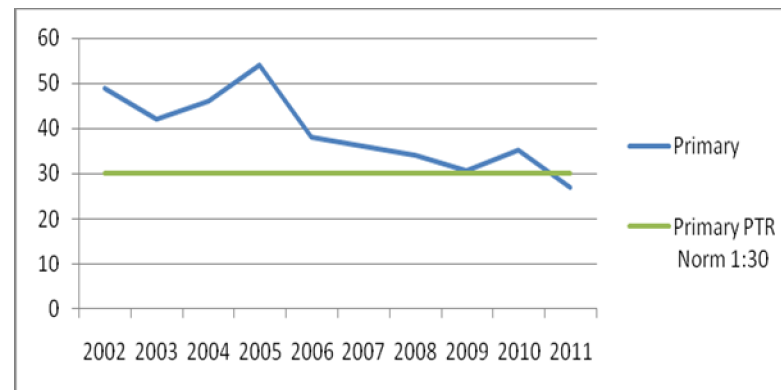
The Directorate is headed by a senior Director, assisted by two Joint Directors and ably supported by 4491 non-teaching staff. Under its administrative control there are

34871 primary schools, 9969 middle (upper primary) schools with students strength of 53.31 lakh comprising of 31.79 Lakh in primary and 21.52 in middle schools. The quality of education being the most important aspect of primary education, the Government has taken all efforts to strengthen the schools with sufficient number of teachers. There are currently 1.36 lakh teachers in primary schools and 0.75 lakh teachers in upper primary schools forming 25.46% and 14.55% of the total number of teachers in the State. This is being further strengthened by recruitment of 7907 Secondary Grade Teachers, 3142 Graduate Assistants and 1871 Headmasters. The process of recruitment, promotion of teachers will be completed by 2012-13.

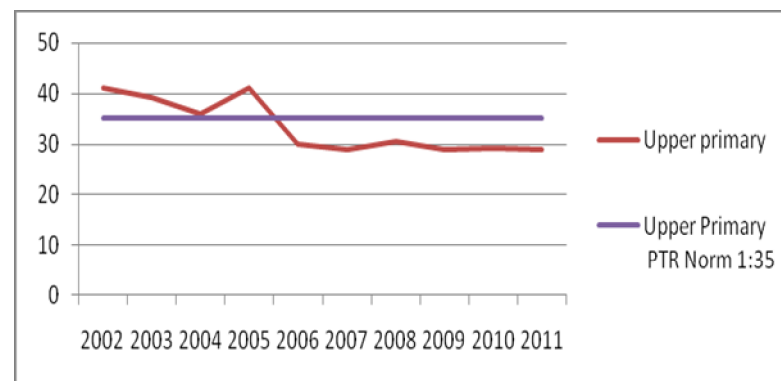
The State is well ahead of the Teacher Pupil Ratio as prescribed by the RTE Act. At the primary level, the state PTR has moved from 1:41 in 2002-2003 to 1:27 in 2011-12 as against the requirement of 1:30 and for the upper primary level from 1:49 in 2002-03 to 1:29 in 2011-12 as against the requirement of 1:35.

Category	PTR as per requirement	State PTR
Primary	1:30	1:27
Upper primary	1:35	1:29

Trend in PTR Primary



Trend in PTR Upper primary



3.2. Vision

To make quality elementary education available to all school going children in the age group of six to fourteen

years along with holistic personality development, creativity, moral, ethical and cultural values. To reach out to the out of school children and achieve 100% enrollment by 2012-13.

3.3. Objectives

To achieve the vision of providing quality elementary education and achieving 100% enrolment the Directorate has set the following objectives:

- To ensure easy access by providing a primary school within 1 km radius and upper primary school within 3 km radius of the neighborhood
- To offer quality elementary education to all needy children.
- To ensure universal enrolment and 100% retention
- To empower the children with knowledge and to bring out their hidden inherent talents.
- To reduce the book load by implementing Trimester.
- To ensure the holistic development of the child through Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation.
- Equity based approach on Inclusive Education by focusing on the needs of children with special needs.
- To ensure adequate infrastructure facilities in schools.
- To ensure effective implementation of the provision of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and rules
- To ensure effective implementation of Government welfare schemes and to provide necessary

educational accessories to children for successful completion of Elementary Education.

- To regulate the functioning of all types of Private School imparting Elementary Education as per norms and Standards prescribed under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.
- To ensure academic and administrative excellence by effective monitoring.
- To ensure the implementation of all the Acts, Rules, Orders issued by the Government from time to time

3.4. Access to Elementary Education

In order to provide 100% access and to impart quality elementary education to the school aged children, every year Government opens new primary schools and upgrades primary schools into upper primary schools on the basis of need. Primary schools are opened within a radius of 1 km and upper primary schools within a radius of 3 kms of the neighbourhood consisting of habitations of 300 population and 500 population respectively. In the year 2011-2012, 65 primary schools have been upgraded into middle schools catering to 4709 rural children with the teacher strength of 195.

3.5. Infrastructure

With the support of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), necessary infrastructure facilities, required for the schools

such as classrooms for headmasters, class rooms for new schools and additional class rooms as per the strength of children, drinking water, kitchen sheds, compound walls and toilet facilities are provided. Specialized infrastructure facilities such as ramps, modified toilets are also being provided for the comfort of the children with special needs. In the year 2011-12, Rs. 441.15 crore, of works have been initiated for the benefit of the children, as detailed below.

Sl. No.	Civil works	Physical target
1	Head Teacher Room (Primary)	139
2	Head Teacher Room (Upper Primary)	705
3	Additional Class Room (Rural)	4237
4	Additional Class Room (Hill Area)	24
5	Toilet / Urinals	3404
6	Separate Girls Toilets	7262
7	Drinking water facility (urban area)	3356
8	Kitchen Shed	10
9	Compound Wall	366487 meters
10	Compound wall (Hill area)	15342 meters

3.6. Appointments

Qualified and efficient teachers are *sine qua non* for quality education. Hence, to ensure quality in education, adequate number of qualified teachers are being appointed

by transparent selection process through Teachers Recruitment Board.

Teaching Staff (Secondary Grade Teachers, Graduate Assistants and Headmasters)

In the year 2011-12, 1040 persons have been appointed as primary school headmasters and 831 persons as middle school headmasters. As assured, the Government has initiated the process of recruitment of 7907 Secondary Grade Teachers and 3142 Graduate Assistants and has announced the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET), which is mandatory as per the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and these recruitment would be completed by end of June 2012.

Part time teachers

Realising the importance of co-scholastic areas a special initiative has been taken by this Government and for the first time 16549 part time teachers have been appointed in middle schools. These teachers will enable the children to harness their hidden talents. The teachers have been recruited in the fields of physical and health education, art education, work education comprising of music, sewing, horticulture, life skills and communication skills, machinery and computer application.

Assistant Elementary Educational Officers

Monitoring and inspection being a very important aspect of good administration the State has appointed 34 Assistant Elementary Educational Officers in 2011-12.

3.7. Enhancement of Quality of Education

This Government realizes that merely adding infrastructures in the form of building and teachers alone will not achieve the noble objective of making the children of Tamil Nadu compete at the national and international level. Keeping this in mind the Government has taken many initiatives to improve the quality of education. The most important among them being the introduction of the Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) System which will enable the children to move away from mere rote learning to analytical thinking and bring out the hidden inherent potentialities and talents. Further, focus is laid on improving the teaching quality of the teachers by capacity building initiatives, simplification of learning materials so as to help the child to experience the joy of learning.

3.8. Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE)

To bring out the hidden inherent potentialities and talents from each and every child the CCE, an innovative

evaluation pattern is going to be implemented from the ensuing academic year 2012 . 2013 for the classes I to VIII. The CCE will help the child to evaluate him / herself in a continuous manner so as to be addressed to the rest of the class. Further, it will help to reduce the mental stress, physical strain and overcome the fear of the examination. Under this evaluation system both scholastic and co-scholastic areas will be taken into consideration for pupil evaluation. The Activity Based Learning (ABL) methodologies has already been in vogue in the schools for classes I to IV which has been adopting a continuous evaluation of the child to assess the child's comprehensive level and all round development.

Term wise Grades will be awarded in the following manner

Marks	Grade	Grade Point*
91-100	A1	10
81-90	A2	9
71-80	B1	8
61-70	B2	7
51-60	C1	6
41-50	C2	5
33-40	D	4
21-32	E1	-
20 & below	E2	-

To ensure the effective implementation of CCE, intensive training is being imparted by the State Council for Education, Research and Training (SCERT). A public awareness campaign on this innovative evaluation system will also be done throughout the State with the help of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and State Council for Education, Research and Training.

3.9. Capacity Building of Teachers

A high quality of learning experience in a child-centered environment is possible only in an atmosphere where the teacher is well equipped. In-service training conducted by the State Council for Education, Research and Training and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan would be intensified and focused in order to enhance the role of the teacher as a facilitator.

The newly appointed teachers would be given Entry Level Training for improving their teaching capacity and to adopt themselves to teach to suit the SABL methodology and Continuous & Comprehensive Evaluation. It is felt important to train the teachers in aspects of child psychology, Environmental Education, Early Childhood Education, Maths Education, life skills, First Aid and Students Safety in collaboration with UNICEF and TamilNadu Science

& Technology Centre. These specialised training modules would help the teacher to handle the children and parents better.

3.10. Simplified Activity Based Learning (SABL)

To make learning burden less, joyful and practical, the Activity Based Learning (ABL) methodology has been further simplified for children studying in Standards I to IV. This Simplified Activity Based Learning (SABL) has the following features.

- Integration of Text books and Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation
- Inclusion of Higher order thinking skills
- Inclusion of project based activities
- Special emphasis on reading, writing and listening skills

Reduced number of activity cards / mile stones

Activity cards	Tamil	English	Maths	Science	Social Science
Number of Old Cards	874	1649	914	825	384
Number of New Cards	321	342	404	416	230
No. of Old Milestones	64	48	64	50	31
No. of New Milestones	39	29	40	47	26

For the smooth transition from primary to upper primary Simplified Active Learning Methodology (SALM) is being followed for students of class V. This will be reinforced and bridged appropriately to help the child to step into the Active Learning Methodology followed in Classes VI to VIII.

3.11. Active Learning Methodology (ALM)

The Active Learning Methodology is being followed in Standards VI to VIII to enhance the analytical thinking of students. This methodology will be restructured to integrate into the Continuous & Comprehensive Evaluation system so as to enable the students to learn not only the scholastic subjects but also the co-scholastic subjects viz. Life skills, Work Experience, Co-curricular Activities Scouts, Guides, NSS, etc.

LEARNING WITHOUT BURDEN

Understanding the need to reduce the stress of examination in children the Government have conceived the novel Trimester system as a forerunner in the country. Coupled with this the Government has reduced considerably

the burden of books by splitting a year's textbook into three parts, thereby reducing the book load carried by the Children.

3.12. Trimester System

As per the announcement made by the Honorable Chief Minister in the election Manifesto to reduce the load of books the trimester system will be introduced in all schools from the academic year 2012-13 for classes I to VIII.

This system ensures that the children need to carry only the books needed for the relevant term. This will substantially reduce the book load of children physically and also remove the psychological fear in the young minds.

The academic year will be divided into three terms as follows:

I Term	June, July, August & September
II Term	October, November & December
III Term	January, February, March & April

The contents of the books have activities integrated in the text book in such a way so as to evaluate the children in Scholastic and Co-Scholastic areas.

3.13. Reducing the Burden of Books

Studies conducted nationally and internationally have recommended that the load of school bags should not be more than 10% to 15% of the body weight of the child. Keeping this in mind the syllabus of the academic year 2012-13 has been divided into three parts and textbooks have been reduced in size to accommodate the portions only for the relevant term.

In the first term of the academic year 2012-13 for classes I to V one unit book consolidating all subjects and for classes VI to VIII two unit books consolidating subjects language and English in book 1 and Maths, Science and Social Studies in book 2 are being introduced.

The Table below indicates the reduction in weight as compared to the past. This Government is sure that this will save the children from the musculoskeletal problems like kyphotic posture, scoliosis etc.

COMPARISON OF OLD BOOKS WITH TRIMESTER BOOKS						
Stand-ard	Weight Comparison (In kilogram)				Book comparison	
	Average weight of Student		Existing Weight of Bag	Weight of the Trimester Bag	Number of textbooks issued before trimester	No. of Text Books going to be issued after Trimester
	Boys	Girls				
I	15	12	3	1.5	4	1
II	18	14	3	1.5	4	1
III	19	17	4	2	5	1
IV	19	17	4	2	5	1
V	27	25	5	2.5	5	1
VI	31	29	7	3.25	5	2
VII	33	31	7	3.35	5	2
VIII	37	35	7	3.75	5	2

SPEICAL INITIATIVES

3.14 Enhancing Science Education

In order to inculcate **scientific attitude** and **scientific temper** among the young children science awareness programmes and science exhibitions will be conducted at school, cluster, block and district level with the support of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Tamil Nadu science and Technology Centre.

To enhance the science education, training on **hands on experiences**± for conducting science experiments are being given to Assistant Elementary Educational Officers (Science) and science teachers with the support of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre. The same will be intensified.

In addition to that, the mobile science vans which act as mobile laboratories, to impart science education to children in primary and upper primary classes will be equipped with experiments integrated in the textbooks to help the children understand better. The mobile science van will focus specially in remote areas.

3.15. Mobile Library

To introduce the habit of reading at an early age, books on science, general knowledge etc. will be distributed through the mobile libraries.

This would enable the children to acquire %knowledge beyond textbook+enhance and enrich their competencies.

3.16. Administration and Monitoring

To improve the administration and Financial Administration at Block level and District Level periodical

intensive training programmes will be organized with the support of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, SCERT, Local Fund Audit Department and Anna Institute of Management.

Inspection Cells will be formed at state level, district level to conduct periodical inspection and surprise inspection in field offices to tone up the administration. In order to enhance the performance of Assistant Elementary Educational Officers capacity building training on Academic and Administrative Audit will be given.

3.17. Regulating Un-Aided (Self-Finance) Primary and Middle Schools / Nursery and Primary Schools

The Government have fixed clear cut norms for according recognition / approval to private and self finance schools in order to ensure the safety and security of the children. Appropriate action will be initiated against those educational institutions which do not comply with these norms.

4. SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

4.1. Introduction

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), a centrally sponsored scheme of Government of India has been operating as the facilitator of Elementary Education since 2001-2002. The project works in close co-ordination with the Directorate of Elementary Education in handhold the Directorate in achieving their objectives of providing quality elementary education available to all school going children in the age group of 6-14.

The introduction of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 has enhanced further the important role to be played by SSA in promoting Elementary Education by ensuring 100% enrollment of children in the formal school system. The programme also lays special emphasis on main streaming children who are out of schools (OoSC), urban deprived and children with special needs (CWSN). In order to reduce the gender and social gap in enrollment in schools, special programmes are initiated for enrolling girls, minorities and SC/ST.

The SSA programme is operated on a sharing pattern between the Centre and State in the ratio of 65:35.

In the Annual Work Plan of 2011-12, an amount of Rs.1891.42 crore was sanctioned by the Central Government and the State share of Rs.617.89 crore was sanctioned to the SSA programme. For the year 2012-13 an amount of Rs.2000 crore has been recommended in the Annual Work Plan and an amount of Rs.700 crore has been provided in the State's budget.

The 13th Finance Commission has lent a helping hand to the State for effectively implementing the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and has sanctioned an amount of Rs.111 crore in the year 2010-11 and Rs.126 crore for the year 2011-12. It is expected to get an amount of Rs.141 crore for the year 2012-13.

In the coming financial year the state has taken a very important step to ensure implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 as laid out in the Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011 in ensuring education for all children in the age group of 6-14. It has been made possible to bring about equality in education for the children belonging to the neighbourhood by reserving 25% of the strength of the total children at entry stage in Private unaided schools. This reservation is for the disadvantaged groups

and weaker sections. It is the State's primary objective that all children who have not had an opportunity to go to school to get enrolled in schools by the end of the academic year 2012-13 to ensure that 100% enrollment is achieved.

The two main focus areas of SSA will be to improve quality of education and school infrastructure in the year 2012-13.

4.2.Vision

To provide Universal Elementary Education by providing equal opportunities to all, thereby enable free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14. To ensure 100% enrollment in the schools without social and gender gap.

4.3. Objectives

In order to achieve the aim set by the State as spelt in the Budget of 2012-13, the following areas would be focused on:-

- To arrive at a clear picture of current availability of primary schools within 1 km and upper primary schools within 3 kms of neighbourhood by taking up a comprehensive school mapping. This would facilitate children to access schools in their neighbourhood.

- To improve social access:
 - Providing 25% reservation to children belonging to disadvantaged groups and weaker section in private unaided schools.
 - Ensuring no exclusionary practices are followed in the school especially those based on caste, class, gender and special needs.
- To enroll 100% at primary level, and upper primary level, and to cover Out of School Children (OoSC),
 - Immediate enrolments in schools
 - Special Training to enable the child to be on par with the other children
 - Continuous support to the child once admitted to regular school so that the child can integrate with the class socially, emotionally and academically
 - to cover the children who are out of school
 - to cover the urban deprived and children without adult protection
 - to provide residential facilities to serve children in sparsely populated areas

- to provide transportation / escort facilities to children in remote habitation
- To give emphasis on girls education supporting measures like transport, academic and counseling are planning to be provided. Residential schools to be provided exclusively for girls to check dropouts.
- To provide inclusive education to all children with special needs in general schools. Irrespective of the kind, category and degree of the disability every child with special needs will be provided quality inclusive education.

ACTIVITIES OF SSA

The SSA has laid out a plan for the year 2012-13 for achieving the goals as mentioned above. The plan could be broadly classified as

1. Access
2. Retention
3. Enhancing Qualities
4. Bridging Gender and Social Gaps
5. Infrastructure for schools
6. Girls Education
7. Annual Grant

4.4. Access and Retention

Eventhough there are 44905 schools in the state for elementary education, the Net Enrollment Ratio is 99.26%. Hence special efforts are being taken in the academic year 2012-13 to increase the enrollment to reach 100%.

The State proposes to start residential school for children in sparsely populated areas, dense forest / tribal areas and for urban deprived / street children who do not have any adult protection.

In addition to providing residential schools, the State also proposes to provide transport facilities to children in remote areas to reach nearby schools. This is expected to cover 4857 children in very remote areas.

Specific intervention in the form of enrollment drive direct admission, residential and non-residential special training centres would be taken up. The children so identified will be enrolled in formal school and then provided with special training through the residential and non-residential mode. The Non-Governmental Organisation and Self-Help group would be involved in operating the residential special training centres.

The children so enrolled would be continuously monitored and tracked to prevent dropouts. An amount of Rs.43.65 crore has been sanctioned for special training to retain out of school children.

For the first time in the programme of SSA an amount of Rs.78.80 crore has been earmarked for providing two sets of uniforms to children in elementary schools.

4.5. Enhancing Qualities

The programme of Simplified Activity Based Learning (SABL) envisaged by the Directorate of Elementary Education for classes I to IV will be supported by the SSA. An amount of Rs.4.50 crore has been earmarked for the same. Apart from this an amount of Rs.4.28 crore has been allotted for the Continuous & Comprehensive Evaluation.

6419 Block Resource Teacher Educators (BRTE) play a major role in monitoring the elementary schools with regard to the schemes implemented by the Government. The BRTE will be involved in implementing the initiatives of the State Government for improving the quality of education viz. Continuous & Comprehensive Evaluation, Simplified Activity Based Learning, etc., apart from their regular activities. An amount of Rs.345 crore has been earmarked for the establishment of the BRTE.

The Capacity Building of teachers is an important component of enhancing qualities of education. For the year 2011-12, an amount of Rs.30.92 crore was earmarked and utilized. For the year 2012-13 it has been enhanced to Rs.42.19 crore. This will ensure to improve the quality of education in the State.

Under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, it has been instructed to form a School Management Committee (SMC) in all primary and elementary schools. The role of this committee is to prepare a school development plan in order to upgrade the school from its present level to a higher level. It is felt important that sufficient hand holding and training has to be offered to the SMCs. An amount of Rs.27.25 crore has been earmarked for providing this specialized training.

The importance laid by the State on enhancing quality is apparent from the fact that an amount of Rs.69.44 crore has been earmarked for capacity building of teachers, parent and management.

4.6. Bridging Gender and Social Gaps

It has been of great concern that girls, minorities, SC/STs and children with special needs are not being

enrolled 100% in the formal schools. To overcome this, the State has been operating special schemes viz, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) programme, National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) for increasing enrollment of girls in elementary education.

There are 61 KGBV residential schools in 45 educational by backward blocks in 12 districts covering 1076 Scheduled Caste girls, 968 Scheduled Tribe girls, 2400 BC, MBC girls, 22 girls belonging to minority communities totally 4466 girls. This programme has been very successful as it has helped to mainstream 2230 girl students to secondary education in regular schools. These children are also taught vocational skills apart from regular education. An amount of Rs.15.43 crore has been allotted for the year 2012-13.

937 model cluster schools have been established in the NPEGEL in 37 educationally backward blocks in 11 districts covering 2,31,399 girls. These model clusters are set up in regular schools so as to retain the girls upto elementary level. The girl children are trained in skill-building activities and in art and crafts. An amount of Rs.4.86 crore has been earmarked for the year 2012-13.

The SC/ST and Minority girl children are also taken for educational tours and exposure visits. Around 1,49,411 girls are benefitted by these visits. An amount of Rs. 4.35 crore has been earmarked for the year 2012-13.

4.7. Children with Special needs

The State has embarked on special focus on mainstreaming the children with special needs. Children who are visually impaired, orthopedically impaired, children with autism, dyslexia, mentally retarded etc., are covered under the Inclusive Education Programme. There are 1,46,282 children covered under this initiatives at a unit cost of Rs.2500 per child. An amount of Rs.36.57 crore has been earmarked for the same.

4.8. Infrastructure for schools

The SSA caters to the needs of the Directorate of Elementary education by providing new schools, additional class rooms, rooms for headmasters, drinking water facilities, compound walls, toilets (general and for girls), facilities for physically challenged children, kitchen sheds, major and minor repairs. Furniture and Play elements have also been provided by SSA. An amount of Rs.464.96 crore

has been allotted for infrastructural development which is the highest amount so far allocated for SSA.

4.9. Annual Grant

The SSA provides grants for the following.

- a) Teacher Grant
- b) School Grant
- c) Maintenance Grant
- d) Research, Evaluation, Monitoring and Supervision

These grants are being provided for the upliftment of the quality of the school, capacity building of the teacher and better maintenance of the operation of SSA. An amount of Rs.69.91 crore have been earmarked for 2012-13 for the above mentioned grants.

4.10. Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

In the year 2011-12 an innovative programme called *Odhi Vilayadu Pappaq* has been evolved based on the activity based child-friendly curriculum in tune with NCF, 2005 and in convergence with the Integrated Child Development Services scheme of Social Welfare & Nutritious Meal Programme Department. This methodology is made on the principles of Montessori Education and Activity Based Learning. An amount of Rs.4.06 crore has been provided for 2012-13 for training the Anganwadi Workers and for

supplying material to 2550 centres. It has been planned to supply play kits, learning materials, instruction cards and picture cards to 5100 pilot centres out of the total identified 50,000 centres.

4.11. Budget Provision

The total Budget approved by the Project Approval Board, Government of India for SSA, KGBV and NPEGEL for the year 2011-12 was Rs.1891.42 crore.

For the year 2012-13, Project Approval Board has initially recommended Rs.2000.00 crore, out of this an amount of Rs.700 crore has been provided in the State budget. The 13th Finance Commission has already earmarked Rs.141 crore to SSA for the year 2012-13.

5. SECONDARY AND HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION

5.1. Introduction

The emphasis of the State Government is not only on achieving universalisation of elementary education but is equally on improving secondary and higher secondary education. The Directorate of School Education was set up in 1965 by the Government for upliftment of elementary and secondary education in the schools of Tamil Nadu. Later, the need was felt to form a Directorate exclusively to focus on secondary and Higher Secondary education and hence the Elementary Education was delinked from the Directorate of School Education in the year 1986 with a separate Directorate and the Directorate of School Education was put in a position to exclusively focus for the promotion of secondary and higher secondary education.

Since the formation of this Directorate the secondary and higher secondary education has taken a growth path and the number of high and higher secondary schools have increased from 5907 to 10117 by 2010-11. During the year 2011-12, 710 middle schools were upgraded to high schools and 100 high schools were upgraded to higher secondary schools resulting in total strength of 10827.

Owing to the increase in the number of schools spread over the state there has been a remarkable increase in enrollment in high and higher secondary schools from 36.28 lakh in 1995-96 to 61.49 lakh in 2011-12.

Despite the focus given by the State on improving secondary and higher secondary education the Net Enrolment Rate in high schools is 65.6 % and in higher secondary schools is 40.7 % as of 2011-12. Bearing this in mind, special emphasis has been laid in the **Vision Tamil Nadu 2023**, wherein one of the ten visions is to provide the best infrastructure services in India in terms of Universal access to among other things **Education**. The State in its budget of 2012-13, has also provided an amount of Rs.6936.38 crore for Secondary Education laid special emphasis on providing universal secondary education. Further the Government has announced and implemented a special cash incentive programme for students studying in X, XI and XII Standards in Government and Government Aided Schools with a view to reduce the dropout of children in higher classes. In the current year, Rs.313.13 crore has been invested in the names of the students as incentive Rs.1500 for classes X and XI students and Rs.2000 for class XII students. The cash incentive scheme will be continued in the coming financial year, and a sum of Rs.366.70 crore has

been provided in the budget so as to benefit 21.36 lakh students. As against the national dropout rate of 48% at the secondary level, the rate in Tamil Nadu is only 23.9%. However, the State proposes to operate many beneficial schemes for the students to control the dropout rate at the secondary level and bring it down substantially.

In order to encourage Secondary and Higher Secondary Education many novel schemes have been introduced viz. Distribution of Laptops to +2 students, providing of Geometric Box, Atlas, School Bags, Four sets of uniforms, pair of Footwear, etc.,

The Directorate aims to provide necessary infrastructure in the form of classrooms and teachers to offer quality education. Further, it enables children to move from elementary education to secondary education.

5.2. Vision

- Provision of universal high and higher secondary school access with required number of teachers to impart quality education

5.3. Objectives

- Provision of high school facilities within a distance of 5 kms and higher secondary school facilities within a distance of 8 km for all eligible habitations.
- Priority to be given for hilly and remote areas at habitations predominately with SC/ST and Minority children.
- Providing quality Secondary and Higher Secondary Education to all students in their appropriate age to bring out and sustain their all-round development . physical, social, emotional and intellectual development
- Ensuring quality education to all students irrespective of gender, community, socio-economic status and disabilities
- Provision of opportunities to all students in schools to improve *living and other skills, self confidence, pride and self control.*
- Enabling all students to acquire democratic values like *equality, fraternity, universal brotherhood, social justice etc.,*
- Disseminating health awareness education among students in schools

- Providing all required infrastructure facilities to schools to facilitate and achieve the above.
- Curtail dropout and thereby achieve cent percent enrolment of students in secondary and higher secondary classes.
- Provision of quality and life-related education and vocational skills to empower the students to face real life situations.
- Bridging the gap in educational attainments of students belonging to various social categories with special attention to SC/ST and minority students.
- Providing inclusive education for the differently-abled students.
- Enable Capacity Building for teachers for imparting quality education.
- Achieve improvement in performance of students in the board examinations by special initiatives.
- Implement and strictly adhere to the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009
- To ensure the implementation of all the Acts, Rules, Orders issued by the Government from time to time.

5.4. Strategies

The objectives of the Directorate of School Education is focused towards providing access with good infrastructure and quality education with special attention towards controlling dropout in order to achieve cent percent retention.

5.5. Infrastructure

This Government with an intention to increase the number of schools have sanctioned and upgraded a record number of 710 middle schools into high schools and 100 high schools into higher secondary schools, in the year 2011-12.

The upgraded schools and the existing schools have been provided with additional classrooms, furniture, Computer Aided Learning with the help of Computer labs, Science labs, Language Labs, Libraries, general toilets, girls toilets, drinking water facilities and compound wall.

In the year 2011-12, a total amount of Rs.1047.80 crore has been approved under Rahshtriya Madyamik Shiksha Abhiyan and NABARD loan assistance schemes for providing infrastructure facilities.

5.6. Recruitment of Teachers

The Government have taken efforts to appoint 9 Post Graduate Assistants in the upgraded 100 Higher Secondary schools. The teachers were appointed only for Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology subjects and English language which resulted in the neglect of the Arts subjects and Tamil language. Taking note of this, the Government have sanctioned four additional posts for Tamil, Commerce, History and Economics. This would largely benefit the rural students.

As the aim of the Government is to improve the performance of the students in the secondary education, sanction has been given for the following teacher posts.

Post Graduate Assistants	4207
Graduate Assistants	17380
Special Teachers	865
Agricultural Instructors	25

5.7. Capacity Building of Teachers

The Government's focus in the academic year 2012-13 is to enhance the quality of education and thereby the performance of students in the board examinations conducted at secondary and higher secondary level. The present pass percentage of students based on the board

examination for the year 2010-11 is 85.30% in standard X and 85.90% in standard XII. The Government is determined to improve the performance of the students in the academic year 2011-12 and further it in the academic year 2012-13.

The above goal of the Government can be achieved by following a multipronged approach of capacity building of teachers, training of students to take up board examinations, continuous monitoring of the students at the secondary and higher secondary level, special focus on slow learners by conducting the bridge courses.

The teachers would be re-oriented to teach the subjects to make it easily understandable to the children and to continuously evaluate them so as to remove the fear of the examination from the mind of the children. The State Council for Education, Research and Training has defined special modules for training the Graduate Assistants and Post Graduate Assistants handling high and higher secondary classes to adopt a methodology of teaching that would yield the desired results.

The Government's initiatives of empowering the teachers would be taken up immediately in co-ordination with the schemes of SSA, RMSA and State Council for Education, Research and Training.

5.8. Constitution of Expert Committee

The quality of education to school children is to be set on par with the standards of National and International level. The Government has therefore ordered for constituting an expert committee consisting of 10 members headed by the Honorable Minister for School Education. This committee would meet frequently and deliberate as to the measures to be taken up for the following.

- To recommend the changes to be made in the syllabus from classes I to XII in order to have better quality education.
- To identify the defects in the existing textbooks and recommend suitable changes.
- To suggest the requirement of building, furniture, equipments etc., to be made available in a school for offering quality education.
- To change the evaluation pattern based on the upgraded quality of education.
- To suggest the important aspects to be incorporated for capacity building of the teachers.

- To suggest suitable review and reporting mechanism for monitoring the schools.
- To suggest And any other important areas regarding Education.

5.9. Abolition of Special Fees in Government and Government Aided Schools

The Government reimburses the Special fees of students studying in standards VI to XII in Government and Government Aided Schools. An amount of Rs.20.50 crore has been provided by the Government

5.10. Exemption in Payment of Examination Fees

The public examination fee for the students studying in standards X and XII in Tamil Medium in Government and Government-aided schools has been waived by the Government.

5.11. Incentive Scheme for Girls

To encourage and enable the SC/ST girls to continue and complete XII Standard, Rs.3000/- is deposited in the name of the student. They should be less than 16 years of age and studying in the IX standard.

5.12. Supply of Science Equipments

100 Government High Schools have been equipped with Science Equipments at a cost of Rs.40 lakh during the year 2011-12.

5.13. Supply of Lab Equipments

100 Government Higher Secondary Schools have been provided with Lab Equipments at a cost of Rs.100 lakh during the year 2011-12. This scheme is continued in the year 2012-13 and an amount of Rs.100 lakh have been provided for the same. This will help the children to have practical hands on experience.

5.14. Library Facilities

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.40.00 lakh to equip the libraries in 100 Government High schools and 100 Government Higher Secondary schools during the year 2011-12.

5.15. Vocational Education in Higher Secondary Schools

Based on the report of the High Level Committee on Vocational Education, Vocational Education has been revamped and 12 vocational courses were taught from the

year 2010-11. The Government have planned to introducing new Vocational courses in the coming years also.

5.16. Cash Prize for Top Rankers

The Government have launched this scheme to encourage talented students to pursue their higher studies. Under this scheme, the first three top-rankers at State level in the Higher Secondary Public Examination who have studied Tamil as first language in the Higher Secondary Course are awarded cash prizes as follows:

First place	Rs.50,000
Second place	Rs.30,000
Third place	Rs.20,000

Similarly, at the District level, the Government will bear the expenditure for the higher studies of the three first rank holders in the Higher Secondary Public Examination. The selection of schools will be as follows.

Government Higher Secondary school	1
Government Aided Higher Secondary School	1
Anglo Indian / Matric / Self Financing Higher Secondary School	1

Likewise, the first three top rankers at State level in the SSLC Public Examination who have studied Tamil as first language are also awarded cash prizes as follows.

First place	Rs.25,000
Second place	Rs.20,000
Third place	Rs.15,000

Apart from this, the Government also reimburses the expenditure of the State-level top three rankers in the SSLC Public Examination during their higher studies.

Three district-level top rankers in the SSLC Public Examination who have studied Tamil as first language are given Rs.1,500/- for pursuing Higher Studies. The selection will be as follows.

Government Higher Secondary school	1
Government Aided Higher Secondary School	1
Anglo Indian / Matric / Self Financing Higher Secondary School	1

Subject-wise top rankers (first rankers) at the state-level in both the Secondary and the Higher Secondary Public Examination are also given cash awards as prescribed by the Government every year.

5.17. Issue of Community / Resident / Income Certificate

Community, Income and Resident certificates are issued to the students of standards X and XII by the Tahsildar of the respective Taluks through the Headmasters of the schools concerned.

5.18. Registration of Employment Cards

At the initiative of the Government, from the academic year 2011-12, for the first time in the history of School Education Department, all the students have been given the opportunity to get their certificates registered with Employment Exchange and employment registration card is being issued to the students along with the mark sheet and the transfer certificate in the school itself. This automatic registration ensures 100% registration of students who have finished Secondary/ Higher Secondary education.

5.19. Non-Teaching Staff

As per the announcements made by the Government, orders have been issued for appointment of 344 Junior Assistants, 710 Lab Assistants, 2001 watchmen and 2999 sweepers. These non-teaching staff will be posted in the academic year 2012-13.

5.20. Inclusive Education for the Differently abled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS)

This programme is implemented in association with experienced NGOs to provide education to the differently abled children at secondary stage. This programme is fully supported by the Government of India.

The Children With Special Needs (CWSN) in the age group 14 to 18 years are given support for successful completion of their secondary education. This is a centrally-sponsored scheme with 100% assistance from the Central Government. There are 17 NGOs involved in implementing the scheme. 15365 special children have been benefited by this scheme.

5.21. Yoga

Yoga is a system of exercises that encourages the union of mind, body and spirit. Hence yoga is taught to school children. Of the two periods allotted for physical education, one period is allotted exclusively for Yoga.

5.22. Scouts and Guides

In Tamil Nadu, the Scouts and Guides Movement is functioning in all schools. Important activities are cleaning

temple premises, planting trees, regulating traffic and First Aid training. A grant of Rs.7.00 lakh is allotted by Government which is being utilized towards payment of salary and other benefits for the employees of Bharath Scouts and Guides. From the year 1998-99, **Rajya Purashkar Award** is given by Governor of Tamil Nadu to outstanding Scouts and Guiders. For this award, Rs.5.00 lakh is given every year by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

5.23. ECO-Club

To create awareness among students about environment and forest ECO.Club have been formed in 1200 schools, a sum of Rs.1250/- is given to each school through the Department of Environment and Forest. The Government of India have launched National Green Corps Scheme in 7500 schools and each school is paid a sum of Rs.2500/- through the Department of Environment and Forest. ECO.Club and National Green Corps are involved in planting trees, farming gardens and other activities.

5.24. Junior Red Cross Society

The Junior Red Cross Society is functioning in High and Higher Secondary Schools in Tamil Nadu. The District Collector is the patron of the Junior Red Cross Society.

Teachers are trained as Counsellors and students as volunteers. This programme helps in bringing out the potential of children besides humanitarian values.

5.25. Young Talent Scheme

In this scheme, the hidden talents of the students are brought to the limelight by conducting competitions in Oratory, Essay Writing, Drawing, Quiz, Music, Poetry Writing, Bharathanatiam, Folk Dances, Playing Instruments, Acting, Mono Acting, Drama, musical Competitions every year at School Level, Educational District Level, Revenue District Level and finally at the State Level. The State level winners are given special prizes.

5.26. Tamil Nadu Rural Student Talent Scheme

Every year to encourage rural students of Government / Government-Aided schools studying in IX Standard who have passed VIII standard with the aggregate of 50% marks, Directorate of Government Examinations conduct examination every year in the month of September and select 50 boys and 50 girls from each district and Rs.1000/- is given to each student for 4 years from Std IX to XII. Every year a fund of Rs.1,08,32,000/- is being allotted and distributed through Chief Educational officers. To get

this assistance, the parent's annual income should not exceed Rupees One lakh.

5.27. National Service Scheme (NSS)

The aim of the NSS is to create personality development through community service like organising health camps, blood donation camps, conducting awareness programmes and focusing on welfare schemes for the Public. In School Education Department, there are 97,000 student volunteers from 1940 units of higher secondary schools, a grant of Rs.11,000/- for regular activities and a grant of Rs.11,250/- for special camp per unit is being given.

5.28. Parent Teachers Association

The objective of functioning of Parent Teachers Association in schools is to enrol all the school going children in the nearby schools, prevent dropouts and help schools to enhance the quality of teaching and learning process. Question banks, Booklets and Model Question Papers for Standard X and XII are printed and distributed. All the High and Higher Secondary Schools which show 100% pass percentage in the March / April Government Examinations have been given Cash Awards by the Parent Teachers Association.

5.29. NABARD Assistance Schemes

Infrastructure facilities

The Government, with the assistance of NABARD, have accorded administrative sanction for providing infrastructure facilities such as classrooms, drinking water facilities, toilets, laboratories and in Government High and Higher Secondary Schools. In Phase I to VII, an amount of Rs.708 crore has been spent for 1569 schools. Under Phase VIII to X-B, an amount of Rs.939.53 crore has been allotted for 982 schools, the construction of which are under progress.

Furniture

Under NABARD Scheme, providing desk, benches to students and chairs, tables to teachers for the additional classrooms constructed with NABARD assistance for Government High and Higher Secondary Schools is undertaken in phased manner.

	Amount allotted (Rs.in lakhs)	No.of schools
Phases I to VII RIDF XII	6908.73	1530
Phases VIII . IX RIDF XIII & XIV	2720.09	420
Phases X A RIDF XV	1038.08	267

Science Lab Equipments

Under NABARD Scheme, Science Lab Equipments were supplied to the Government High / Higher Secondary Schools constructed with the assistance of NABARD Scheme.

	Amount allotted (Rs.in lakhs)	No.of schools
Phase I to VII RIDF XII	831.16	1112
Phase VIII and IX RIDF XIII & XIV	44.00	54
Phases X A RIDF XV	140.36	181
Phase XA RIDF XV	154.60	215

5.30. Financial allocation for the Directorate of School Education

In the budget of 2011-12 an amount of Rs.6441.28 crore allotted for the promotion of Secondary and Higher Secondary education. As the vision of the Government is to provide best infrastructure services in terms of Universal Access School Education in the budget 2012-13 the allocation has been increased to Rs.6936.38 crore.

The persistent efforts of the Directorate of School Education with the constant support of the Government will certainly improve enrolment of students and reduce dropouts in all classes and improve the performance of the students in the board examinations.

6. RASHTRIYA MADHYAMIK SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

6.1. Introduction

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is a shared scheme of the Centre and State Government to achieve Universalization of Secondary Education viz. Standards IX and X and to contain dropout after elementary education. A society was set up in Tamil Nadu for operating the RMSA programme. The society primarily focuses on upgradation of middle schools to high schools to provide universal access and quality secondary education by providing infrastructure facilities, appointment of teachers and capacity building to teachers. Apart from this two other major programmes namely, providing of model schools and girls hostels in educationally backward blocks is also being operated by this society.

The RMSA is being implemented with the aim of achieving Universal Secondary Education which is also been highlighted in the **Vision Tamil Nadu-2023**. 710 schools have been upgraded in 2011-12. An amount of Rs.1069.51 crore has been provided for improving infrastructure and for upgradation of schools by the Government.

6.2. Vision

To provide good quality secondary education accessible and affordable to all school age children in the age group of 14-18 years.

6.3. Objectives

- To provide a secondary school within a reachable distance of any habitation, which should be 5 km for secondary schools and 7-10 km for higher secondary schools.
- To ensure universal access of secondary education by 2017 (Net Enrolment Rate of 100%) and Universal retention by 2020.
- To provide access to secondary education with special reference to economically weaker sections of the society, educationally backward, girls, differently abled and other marginalized categories like SC, ST, OBC and Minorities.
- To upgrade Middle Schools into High Schools
- To strengthen existing secondary schools with necessary infrastructure facilities.

During the 11th Five year Plan, the fund shared between the Central and State Government was in the ratio of 75:25. During the 12th Five year Plan period, the sharing pattern is proposed to be changed to 50:50.

6.4.Activities

The following activities were carried out under this scheme during 2011-12:

- 710 Middle Schools were upgraded into High Schools.
- 6752 Additional Posts of Graduate Assistant were sanctioned for the existing Government High and Higher Secondary schools.
- 344 posts of Junior Assistant and 544 posts of Lab Assistant were created for the 544 High Schools.
- 5647 Government High and Higher Secondary Schools were provided with School grant of Rs.50,000/ per school at a total cost of Rs.28.24 crore to equip the schools with Science articles, Science equipments, news papers, etc.
- 4092 Government High and Higher Secondary Schools were provided with Minor Repairs Grant of Rs.25000/ per school for maintenance of toilets, repairing of windows, floors, electrical appliances at a total cost of Rs 10.23 crore.
- 40,953 teachers were given In-service training for handling classes IX and X under various titles. English language teachers were trained with support of British Council, Chennai.

- For training subject teachers of Tamil, Science, Mathematics and Social Science in the services of experts from universities and colleges were extensively used
- Sports Development of Authority of Tamil Nadu supported training of Physical Education Teacher in various disciplines of Sports and Games activities.
- Music teachers were trained in classic and folk styles availing support from College of Musics.
- Art & Craft teachers were trained in modern art forms apart from various traditional art disciplines. The Colleges of Fine Arts supported to a large extent in this regard.
- 630 Headmasters of Government High and Higher Secondary Schools were trained on Administration in the Indian Institute of Management-Bangaluru, Indian Institute of Technology-Chennai and Bharathidasan Institute of Management-Tiruchirapalli.
- Exposure Visit was organised for 16000 teachers in coordination with IRCTC and TTDC at a cost of Rs 8 crore.
- Bridge courses were conducted for students of Class IX in 4622 Government high and higher secondary schools benefitting 125394 students.

6.5. Model Schools

This scheme is for providing secondary education in the educationally backward blocks. In this scheme sanction has been accorded for starting 44 Model schools one each in all the 44 educationally backward blocks. As a first phase 18 Model Schools have been started benefitting 4,800 rural students. 126 posts of P.G. Assistant, 90 posts of Graduate Assistant and 54 posts of Special Teachers and 126 posts of Non Teaching Staff have been sanctioned. Construction of classrooms and other infrastructure has been entrusted with the Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation and the works are in progress.

6.6. Girls Hostel

Girls Hostels will cater to the needs of girl children belonging to underprivileged, economically backward sections of the society. 44 Girls Hostels have been sanctioned to 44 Educationally Backward Blocks in 13 districts. Each hostel will accommodate 100 girls. This would help to control the drop out of girls in secondary education. Revised Estimate for the construction of Girls Hostel has been prepared as per the State Schedule of Rates and has been sent to Government of India for approval. The

construction of these girlsqhostels, as per the revised rates, will be taken up in 2012-2013.

RMSA programme has helped to upgrade 1254 middle schools to high schools benefitting 1,37,543 number of children. 6814 number of Graduate Assistants and 544 number of Special Teacher posts are sanctioned especially to ensure that children do not drop out after elementary education.

7. MATRICULATION SCHOOLS

7.1. Introduction

The Directorate of Matriculation Schools is the authority which recognizes and monitors the functioning of self-financed matriculation and matriculation higher secondary schools. There are totally 3769 such schools currently functioning under the control of this Directorate. Currently the syllabus framed by State Common Board of School Education is being followed by all the Matriculation Schools.

7.2. Vision

To ensure access quality education through English medium of instruction.

7.3. Objectives

- ❖ To regulate the matriculation schools by sanctioning recognition after ensuring that all parameters lay down for the safety and security of the students are being adhered to.
- ❖ To simplify such process of recognition by providing required information in a transparent manner.

- ❖ To implement the policies formulated by the Government for enhancement of the quality of education viz. Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) and Trimester.
- ❖ To enforce the regulation of the Tamil Nadu Schools (Regulation of Collection of fees) Act, 2009 and Rules made there under.
- ❖ To ensure strict adherence and implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.
- ❖ To facilitate capacity building at various levels from management to teachers by providing training.
- ❖ To ensure the implementation of all the Acts, Rules, Orders issued by the Government from time to time.

7.4. Implementation of Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation and Trimester pattern in all private schools

The Government have introduced the Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation System and the Trimester pattern to be followed by all the schools in the State. The Directorate of Matriculation Schools is co-ordinating on behalf of the Government to ensure that all private schools would be adopting the Continuous Comprehensive

Evaluation and Trimester pattern from the academic year 2012-13.

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

The important aspect of the RTE Act is the adherence to the Act and Rules by the private schools. The 25% reservation for the weaker sections and disadvantaged groups to be made in all private schools is being monitored by the Directorate of Matriculation Schools.

7.6. Regulation of fee for private unaided schools

A Committee, headed by a retired Judge of the High Court, has been constituted to determine the fee to be charged by the private schools based on location of school, infrastructure, administrative expenses and all other expenses incurred towards development of the students. The Committee is responsible for fixing the fee structure for all private schools irrespective of the Board.

7.7. Strategies initiated to simplify the renewal of recognition

Recognition to self financed matriculation and matriculation higher secondary schools is renewed once in every 3 years. To overcome the difficulty in processing the

proposals of renewal of recognition and to speed up the process with transparency, it is proposed to maintain Permanent Records for each school which applies for renewal of recognition. Each school is assigned an ID number for effective follow up. Through this process, duplication of records is avoided and the file processing is simplified.

8. State Council for Education, Research and Training

8.1. Introduction

In the fast changing scenario of advancement of information and communication technology and globalization, the aim of education should reflect the current needs and aspirations of youth as well as the lasting values and human ideals of larger society. The present school education in the State is characterized by rote memory, confinement to text book knowledge and stereotypical examination system. So far, educational assessment has been based on the written examination which evaluate only the reproduction of information and fail to identify the innate potential of all children with respect to real life situation. Such type of assessment had led to the branding of the otherwise brilliant student, if he fails to turn up for the final examination due to any unforeseen reasons, as unfit for further promotion.

Realizing the above facts, our Honourable CM has come out with the impeccable idea of introducing CCE by which such injustice would be eliminated. In addition to this, our Honourable CM has laid a corner stone in the history of education of Tamil Nadu through the introduction of the

Trimester pattern which paves the way for enjoyable lasting learning sans the physical burden of books.

In order to implement both the visionary schemes and to give a fillip to the entire school education in the State, it is felt that an apex body is imperative. Having this in view, our Honourable CM has upgraded Directorate of Teacher Education, Research and Training to **%State Council for Education, Research and Training+** that has provided ample scope to extend the expertise to cater to the needs of students and teachers in terms of quality education right from Pre-School to Higher Secondary as well as quality pre-service and in-service teacher training programmes. Undoubtedly, our Honourable CM's vision will certainly bring about a sea change in the educational system of Tamil Nadu on par with international standards.

Quality of Teacher Education determines the quality of teachers. From 1989, DTERT has been working on training teachers and improving the quality of teaching. Now, it has been upgraded as State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT) from 26.03.2012.

State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT) is an apex body, responsible for quality education in the State. It is headed by a senior Director, assisted by

four Joint Directors and twenty one Assistant Professors and forty seven members of administrative staff. It has also a State of art Educational Television Studio (ETV Studio). State Institute of Educational Management and Training (SIEMAT) is also managed by State Council for Education, Research and Training.

Under its control, there are 30 District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), 9 Government Teacher Training Institutes with 722 members of teaching faculty and 508 non-teaching staff. SCERT effectively monitors and supervises 43 Aided, and 680 Self-Financing Teacher Training Institutes. In all, there are 762 Institutes offering two year Diploma in Elementary Education (DEEd) Programme with annual intake capacity of 49,000.

8.2. Vision

To conceptualize, plan and ensure delivery of quality education to all children from Pre- school to XII Std through framing of State-relevant curriculum, syllabus design, textbook preparation, learning assessment with learner-friendliness and professional development of teachers through pre-service and in-service programmes, research and innovation, dissemination and exchange programmes

8.3. Objectives

- To transform every school in the State into a learning organization facilitating the self-actualization of every student's potential.
- To develop curriculum, syllabus for Std I to XII and to design student-friendly textbooks and pedagogy
- To be instrumental in ensuring universal implementation of children's Right to Free and Compulsory Education.
- To bring about qualitative enhancement at all levels of education.
- To provide support for academic research, outreach activities and training in the field of school education throughout the State.
- To assist and advise various Directorates of School Education to implement the transformational policies and programmes of the State Government to foster holistic development of all children.
- To offer expert guidance to school heads, Teacher Education Institutions for achieving universalisation of Elementary and Secondary Education with equity and social justice.
- To guide and monitor the functioning of DIETs, Teacher Education Institutions for improving the quality of Teacher Education.

- Work in collaboration with Higher Education to update teacher preparation curricula across the Boards.
- To revise the curriculum for Teacher Education Programs and redesign the source books periodically.
- To enhance the linkages between various organizations like NCERT, RIE, NUEPA and other institutes of excellence across the country and apply the insights gained in improving the professionalism of teachers and teacher educators.
- To ensure qualitative improvement in school education through local adaptation of educational content and practices.
- To disseminate innovative practices through research articles and evidence-based documentation.
- To organize national and international seminars and conferences on issues concerning quality in education.
- To provide leadership support to educational officials from the State down to block level including BRCs and CRCs.
- To make use of ICT for better data management digitalization of instructional materials and optimum utilization of multimedia in preparation of learning materials to ensure experiential learning.

8.4. Capacity Building Training programmes

- State level senior educational administrators (Directors, Joint Directors and Deputy Directors) on formulating policies and programmes, implementation strategies and monitoring, maintenance of finance and accounting, focus on RTE and CCE and application of ICT Tools in administrations.
- District level educational administrators (CEOs, DPC-SSA, RMSA, DIET Principals, DEOs, DEEOs IMS and ADPCs) on effective administration, planning and supervision of programmes. Designing and organisation of training programmes, maintenance of finance and accounting, focus on RTE and CCE and application of ICT Tools in administrations.
- Block Level Educational administrators (AEOs and BRC Supervisors) on monitoring the programmes and schemes, maintenance of finance and accounting, focus on RTE and CCE and application of ICT Tools in administrations.
- DIET Senior Lecturers, Lecturers and BRTEs on content enrichment, curriculum development, material development, evaluation techniques, focus on RTE and CCE and application of ICT Tools in administration.

- Headmasters of Higher Secondary, High, Middle, Elementary Schools on preparation of school developmental plan and administration, supervision of teachers, maintenance of finance and accounting, focus on RTE and CCE and application of ICT Tools in administrations.
- Teachers on Content enrichment, orientation on new text books, managing the child, Yoga and co-scholastic areas, focus on RTE and CCE, application of ICT Tools.
- Administrative Staff on maintenance of school records and office files, speedy disposal of grievances, application of ICT Tools, focus on latest rules and regulations and Yoga.

8.5. Revision of Curriculum, Syllabus and Development of Textbooks

SCERT has been designing the syllabi for the classes I to X. It has developed child-friendly textbooks in the light of NCF, 2005. The guiding principles of NCF, 2005 namely, connecting knowledge to life outside the school rather than textbook centered, ensuring that learning is shifted away from rote methods, enriching the curriculum to provide for overall development of children, facilitating child's capacity to be a creator of knowledge, making examinations more flexible and integrated into classroom life and nurturing an

over-riding identity informed by caring concerns within the democratic polity of the country have been reflected in syllabus design and textbook development. The contribution of academicians, teachers and parents has fed into this exercise.

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

SCERT is instrumental in taking RTE Act, 2009 and Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011 to all stakeholders at grass root level through information, communication and education. SCERT has taken the responsibility of sensitizing all the officials of Education Department, Headmasters and teachers of all schools of all management. In connection with this, a series of workshops, meetings and training programmes were organized at SCERT. A module incorporating the Central Act, State Rules and G.Os, a booklet of Frequently Asked Questions, Guidelines and Brochures have been prepared for the benefit of implementing agencies. Besides, the office bearers of State and District level Teacher Associations have been trained on the various provisions of the Act. SCERT collaborates with SSA and other Directorates of Education Department in organizing orientation programmes and

addressing the constraints and issues in implementing the Act in letter and spirit.

8.7. Introduction of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation and Trimester Pattern (Reducing the burden of Learning)

Evaluation system in education is undergoing transformation with the introduction of CCE in Tamil Nadu. The recommendations and suggestions of the Committee constituted under the leadership of Prof. Yashpal, Learning without Burden, the National Policy on Education (1986) and the National Curriculum Framework, 2005 and other Commissions for quality assessment have helped Government of Tamil Nadu to introduce Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation method. This will assess the holistic development of each child throughout the academic year.

SCERT has developed support materials like general guidelines and subject-specific handbook for teachers of all levels of school education in implementing CCE. These materials for CCE have been field tested and fine-tuned in consultation with experts of CCE and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). Another measure to reduce the burden on the children is the introduction of trimester pattern.

Learning without Burden+ decried the state of children carrying a heavy load of textbooks and notebooks, weighing more than the child herself. It has suggested a number of measures to reduce the academic burden of children. SCERT, cognizant of curriculum load, has developed separate textbooks for three semesters to de-stress children.

8.8. Integration of ICT in School Education and Teacher Education

SCERT focuses on evolving ICT policy of the State. It is proposed to develop a e-repository of materials developed by SCERT. It will be hosted in the website for the reference of teachers anywhere in the State at any time they wish to use them. SCERT's primary focus would be to evolve a training programme for Capacity Building of the teachers in ICT.

8.9. Research

Research plays a critical role in providing quality education. Envisioning research as an integral part of effective educational delivery, SCERT formulates research framework and conceptualizes research problems and conducts research projects to improve and enrich classroom transaction by addressing pedagogical issues. It conducts

base-line and achievement surveys to take stock and review the levels of performance and proficiency of children across grades and curricular areas. Innovative practices, crucial to quality schooling, are nurtured by SCERT by providing platforms for organizing seminars, conferences and workshops.

Research is gaining momentum in SCERT through surveys, diagnostic studies and action research. Reading Skills of students are surveyed every month. Innovative strategies have been evolved to address the problem of reading head on. The strategies are multi-pronged and actionable in specific classroom situations. The best practices in reading are recorded carefully and disseminated.

8.10. Training for English Teachers

To enhance teaching skills of English Teachers on CCE pattern, SCERT in collaboration with British Council organized a 5 day training program for 240 English teachers. These teachers will act as mentors at district level for other teachers.

8.11. Life Skill Education Training

With the financial assistance of Tamil Nadu State Aids Control Society (TANSACs), State Council for

Education, Research and Training organized Training on Life Skill Education to teachers and students of class IX and XI all High and Higher Secondary Schools in the year 2011-2012.

8.12. Modified School Health Programme

SCERT conducted Training on Modified School Health Programme to teachers of 6, 7, 8 Standards in 17000 schools in the State. This training enhanced the awareness of teachers on various diseases such as diabetics, heart ailments and, lung related disorders and the means to prevent them. The training has reached nearly 36,000 teachers.

8.13. National Population Education

SCERT conducts population education programme funded by NCERT. As a part of it, SCERT organized poster Competition and Role Play Competition for the IX Standard students of Government High and Higher Secondary Schools all over Tamil Nadu. The competitions have been organized at the school, block, district and State level. The team from Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Bhavani, Erode District, adjudged as first in State Level Role Play competition, got first place in the Southern Regional

Level and second place in National Level. The theme of role play was prevention of female foeticide.

8.14. Education Television Studio

SCERT has a well equipped Education Television Studio. It produces educational audio-video CDs and cassettes. Most of the educational CDs and videos focus on classroom transaction and innovative practices under Activity Based Learning (ABL) and Active Learning Method (ALM). These educational CDs are telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Chennai on Mondays and Fridays under **Kanbom karpom** Programme. As the Government proposes to have an exclusive educational Channel in the Arasu Cable TV Network, the studio will be effectively used for the lectures, seminars, experience sharing and other programmes to be aired in the channel.

8.15. Selection of the Best School at the Block Level

To create competitiveness among schools to excel themselves, the best practices being followed in a school is made known to others by publishing the photographs of the selected school in the **Seithi+** Newsletter of Parent Teacher Association, Tamil Nadu. Each DIET selects one block in their district per month. All the primary and middle schools in that block are visited. The best school is selected on the

basis of various parameters including infrastructure facilities students learning achievement, involvement of teacher and local community etc. This will encourage the teachers of other schools to implement the best practices being followed in the best school and make their schools one of the best schools.

By implementing the above schemes, SCERT aims to enhance the quality of School Education in the State.

8.16. Budget

Directorate of Teacher Education, Research and Training was allotted Rs.53.72 crore towards salaries, programmes and projects in the year 2011-12 by MHRD and the State Government. As DTERT has been upgraded to SCERT, increased allocation (i.e) Rs.63.46 crore has been earmarked for SCERT for the year 2012-13.

9. NON FORMAL AND ADULT EDUCATION

9.1. Introduction

The Directorate of Non formal and Adult Education has been formed to make all illiterates in the age group of 15 and above to attain literacy in Tamil Nadu. The literacy rate of the State is 80.33% and the National literacy rate is 74.04%. In Tamil Nadu male literacy rate is 86.81% and female literacy rate is 73.86%. Though Tamil Nadu literacy rate is higher than the national average, greater focus is required to increase the female literacy rate. The aim of this Directorate is to achieve total literacy in Tamil Nadu.

The Directorate is headed by a Director assisted by a Joint Director and ably supported by 31 staff members. 2 District Adult Education Officers and 4 non-teaching staff are working at district level.

9.2. Vision

Achieving total literacy in the State of Tamil Nadu.

9.3. Goals

- To create a literate environment and sustains a literate society

- To reduce the gender gap in the literacy rate, priority is to be given to the Districts with low Female literacy rate.

9.4. Objectives

- To impart basic education to all illiterate adults
- To provide opportunity for neo-literates to continue their learning beyond basic literacy and acquire equivalency to formal education
- To organize training for Vocational skills thereby improving their earning capacity
- To provide opportunities to neo-literates for lifelong learning and continuing education

9.5. Strategies

Saakshar Bharat – 2012

Saakshar Bharat 2012 . a new Adult Literacy Programme is being implemented by National Literacy Mission Authority. This programme is implemented in 365 districts where adult female literacy rate is below 50%. In Tamil Nadu this scheme is implemented in Seven Districts viz. Villupuram, Salem, Dharmapuri, Erode, Perambalur, Thiruvannamalai and Ariyalur.

This programme is implemented at a estimated budget of 105.79 crore which is shared by Central and State (75:25). Number of beneficiaries are 20,50,460

In addition to Basic literacy programme vocational skill training programme were also organized. According to 2001 census, there are 17,46,499 Adult illiterates in these 7 districts. As per the House Hold Survey taken during 2010, the total number of adult illiterates identified were 20,50,460. Nearly 7,83,144 illiterates were made literates, The remaining 12,67,316 illiterates were given basic literacy and nearly 8,42,488 were appeared for the basic literacy test.

Basic Literacy Assessment Test

National Literacy Mission Authority in Collaboration with National Institute of Open Schooling conducts Basic Literacy Assessment Test for the learners and issues certificates. So far 7,83,144 persons have been made literates and have received certificates from the mission.

10. GOVERNMENT EXAMINATIONS

10.1. Introduction

Directorate of Government Examinations is the authority for conducting all Board Examinations of School Education Department and other Government Examinations of Public importance.

10.2. Vision

To conduct board examinations in a free and fair manner, setting benchmark in evaluation and issuing mark certificates with photo and additional security features.

10.3. Responsibilities of Directorates

Conducting of school final public examinations and releasing the results in time are the prime duty of the Directorate of Government Examinations. This directorate conducts 31 different kinds of examinations every year. Among these, SSLC, Higher Secondary Public Examinations, and Diploma in Elementary Education are the major ones.

The Seven Regional Deputy Director of Government Examinations offices in the State viz. Chennai, Vellore, Cuddalore, Trichy, Coimbatore, Madurai and

Tirunelveli oversees the receipt of applications for secondary examination of pupil and private candidates. They also monitor the distribution of stationery materials and contingency funds to the respective examination centres, under their jurisdiction.

Every year examinations are conducted for Higher Secondary / S.S.L.C. in three sessions i.e., March / April, June / July and September / October. Other examinations are conducted once in a year.

As many as 8,23,599 candidates have appeared for the Higher Secondary Examination, March 2012 in 1974 examination centres, and 11,47,530 candidates are appearing for the S.S.L.C. Public Examinations, April 2012 in 3032 examination centres.

10.4. Result Analysis for the Examination held in March/April 2011

Examinations	No. of candidates appeared	No. of candidates passed	Pass %
Higher Secondary	7,16,543	6,15,593	85.50
S.S.L.C	8,38,165	7,14,786	85.30
Matriculation	1,44,960	1,38,972	95.90
Anglo . Indian	4,865	4,645	95.50
O.S.L.C	1,392	1,314	94.40

10.5 Mark Certificate with Photo and additional security features

The Government of Tamil Nadu have ordered that the candidates appearing for the Higher Secondary and S.S.L.C. Public Examinations should be given mark certificates with additional security features, 2D Bar-code and Photo.

For the first time, this year the examination related documents such as nominal roll, admission certificate (Hall ticket) and attendance list have been prepared with photo of the candidate and issued to the candidates. The Admission certificate will contain the details of Name of candidate, Register Number, Subjects appearing and Name of Centre allotted for appearing to the Examination.

For the first time, this year all the question papers for the higher secondary examination have been printed bilingually.

The candidates who have appeared in March/ April session, failed in more than 3 subjects will be permitted to appear for the Special Supplementary Examination in June / July session.

10.6. Resumption of 8th Standard Public Examination (Private)

The Eighth Standard Public Examination (Private) has been resumed, and is to be conducted in April 2012, so as to enable the candidates to acquire a minimum qualification for employment, promotion at basic level and also for getting driving license.

10.7. Issue of Certified Copy of Mark Certificates and Duplicate Mark Certificate

In order to enable the candidates, who lost their Public Examination certificates issued by the department, duplicate copy of the Certificate / Certified Copy of Mark Certificate is issued on payment of prescribed fee.

10.8. Issue of Migration Certificate

Migration Certificates are issued to candidates who have passed 10th / 12th standard examinations from this State and desires to continue higher studies, elsewhere.

10.9. Mark Certificates

From March 2000 the mark certificates for Higher Secondary/ S.S.L.C. Public examinations are printed and

issued to candidates in bilingual format viz. Tamil and English.

10.10. Results of Examination

The results of the Higher Secondary / S.S.L.C Public examinations with marks are made available through private websites on the day of publication of results itself in addition to the Department's Website. The results are also made available through SMS.

10.11. Re-totaling of Marks / Re-valuation of Answer Scripts

Re-totaling of Answer scripts is permitted for all the candidates appearing for Higher Secondary / S.S.L.C. and Diploma in Elementary Education Examinations.

Photostat copies of Answer scripts are issued so that the candidates, if desires, may go in for Re-valuation and this system is applicable only for Higher Secondary Examination.

10.12. Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Scheme Examination (TRUSTS Examination)

Tamil Nadu Rural Students Talent Search Scheme Examination is conducted every year to promote the rural

students and to avail the benefits offered by the Government.

The Students from rural areas and those who are studying in 9th standard during the current academic year, and whose parental income do not exceed Rs.1 Lakh are eligible to attend the Examination. 50 Girls and 50 Boys are selected from each district and a scholarship of Rs.1000/- per annum, is granted for a continuous period of four years.

10.13. National Talent Search Examination

The Department acts as a Nodal Agency for National Council for Educational Research and Training, in conducting the National Talent Search Examination at Level I and II. Students, who are studying in 8th standard, in the State /Central Boards during the academic year, and secured 60% and above marks in 7th standard are eligible for this examination.

After the publication of results of Level-I, the Level II examination is conducted by the National Council for Educational Research and Training at National level followed by interviews. The selected students are awarded Scholarship from 9th standard upto Ph.D level. This scheme provides Scholarship to 285 candidates of Tamil Nadu each year.

10.14. Conduct of Examination for National Means cum Merit Scholarship

The Directorate of Government Examinations conducts the National Means Cum Merit Scholarship Examination and the candidates will be selected based on the marks and rule of reservation.

Candidates who have passed 7th standard from Central/State Government Schools /Government Aided Schools, (55% of marks for other candidates, 50% of marks for SC/ST) and studying in 8th standard, and whose parental income do not exceed Rs.1,50,000/- will get a sum of Rs.6000/- as Scholarship per annum (at the rate of Rs.500/- per month) from 9th standard onwards upto 12th standard. This scheme provides scholarships to 6695 candidates of Tamil Nadu each year.

10.15. Conduct of Union Public Service Commission / Staff Selection Commission Examinations

This Department acts as a Nodal Agency to conduct all Union Public Service Commission / Staff Selection Commission examinations at Chennai centre every year. The Civil Services Examination is the most prestigious one among them.

This department also assists Teachers Recruitment Board in carrying out certain confidential work for the written examinations.

10.16. Medium of Instruction specified in the Mark Certificate

Medium of Instruction is printed in the Mark Certificates of the candidates, of Higher Secondary / S.S.L.C. examination and Diploma in Elementary Education Examinations.

10.17. Digitization of Records

Conversion of Tabulated Mark Register (TMR) in the electronic format has been in progress, with an outlay of Rs.20/- Lakh, and ELCOT is implementing the scheme.

10.18. Online Verification of Mark Certificates

Online verification of Mark Certificates, for the students/ appointing authorities/ educational institutions and others is in progress. The scheme is to be implemented with the co-ordination of ELCOT and National Informatics centre.

10.19. Website

A Web portal with the address www.tn.gov.in/dge+ is available and details such as, Time Table, Application

form, Fee for Duplicate Certificate and Certified Copy of Mark Certificate (CCM) for the benefit of the student community. Also, previous year question papers of Higher Secondary and S.S.L.C Public Examinations, and Model Question Papers. For the S.S.L.C. Examination, application and instructions for candidates, appearing for Science Practical Classes are also available in the website.

10.20. Budget

This Directorate received a budgetary allocation of Rs.74.55 crore during the year 2011-2012. Additionally an amount of Rs. 2.18 crore was also sanctioned under Major Works. During 2012-2013, an increase of 9.95% from last year's budgetary allocation, and the budget proposed is Rs.82.79 crore with a provision for Major Works at Rs.60 lakhs.

To conduct the examination, in a fair and efficient manner, the District collectors are empowered to set up a committee at the district level and to monitor the examination centres and take all measures to avert the tendencies of malpractice. The Professors of Anna University, Chennai, are deputed to the districts to have a watch and ward over the examination centres for the core examinations. Similarly, The Joint Directors under the control of the Department of

School Education are deputed to the districts and to report then and there about the smooth conduct of the examinations besides making surprise visit to the examination centres and custodian points. Apart from the above, the Chief Educational Officers/District Educational Officers form flying squads and standing squads to monitor the examination centres.

11.TEACHERS RECRUITMENT BOARD

11.1. Introduction

Teachers Recruitment Board was constituted in 1987 with the objective of recruiting qualified and competent teachers for Government schools and colleges in the State. The board recruits teachers of various categories through appropriate mode of selection depending upon the needs of the user departments and policy of the Government. Every recruitment has well established norms of notification, syllabus, question pattern, examination, evaluation and selection. So far 1,03,351 teachers have been recruited. All information about recruitments are published on the official web-site of the Teachers Recruitment Board, www.trb.tn.nic.in to ensure transparency.

11.2. Vision

The Teachers Recruitment Board aims consistently to upgrade and improvise systems and procedures to attract the best talent. In this direction the Board has initiated the following:

- Computerization and networking of all the recruitment activities.
- Online applications and registration systems.

- All payments by automatically generated bank Chelan at the branches of major Nationalized Banks.

11.3. Teachers Eligibility Test

Teachers Recruitment Board, has been designated as the Nodal Agency for conducting Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) in Tamil Nadu to fulfill the requirements of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. For the first time the Teachers Recruitment Board is conducting the Teachers Eligibility Test in the year 2012 . 2013.

11.4.The Task

At present the board is in the process of recruitment of the following personnel.

	A) SCHOOL EDUCATION	
1.	Secondary Grade Teachers	7194
2.	Special teachers (PET, Drawing, Sewing & Music)	1555
3.	Graduate Teachers	18704
4.	Post Graduate Teachers	4142
5.	Computer Instructors	193
6.	Agricultural Teachers	25
7.	Block Resource Teachers	634
8.	Assistant Elementary Educational Officers	34
9.	Senior Lectures . DTET	34
	Total	32515
	B) HIGHER EDUCATION	
1	Assistant Professors for Engineering Colleges	154
2.	Lecturers for Polytechnics	139

3.	Assistant Professors for Arts and Science Colleges	1025
	Total	1318
	C) OTHER DEPARTMENT	
1.	Lecturers (Law Dept)	45
2.	Graduate Assistants (Other Depts.)	4006
	Total	4051
	GRAND TOTAL	37884

The Teachers Recruitment Board will be following the new recruitment policy of written examination for recruiting Secondary Grade Teachers, Graduate Assistants and Post Graduate Assistants

With the above objectives, the Teachers Recruitment Board intends to recruit efficient teachers in a transparent manner to improve the quality of teaching learning process in Government schools and colleges.

12. TAMIL NADU TEXTBOOK CORPORATION

12.1. Introduction

Textbook is an important tool of Education. When the Textbooks were printed and distributed by the private publishers there was no discipline in the distribution of textbooks in time and artificial scarcities were created to sell the textbooks at unfair prices. Further, these textbooks lacked uniformity in content. With the objective of removing these drawbacks and to make the textbooks available at reasonable prices in time, the Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation was established in the year 1969. The Corporation prints on an average of 7.5 to 8 crore textbooks per annum. The total expenditure incurred by the Corporation is approximately Rs.175 crore per annum. The same is being reimbursed by the Government of Tamil Nadu to the Textbook Corporation.

Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation is ably managed by a Managing Director who is assisted by a team of technically qualified personnel. There are 22 Regional offices all over the state functioning under the control of the Textbook Corporation and they are in charge of the entire logistics of distribution of textbooks.

12.2. Vision

Provision of quality textbooks using the latest printing technology in multi-colours and appropriate sizes suited to students to fulfill the demanding needs for textbooks.

12.3. Objectives

- Supply of quality textbooks free of cost and at reasonable prices to the students.
- Ensure that there is no delay in supplying the textbooks to the students
- To provide the quality textbooks to the students printed by using the latest technology.

12.4. Publications in Tamil & Other Languages

The Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation prints and distributes the following:

- Textbooks for all subjects to the students studying in standards I to XII,
- ABL cards for standards I to IV,
- PTA question bank, solution book and model question papers for standards X and XII,
- Resource books for D.T.Ed.,
- Books for Diploma courses in Engineering for semester I and II for Polytechnic colleges,

- Guides for standards X and XII for Adi Dravidar, Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes Department schools
- Financial literacy books for courses conducted by the National Stock Exchange for Standard IX and XI.

The textbooks are published in Tamil, English and for the minority languages. Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada and Urdu are the four minority languages in which minority subject books and readers for Standards I to X are printed by the Textbook Corporation. Readers in two other minority languages viz. Sanskrit and Arabic for standards VI to X and Readers in Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada and Urdu for Standards XI and XII are also printed by the Textbook Corporation.

12.5. Material for Printing with the approval of State Council of Educational, Research and Training & State Common Board of School Education.

The Curriculum and Textbook Development team of the State Council for Educational, Research and Training reviews and revises the content of the Textbooks annually and submits the matter, in the form of CD, for printing after approval by the State Common Board of School Education.

12.6. Logistics

In order to ensure timely supply of textbooks to the students the Corporation plans in advance and enlists a

panel of printers for executing the printing works. Currently the panel has been enlisted by following a transparent tender process and there are 122 printers enlisted for a period of two years. These printers use web-offset and sheet-fed process to print multi-colour books in high quality 80 GSM paper supplied by Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd (TNPL). The Corporation sources around 24000 Metric Tons 80 GSM paper annually.

The quality textbooks so printed are transported directly from the printers to the selected nodal points in the districts. Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation owns 5 godowns, has hired 17 godowns for storing the printed textbooks. 64 nodal centres throughout the State have been identified by the Directorates of School and Elementary Education for distribution of textbooks to the headmasters.

12.7. Distribution of Tamil textbooks to other States

Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation supplies Textbooks Free of cost for the benefit of Tamil students in other States viz. Government of Andhra Pradesh and Pudhucherry, Mumbai Municipal Corporation, Delhi Tamil Sangam, Ahamedabad Municipal Corporation, Andaman Nichobar Administration and Tamil Aiykya Sangam, Kochin as per the requirement of the Tamil organizations of concerned States.

12.8. Textbooks under Trimester Pattern

With a view to reduce the burden of school children, the Trimester system is introduced in Standards I to VIII from the academic year 2012-13. Under this new system, combined textbooks in multicolour are being printed separately for 3 terms in a year.

For the academic year 2012-13, the Textbook Corporation will be supplying 8 crore textbooks based on the trimester at a approximate cost of Rs.175 crore. The total cost of printing is borne by the Government.

12.9. Online availability of textbooks

The textbooks published by the Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation are available in the website www.textbooksonline.tn.nic.in. This is the facility offered to help the children download the books as per their convenience.

TNTBC would strive hard to improve the quality of the printed textbooks and would ensure that the books so printed are delivered to the children on time. The Corporation would also incorporate computer aided learning and technology as a part of the textbooks in the academic year 2013-14.

13. PUBLIC LIBRARIES

13.1 Introduction

The Directorate of Public Libraries was formed in 1972 in order to improve library services. Public Libraries are being opened in Tamil Nadu as per the Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, 1948+ with an aim to provide best reading for the greatest number at the least cost.

The pride of the state is the Connemara Public Library situated in the heart of the Chennai city. Apart from being the State Central Library, it is one among the four National Repository Libraries in India. Also, the State has three famous old libraries viz. Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji Sarasvati Mahal Library, Thanjavur, Dr.U.Ve. Swaminatha Iyer Library, Chennai and Maraimalai Adigal Library, Chennai.

There are 4042 libraries functioning in the State under the administrative control of the Directorate of Public Libraries.

Sl.No	Libraries	Number
1	District Central Libraries	32
2	Branch Libraries	1664

3	Mobile Libraries	10
4	Village Libraries	1795
5	Part . Time Libraries	539
6	Connemara (State Central) Public Library	1
7	Anna Centenary Library	1
	Total	4042

13.2 Local Library Authority

As per the Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, 1948 a Local Library Authority has been constituted in each district for the purpose of organizing and administering public libraries in the State. Every Local Library Authority shall levy in its area, library cess in the form of surcharge on the property tax or house tax levied in such area as per the provisions of the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, Madras District Municipal Act, 1920 or the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920 as the case may be at the rate of 3 paise per rupee in the property tax or house tax so levied. Subsequently the rate has been revised from 3 paise to 5 paise in the year 1972 and it has been further revised from 5 paise to 10 paise in the year 1992. At present library cess of 10 paise per rupee is being collected. In the year 2011-12, Rs.58.12

crore has been collected as library cess and it is estimated to collect Rs.68.12 crore in the year 2012-13.

All Libraries under the control of Local Library Authorities are maintained from the fund collected by way of cess. The amount is used for purchase of books, periodicals, newspapers, construction and maintenance of buildings, purchase of furniture, salaries to staff and other expenditures. The expenditure incurred in the year 2011-12 is Rs.155 crore and in the year 2012-13, it is estimated as Rs.165 crore.

13.3. Objectives

- To provide Library facilities in every village, where the population is more than 1000.
- To provide good infrastructure facilities in libraries.
- To provide quality reading materials viz. books and periodicals in the libraries.
- To install modern techniques in libraries to enhance library services.
- To update the District Central Libraries suitably for the use of Students of Higher Studies.
- To preserve old and rare books by way of Digitalization.

13.4. Activities

- Opening of Part-time libraries in every village, where the population is more than 1000 to achieve the goal of library for all.
- Purchasing of new books and periodicals for the libraries.
- Transforming libraries into Knowledge and Information centres in accordance with the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission.
- Providing more facilities in Civil Service Centers in the Public Libraries.
- Integrating Libraries through internet to ease book search for readers.
- Making digital copies of old and rare books and to preserve it.
- Opening of Book Exhibition with the help of Book Publishers and Book Sellers Association. as an Extension Service of Public Libraries.

13.5. Connemara (State Central) Public Library, Chennai

The Connemara Public Library was formally opened on 05.12.1896 and named after Lord Connemara-the then Governor of Madras who founded the library. This Library is

the State Central Library with effect from 1st April 1950. This Library is one of the four National Repository Libraries which are receiving a copy of all books, news papers, periodicals published in India at free of cost under the provisions of the Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act, 1954. In the year 1955, this Library became UNESCO Information Centre to serve as Depository for selected publication of United Nations and its Allied Agencies. It also serves as Depository for Asian Development Bank publications since 1992. This library offers the best services to the various sections of people, hoarding 7.13 lakh of books.

Connemara Public Library is fully computerized at a cost of Rs.20 lakh. All information about this library is available in internet in the website www.connemarapubliclibrarychennai.com. All District Central Libraries are linked with Connemara Public Library through internet facilities. Connemara Public Library is rendering useful service by having separate divisions for Reference, Periodicals, and Bibliography etc. Valuable old books are being scanned and digitalized and stored in the Connemara Public Library for future use.

The number of readers utilised the library in the year 2011-12 is 3.6 lakh and the number of members enrolled is 2632. At present the total number of members enrolled is 1.29 lakh. As this library is Repository Library, the Government of India allocated a sum of Rs.60 lakh for plan schemes and Rs.35 lakh for non plan schemes in the year 2011-12. The State Government allocates Rs.30 lakh every year for plan scheme.

13.6. Dr.U.Ve Swaminatha Iyer Library, Chennai

This library was started in the year 1942 at Chennai. It has 2128 oriental manuscripts, 855 handwritten manuscripts and 28,465 printed books. This library has 1363 old books published in 19th Century. The State Government provides Rs.4.71 lakh as grant every year for this library. The total number of Researchers and Scholars utilised the library in the year 2011-12 is 1005.

13.7. Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji Sarasvati Mahal Library, Thanjavur:

This library was started in the year 1535 during the Nayaks Rule. This is under the control of District Collector since 1918. It has around 46,000 oriental manuscripts, handwritten manuscripts in Tamil, Telugu, Sanskrit and Marathi Language and 52,000 rare and old books. The

State Government provides Rs.40 lakh as grant every year for this library. The total number of visitors utilised the library in the year 2011-12 is 1.44 lakh.

13.8. Maraimalai Adigal Library, Chennai.

This library was started in the year 1958. Now, it is functioning in the premises of Connemara Public Library, Chennai. It has rare and old books. The State Government provides rupees One Lakh as grant every year. The total number of Researchers and Scholars utilised the library in the year 2011-12 is 1655 and the number of members enrolled is 3528.

The Government have sanctioned Rs.10 lakh under Part-II Scheme in the year 2011-12 for the digitalization of the rare and old books of this library. 1400 rare and old books were scanned and preserved in digital form.

13.9. Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkatta.

Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkatta functioning under the Ministry of Arts and Culture, Government of India, has been sanctioning matching and non-matching grants every year for the development of libraries in India. Every year the Directorate of Public

Libraries receives matching grant for organizing seminars / trainings, construction of buildings, opening children's sections, purchasing of new books, purchasing of steel racks, computerization and improving library infrastructure in the State. This foundation has allocated Rs.600 lakh for the year 2010-11 and this amount has been utilised. In addition to that, non-matching grant was obtained to celebrate Golden Jubilee for those libraries which completed 50 years of service. In the year 2011-12, Rs. 5 lakh has been sanctioned for five libraries to celebrate Golden Jubilee Function.

13.10. Opening of New Libraries

Part time libraries are being opened where the population exceeds 1000. In the year 2011-12, twenty eight Part time libraries were opened. To achieve the target of Library to all, Part time libraries are being opened as per the needs of the general public.

13.11.Purchase of Books

The books for the public libraries are being purchased every year at a cost of Rs.15 crore based on the selection by Book Selection Committee. In the year 2010-11, 3178 titles of the Tamil books and 775 titles of

English books have been purchased at a cost of Rs.15 crore. In the year 2011-12, books will be purchased at a cost of Rs.25 crore.

13.12. Building and Maintenance

There are 4042 Public Libraries in this State. Out of that 408 libraries are functioning in private rental buildings. The vision of the Department is to house all libraries in own buildings. Towards this, it is proposed to construct new library buildings at a cost of Rs.25 crore in the year 2012-13, and the existing buildings will be repaired at a cost of Rs.10 crore.

13.13. Training / Seminar for Librarians

Two days inservice training for 320 Librarians under the matching assistance of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkatta was conducted in the year 2011-12 in eight centres at a cost of Rs. 8 lakh. The seminar for 900 librarians was conducted in nine centres in the year 2011-12 at a cost of Rs. 9 lakh. Similar training / seminar programmes will be conducted in the year 2012-13.

13.14. Computerization and Integration

In order to render efficient and speedy Library services to the public with the use of modern technology, Public Libraries are being computerized with internet and e-mail facilities. These facilities are made available in Connemara State Central Library, Chennai, and all District Central Libraries, with the help of the matching grant of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkatta.

Integration of District Central Libraries with the Connemara Public Library, Chennai through internet has been initiated to make the public easily access the availability of books in the District through internet. Action will be taken to extend the facilities to Branch Level Libraries.

13.15. Civil Services Study Centres

Civil Services Study Centres which consists of all kinds of competitive examination books, functioning in public libraries, which extend help to the youth from socially and economically backward families to prepare for various competitive examinations conducted by Government, Government Enterprises, Private Organizations and Educational Institutions. These centres are functioning in Connemara Public Library, Chennai, District Central

Libraries, 150 Taluk and Municipality Head quarters libraries and 50 smaller town libraries making the total of 233 centers. To enhance the functioning of Civil Services Centres, action is being taken to provide additional facilities such as computers, new books and air conditioning to these centres.

13.16. Best Librarian Award

The Tamil Nadu Government have been giving the best Librarian Award to the Librarians who render best services, in every year during the National Library Week. This award has been renamed as Dr.S.R.Ranganathan Award+ from the year 2012 onwards so as to honour Dr.S.R.Ranganathan, who is the father of Indian Library movement.

13.17. News Letter

Directorate of Public Libraries is bringing out a PUBLIC LIBRARIES NEWS LETTER+. Developmental activities of the Directorate of Public Libraries, library related activities / training / seminar, District news, Essays and Government Orders useful to the public are published in this News Letter. Action is being taken to publish this news letter with new dimension with more information.

13.18. Reader's Forum

Readers Forum (*Vasagar Vattam*) is formed in each library with Educationists, Writers, Library Members and VIPs of the locality to promote people participation in the library activities. This forum organizes many important programmes to promote Library activities like Book Reviews, Literary Discourses, Book Exhibition, Oratoral and Essay Writing Competition, Quiz Programme etc., in District and Branch level libraries.

13.19. Budget

During the year 2011-2012 the Government allocated a sum of Rs.49.75 crore. For the year 2012-2013 the Government allocated a sum of Rs.49.63 crore to the Directorate of Public Libraries.

Public Library movement is a people's movement. For enabling lifelong self education from children to senior citizens by providing adequate / relevant reading materials, best infrastructure facilities including modern techniques.

**N.R.Sivapathi,
Minister for School Education,
Sports and Youth Welfare**