

SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE 2005-2006

DEMAND NO.41

**“In sandy soil, when deep you delve,
you reach the springs below;
“The more you learn, the freer
streams of wisdom flow”**

- **Thiruvalluvar**

Education is sine qua non for the social and economic development of a nation. Having regard to the importance of Education, the Government have been according top priority in allocating funds to education.

Under the dynamic leadership of our Hon'ble Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu has been in the forefront in implementing educational programmes over the years consistently. The Government in School Education Department has formulated the following policies for implementation:

- To provide primary schools in all habitations where there are no schools if the minimum population is 300 and there is no school within a radius of 1 km.
- To provide middle school access to all habitations within a radius of 3 k.m.
- To provide high school within a radius of 5 KM and Higher Secondary School within a radius of 8 KM.
- To enrol all school age children in schools.
- To provide five years of schooling to all these children before 2007.
- To provide eight years of schooling for all these children before 2010.
- To prevent dropouts fully before 2010.
- To improve the basic amenities in schools.
- To improve and enrich the syllabus.
- To improve the quality of education from the pre-school to the higher secondary level.
- To ensure minimum levels of learning.
- To impart refresher training to teachers.
- To remove illiteracy
- To remove gender gaps in literacy and enrolment
- To recruit meritorious teachers through written examination
- To open village libraries.
- To disseminate health education in schools.
- To involve parents in the management of schools.
- To impart computer education to all students so as to transform the society into a knowledge driven and digitally literate one.

The Directorates under the control of School Education Department implement various schemes promoting these objectives of the Government. The Directorates which shoulder the main responsibilities like the Directorate of Elementary Education, State Project Directorate, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Directorate of School Education, Directorate of Matriculation Schools, Directorate of Non-formal and Adult Education and other Directorates which provide resource and service support like Directorate of Teacher Education Research and Training, Directorate of Government Examinations, Teachers Recruitment Board, Tamil Nadu Text Book Corporation and Directorate of Public Libraries endeavour to enable Tamil Nadu achieve new heights in the field of education.

FINANCIAL OUTLAY

The outlay for School Education in 2005-2006 in Demand No. 41 is Rs. 4348.01 crores. Of this, Rs.377.63 crores is under Plan schemes.

Budget Estimate for 2005-2006

Head of Account	Plan	Non-plan	Total
		(Rupees in lakhs)	
2059 Public Works – Maintenance and repairs of Government school buildings	-	1530.07	1530.07
2202 General Education			
01 Elementary Education	16529.64	199108.27	215637.91
02 Secondary Education	6801.21	191378.44	198179.65
04 Adult Education	43.00	57.97	100.97
05 Language Development	3.00	414.75	417.75
80 General – Other Expenditure	0.01	--	0.01
Total - General Education	23376.86	390959.43	414336.29
2204 Sports & Youth Services	236.57	101.77	338.34
2205 Public Libraries	--	1502.28	1502.28
2225 Welfare of SC/ST and other BCs	1795.91	20.42	1816.33
2235 Social Security & Welfare	--	185.51	185.51
2251 Secretariat Social Services	--	223.69	223.69
2505 Rural Employment	4787.69	--	4787.69
4202 Capital Outlay on Education, Sports, Art and Culture	7565.72	--	7565.72
7610-Loans to Government Servants, etc.	--	15.00	15.00
7615 Miscellaneous Loan	--	0.50	0.50
Add Recoveries			2500.00
GRAND TOTAL	37762.75	394538.67	434801.42

New Schemes under Part II for the year 2005-2006

Sl. No.	Description of the schemes	Allocated Outlay	
		Plan Schemes	Non-plan Schemes
		Rs. in lakhs	
1	Supply of Computers to 100 Assistant Elementary Educational Offices at a unit cost of Rs.50000/-	--	50.00
2	Supply of 16 photo copier machines to the Directorate of Elementary Education and 15 District Elementary Educational Offices	--	15.00
3	Provision of personal computers to 3 officers in the Elementary Education Directorate (3 x Rs.50000)	--	1.50
4	Installation of new EPABX Board for the Directorate of Elementary Education	--	1.56
5	Construction of office building to 4 District Elementary Educational Offices (unit cost of Rs.7.68 lakhs)	30.72	--
6	Construction of Office buildings to 5 Assistant Elementary Educational Offices (unit cost of Rs.7.00 lakhs)	35.00	--
7	Upgrading of 60 High Schools into Higher Secondary Schools		157.76
8	Upgrading of 90 Middle schools in to High Schools	--	167.63
9	Computerisation of Directorate of School Education	--	10.00
10	Computerisation of 30 District Educational Officers offices at Rs.55000/- per office	--	16.50
11	Provision of 2 photocopiers and one fax machine for the Directorate of School Education	--	2.50
12	Replacement of EPABX Board in the Directorate of School Education	--	2.00
13	Provision of Science equipments for 50 High Schools and 100 Higher Secondary Schools	90.00	--
14	Supply of teaching appliances for 50 High Schools and 75 Higher Secondary Schools	30.00	--
15	Increasing Library access for 130 High Schools and 96 Higher Secondary Schools	37.50	--
16.	Establishing English Language teaching laboratories for 200 Higher Secondary Schools and 100 High Schools	150.00	--
17	Providing Computer Education for 90 Higher Secondary Schools	200.00	--
18	Inservice/Orientation programme	50.00	

	for Secondary and Higher Secondary Teachers		
19	Supply of teaching- tools for teaching new subjects for 80 Higher Secondary Schools	96.00	
20	Evaluation training programme for consistency in framing of questions and training programme to Chief Superintending /Chief Examiners of Higher Secondary examinations	10.00	--
21.	Special Literacy Programme for women in 43 educationally backward blocks	43.00	--
22.	Computerisation of Directorate of Teacher Education, Research and Training		8.44
23.	Machinaries and equipments like DVD, VCD, Public address system, TV etc. for the Directorate of Teacher Education, Research and Training		4.00
24.	Hardware for Educational Television Studio in the Directorate of Teacher Education, Research and Training		31.50
25.	Software for preparation of Educational TV programme		24.36
26.	Duplication and distribution of video programmes to District Institutes of Education and Training		6.00
27	Orientation to quality assurance in Matriculation schools for the school heads		7.00
28	Orientation to teachers for IX std. working in Matriculation/ Higher Secondary Schools in the revised syllabus		25.00
	Total	772.22	530.75
		1302.97	

Important achievements during 2001-2005

During 2001-2002, the scheme "Education for All" was introduced in all districts of the State to provide basic education to all children in the age group of 6-14. An outlay of Rs.1649 crores has been envisaged for this scheme during the X Plan period.

Under the scheme of Education for All, activities like opening of new schools, construction of school buildings, construction of Block and Cluster Resource centres, training of teachers, providing drinking water, toilet facilities and maintenance of schools etc. have been undertaken at a cost of Rs.357.15 crores up to 31.3.2004. The activities at a cost of Rs.449.04 crores are under implementation during 2004-2005.

1112 Elementary Schools, 2106 Middle Schools, 295 High Schools and 335 Higher Secondary Schools have been opened during 2001-2005. By this 100% schooling access at primary level and upper primary level has been achieved.

For the first time, financial assistance was obtained from NABARD for the Education Department for the improvement of infrastructure facilities like class rooms, laboratories, drinking water and toilet facilities in 605 Government High and Higher Secondary schools in three phases at a cost of Rs.182.74 crores and the works are nearing completion. Further assistance for schemes costing of Rs.232.10 crores has been received for the implementation of the above facilities in 549 Government High and Higher Secondary schools.

Single window system was introduced in admission to Teacher Training Institutes.

Steps were taken to impart training to about 20000 affected students of de-recognised Teacher Training Institutes among whom 15670 have completed training. Another batch of 3576 students are undergoing training during 2004-2005.

Instant Supplementary Examinations are being conducted for students who fail in one or two or three subjects in the annual examinations from standards 6-12.

To improve the standard of education, orders were issued to appoint B.Ed. qualified Graduate Teachers in 6,7th and 8th standards and accordingly being appointed.

46494 vacant teacher posts were authorised to be filled up during 2001-2005.

Orders were issued to select meritorious B.T. and P.G. teachers through competitive examination conducted by Teachers Recruitment Board without age limit. The Government have also removed the age limit for the appointment of Secondary Grade Teachers, Physical Education Teachers and Specialist teachers appointed through Employment Exchange.

A separate Directorate was formed in order to inspect the Matriculation Schools so as to make them function with prescribed facilities.

867 village libraries have been opened. A permanent book-fair has been established at Connemara Library in Chennai.

Young Talent Scheme has been launched to spot and nurture the talented children who excel in music, arts, oratory, etc.

No student studying in Tamil Nadu should leave the school without learning Tamil. Hence a landmark decision was taken by Hon'ble Chief Minister to introduce the subject "Ariviyal Tamil" from LKG to 12th standard in all categories of schools.

English language being a global language, it is important to know this language. Also knowledge of this language throws open employment opportunities throughout the world especially in IT Industry. Therefore orders were issued to teach the English language from the 1st std. in all State Board schools. English is being taught in I Standard from the academic year 2004-2005.

Various methods have been adopted for the improvement of percentage of passing in examination of school students. Special coaching classes are being conducted for the slow learners.

As large number of students fail in English, a new scheme was introduced from 2003-2004 to improve the proficiency of students in English. Accordingly orders were issued to establish the English Language laboratories in 600 Government High and Higher Secondary Schools. It will be extended to 300 Government High and Higher Secondary Schools during 2005-2006.

The usual practice of putting the first letter of the name of the father as initial to the name of the child at the time of admission in school has been changed and orders were issued to use the first letter of the name of the mother and father or the first letter of the name of the mother or the first letter of the name of the father as per the wish of the parents of the child.

No Detention for students studying in Class 1-5 from the academic year 2004 –2005 in all Government and aided schools provided the students have minimum 75% attendance will be implemented. At the same time, the quality of primary education is being ensured.

Admission norms have been relaxed in respect of out of school children, children of orphans, street children and children of AIDS/HIV affected parents and victims of commercial sexual exploitation by which they can be admitted at any time in the schools without insistence of records like birth certificate, community certificate etc.

The primary classes dropout rate of 16% in the year 2001-2002 has come down to 8% in the year 2003-2004 and further to 6% in the year 2004-2005. Likewise, the dropout rate in Middle Schools has been reduced to 9% in the year 2004-2005.

1. ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

According to Article 21-A of the Constitution of India, the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years. The Compulsory Elementary Education Act has been enacted in the year 1994 to enrol all school age children into schools. The State Government has been according top priority to achieve the goal of “**Education for all**”. Various welfare schemes implemented by the State Government have led to significant achievement not only in the enrolment and retention of students, but also in the reduction of dropouts.

1.1. OBJECTIVES

- Achieving enrolment of all school age children
- Retaining all the children enrolled upto completion of eighth standard in schools
- Bringing dropouts to zero percent
- Focusing on quality education
- Ensuring essential minimum level of learning competencies to all children
- Decentralization of Educational management through effective
- community participation

1.2. OPENING OF NEW PRIMARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Easy accessibility to schools ensures cent percent enrolment. 1112 new primary schools and 2106 middle schools have been opened between the years 2001-2005. 100% access to primary schools within 1 KM radius of habitations has been achieved in 2003-04. 100% access to upper primary schools within 3 KM radius of habitations has been achieved in 2004-2005.

1.3. NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS

There are about 3111 Nursery and Primary schools functioning with the approval of the department. Approval is given to these schools based on the “Code of Regulation for approved Nursery and Primary schools”.

After Kumbakonam fire tragedy, Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered to take various safety measures to ensure the safety of all school buildings. A committee under the supervision of District Collector has been constituted in each district to inspect all the schools which had thatched structures including midday meal centres and to ensure that the thatched structures are removed and replaced by non-flammable materials. Accordingly all the thatched structures have been removed. Besides this, the Government has taken various steps to ensure the safety of the children studying in schools. Government has prescribed obtaining No Objection Certificate from fire safety angle from the Station Officer, Fire and Rescue Services Department mandatory for all schools. Crash Training programmes on fire safety for school teachers have been organised.

The Government have appointed a Commission of Inquiry headed by Hon'ble Justice Thiru K.Sampath, Retired Judge of Madras High Court to inquire into the causes and the circumstances leading to the fire accident. The Commission will suggest reform measures needed to ensure that

such incidents do not recur. An Expert Panel has also been constituted to assist the Commission of Inquiry.

1.4. IMPROVEMENT OF QUALITY OF EDUCATION

In order to improve the quality of education, all teachers handling Standards 1-8 are being given a minimum of 20 days in service training every year under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Teachers are being given teacher grant of Rs.500/- every year for the preparation of Teaching Learning Materials to make class room teaching as a child-centred, activity based, joyful learning.

1.5. NO DETENTION POLICY

Detention affects the morale of the young minds and leads to discontinuance of their study and child labour thereby defeating the aim of Education for All. Hence, the Government have approved No Detention Policy for students studying in Standards 1-5 from the academic year 2004-2005 in all Government and aided schools provided the students have a minimum of 75% attendance. At the same time, the quality of primary education is being ensured.

1.6. INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES IN SCHOOLS

A school must be well equipped with the infrastructure facilities to achieve total enrolment and retention. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan scheme, 5601 Classrooms have been constructed up to 2003-2004. 10043 class rooms are being constructed during 2004-2005 and will be put in to use by June 2005. Besides, school grant to purchase table, chair, almirah etc. and maintenance grant to carry out white washing, repair of doors and windows and flooring etc. are now given every year. Under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana scheme, 1452 rural primary schools are provided steel benches and desks at a cost of Rs.4.00 crores during 2004-2005.

1.7. WELFARE SCHEMES

By implementing various welfare measures, most of the school age children have been enrolled and the dropout rate has been reduced. In the year 1982, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme was introduced. From the year 1985-86, the scheme of free supply of uniform to the noon meal beneficiaries in standards 1-8 was implemented. From the year 1986 onwards, free textbooks are supplied to all children from Standards 1 to 5 and children covered under Noon Meal Scheme in respect of 6 to 8 standards.

At present all students studying upto fifth standard in Government and Government Aided school get textbooks free of cost. Likewise students studying from 6th to 10th standard get textbooks free of cost subject to certain prescribed norms. In order to encourage the students to continue their studies upto 10th standard and to minimise the expenses of their parents, Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered to revise the existing prescribed norms for free supply of textbooks and supply free textbooks to all students. **By this, all students studying from 1st standard to 10th standard in Government and Government Aided schools will get textbooks free of cost from the coming academic year i.e. from 2005-2006.**

When an earning father or mother in a family dies or becomes permanently incapacitated due to accidents, their children in schools are unable to continue their studies due to lack of income. In such circumstances with a view to ensuring that the students are to continue their studies without any break, Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered to implement a new scheme. Under this new scheme, **students studying in standards 1 to 12 in Government and Government Aided schools whose earning father or mother dies in accident or become permanently incapacitated due to accident will be given financial assistance of Rs.50,000/- each.** This amount will be deposited in Government Financial Institutions. The interest accrued on the deposit amount and the maturity amount of deposit will be utilised towards the educational and maintenance expenses of the student.

1.8. ARIVIYAL TAMIL

No student studying in Tamil Nadu should leave the school without learning Tamil. Hence a landmark decision was taken by Hon'ble Chief Minister to introduce the subject "Ariviyal Tamil" from

LKG to 12th standard in all categories of schools. Consequent on the introduction of Ariviyal Tamil as one of the subjects in all schools from LKG to +2, all students are now studying Tamil. Textbooks on Ariviyal Tamil were supplied free of cost to the value of Rs.5.42 crores in the year 2003-2004 and Rs.4.70 crores in the year 2004-2005.

1.9. SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme is a comprehensive and integrated programme to attain Universalisation of Elementary Education(UEE). The said scheme is being implemented in all districts of our State for 1-8 standards. Under this project, a total outlay of Rs.1649 crore has been approved for a period of five years (2002-2007) with a sharing pattern of 75:25 by the Centre and the State

1.10.THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME ARE AS FOLLOWS

- Enrolment of all school age children in schools
- Completion of 5 years of schooling by all children by 2007
- Completion of 8 years of schooling by all children by 2010
- Imparting quality elementary education
- Total prevention of dropouts by 2010

1.11.Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.357.15 crore has been spent between 2001-04. The achievements for the period are as follows:-

New Primary & Middle Schools

- 1112 new Primary Schools opened with 2224 new posts of teachers. 100% school access at primary level.
- 1075 Primary Schools upgraded as Middle schools with 1948 posts of teachers.
- 249 Education Guarantee Scheme centres benefiting 7525 children in unserved habitations

Early Child Care Education

- 10000 Anganwadis upgraded as Nursery Schools benefiting 4.66 lakh children
- 573 Early Child Care and Education Centres in unserved habitations
- Training to 5573 Integrated Child Development Service workers
- Play materials to 5573 integrated Child Development Service centres

Out of School Children

5,366 bridge courses and 22 residential camps have been conducted; 3.63 lakh children have been mainstreamed

BRC, CRC, VEC

385 Block Resource Centres have been established; 3930 Cluster Resource Centres have been opened; 385 Supervisors and 2695 Block Resource Teachers were appointed
42828 Village Education Committees at school level have been constituted

Grants

- Teaching Learning Material grant @ Rs.500 each to 161080 teachers every year
- Maintenance grant @ Rs.5000 each to 32608 schools
- School grant @ Rs.2000 each to 37251 schools
- Teaching Learning Equipment grant @ Rs.10000 each to 1112 new Primary Schools @ Rs.50000 each to 1075 new Middle Schools.

Inclusive Education for Disabled

Inclusive Education for Disabled Programme through 52 Non-Government Organisations to 56939 disabled children

Training

- In service training for 150241 teachers
- Capacity building programme for 39795 Village Education Committee members and 7860 Cluster Resource Centre Coordinators
- Vocational skill training to 12657 teachers on various vocational skills
- Vocational skill training to 9.12 lakh girls in upper primary classes
- Training to 11520 teachers and teacher educators on computer literacy programme
- Computer Literacy Programme in 8473 Government schools for 15.29 lakh children
- Coaching classes to 6.45 lakh Adi-draavidar and Tribal children

Civil Works

- 168 Block Resource Centre buildings and 482 Cluster Resource Centre buildings completed
- 5601 Class rooms completed
- Drinking water facilities provided to 4804 schools and 5571 schools provided with toilet facilities

NPEGEL

- National Programme of Education for Girls at Elementary level in 13 blocks in 8 districts.
- 144 Model Cluster Schools: Building for 13 Model Cluster Schools
- Teaching Learning Equipment @ Rs.30000 each for 13 Model Cluster Schools
- Supplementary Learning material grant @ Rs.150 each to 107818 girls

1.12. Important activities being implemented in 2004-2005 at an outlay of Rs.449.04 crore under SSA

New Primary and Middle Schools

- Upgradation of 1031 Primary Schools as Middle schools – 1031 B.T grade posts, 100% access at upper primary level within 3 KM of all habitations; 878 additional BT grade posts.
- 363 Education Guarantee Scheme centres in unserved habitations benefiting 8045 children

Early Child Care Education

- Upgradation of 10000 Anganwadis as Nursery schools. With this 20000 Anganwadis have been upgraded as Nursery schools
- Play materials and kits to all the upgraded nursery schools @ Rs.1725 each
- Training to Integrated Child Development Scheme workers
- 147 new centres in unserved habitations

Out of School Children

- 6534 Bridge courses and 170 residential camps for 2.79 lakh out of school children with the participation of 389 NGOs.
- Path breaking Government order to enrol out of school children at any time in any school without insistence of birth certificate, community certificate etc.

Grants

- Teaching Learning Material grant @ Rs.500 each to 1.85 lakh teachers
- School grant @ Rs.2000 each to 49347 elementary schools and to schools having 6,7,8 classes
- Maintenance grant @ Rs.5000 each to 39915 elementary schools and schools having 6,7,8 classes
- Teaching Learning Equipment grant to 1225 middle schools @ Rs.50000 each

Inclusive Education for Disabled

- Inclusive Education for Disabled Programme for 71204 disabled children. A mammoth effort undertaken to enrol 59560 children in regular schools
- Provision of assistive devices to 13000 children
- New Resource Centre for children with special needs started in every Block Resource Centre

Training

- In-service training to 1.86 lakh teachers, Training to teachers in several new areas like Crisis/ Disaster management, Activity based learning
- Training to 1.40 lakh Village Education Committee members
- In-service training to 12657 teachers on various vocational skills
- Vocational skill training to 9.12 lakh girls.
- Special coaching classes to 8.50 lakh SC/ST children

Civil Works

- 77 Block Resource Centre buildings: 407 Cluster Resource Centre buildings taken up.
- 10043 Class rooms
- 1758 toilet facilities
- 1675 drinking water facilities
- All construction made disabled-friendly

NPEGEL

- National Programme of Education for Girls at Elementary Level in 28 blocks in 10 districts; 151 model cluster schools
- 67 class rooms: Teaching Learning Equipment @ Rs.30000 each to 67 model cluster schools
- Supplementary Learning Material grant @ Rs.150 each to 122220 girls

1.13 The activities of SSA scheme will be continued in the year 2005-2006 at an outlay of Rs.500.42 crores

1.14 Relaxation of admission norms

With a view to bringing the out of school children back to schools, Government have liberalised admission norms for such children. By these measures, out of school children could be admitted in schools at any time of the year and without insisting on various certificates like birth certificate. These concessions have also been extended to orphans/street children/Children of AIDS/HIV affected parents and victims of commercial sex exploitation.

1.15. Joint Review Mission of SSA

Government of India have commended the systematic implementation of Education for All (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan) programme by our state as a role model for other states to emulate. The first Joint Review Mission of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan consisting of representatives from the World Bank, European Union and Government of India, which visited during January – February 2005, has

appreciated the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in our state. The Joint Review Mission has observed:

“ The State has made steady progress in achieving the goals of universal access and enrolment. The pace and quality of programme implementation in the State is good and it should be possible for the state to achieve the goals of SSA sooner than most other states”

2. SECONDARY AND HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION

It is also the aim of the Government to achieve Universalisation of Secondary Education.

2.1. OBJECTIVES

100% enrolment and retention of all children upto X Standard

Providing quality education.

2.2. OPENING OF NEW HIGH AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

It is the policy of the Government to upgrade the Panchayat Union Middle Schools with a strength of 50 students in 8th Standard into High Schools, provided there are no Government high schools within a radius of 5 K.Ms. and to upgrade the existing Government High Schools with a strength of 100 students in the X Std. into Higher Secondary School in case there are no Higher Secondary Schools within 8 Kms. 295 High Schools and 335 Higher Secondary Schools have been opened in the last four years. **90 Government High Schools and 60 Government Higher Secondary Schools will be opened during 2005-2006.**

2.3. OPENING HIGH AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS UNDER PRIVATE MANAGEMENT

From 1.6.1991, permission is being accorded to open High and Higher Secondary Schools under private managements after obtaining an undertaking from them that they will not claim Government grant forever.

2.3. SPECIAL SCHEMES FOR STUDENT ENROLMENT

Beneficial schemes of the government like free uniforms, free text books, free mid-day meals, free bus passes and scholarship schemes are being effectively implemented to enhance the enrolment and retention.

2.4. GIRLS EDUCATION

Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, vocational skill training is imparted to all girl students studying in standards 6, 7 and 8.

A National programme of Education for Girls at Elementary level is in implementation in 28 blocks in 10 districts where the female literacy rate is below the national average and the gender literacy gap is more than the national average. Model Cluster schools are established. Supplementary Learning materials such as Dictionary, Atlas, Geometry box etc. valued at Rs.150/- for each girl student are also given.

A new scheme called Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya will be implemented in 28 blocks in 10 districts where the rural female literacy rate is below the national average and gender gap in literacy is more than the national average. Under this scheme, 37 residential schools will be established at a cost of Rs.8.59 crores for out of school girl children.

All Girl students belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying 11th and 12th standards in all Government and Government aided Higher Secondary Schools are provided bicycles free of cost.

2.6. SPECIAL COACHING CLASS FOR ADIDRAVIDAR AND TRIBAL STUDENTS

The special coaching programme is implemented to help the S.C/ S.T. children studying in standards VIII to XII. This special coaching is given in English, Mathematics and Science subjects in the evening after school hours. At present, this programme is implemented in 625 High Schools and 375 Higher Secondary Schools.

Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme, special coaching classes are also conducted for SC/ST students studying in VI to VIII standards.

2.7. APPOINTMENT OF TEACHERS IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY, MIDDLE, HIGH AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The standard of education in schools has improved considerably in the last four years due to several measures taken by the Government. One such measure is filling up of vacant teacher posts in schools. In spite of grave financial constraints faced by the Government, the Government did not impose any ban on recruitment of teachers. The Government have authorised filling up of 46494 vacant teacher posts from 2001-2002 to 2004-2005. Posts numbering 23677 permitted to be filled up upto 2003-2004 have been filled. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has ordered filling up of 22817 posts of teacher which were vacant in Government schools in the state as on 1.6.2004. These posts are being filled up.

2.8. NEW SYLLABUS

Based on the recommendations of state level expert committee under the Chairmanship of the Director of School Education, revised syllabus has been introduced in State Board Schools from the year 2003-2004 as follows:

Year	Standards in which the New books are to be introduced
2003-2004	6 th and 9 th all subjects; 10 th Tamil only (Already implemented)
2004-2005	7 th and 11-all subjects; 10 th all subjects except Tamil; (Already implemented)
2005-2006	8 th and 12 th all subjects

2.9. COMPUTER EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENT HIGH AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

To enable students to update their knowledge in keeping with the times and to increase employability in the field of computers. Computer science is being taught as a subject in 1197 Government Higher Secondary Schools. This scheme will be extended to 490 Government Higher Secondary Schools and 500 High Schools in 2005-2006.

2.10. IMPROVING BASIC AMENITIES IN GOVERNMENT HIGH AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Government is determined to provide the basic infrastructure facilities like classroom buildings, laboratory, toilets and drinking water to all Government High and Higher Secondary Schools. Schemes were formulated for this purpose and with financial assistance from NABARD. Infrastructure facilities have been sanctioned for 605 High and Higher Secondary Schools in three phases at a cost of Rs.182.74 crores. **In the fourth and fifth phase, 549 schools will be provided with class rooms and other facilities at a cost of Rs.232.10 crores.** In addition, classrooms, toilets and drinking water facilities are also provided under SSA Schemes. These basic facilities are also provided through Parent Teacher Association, M.L.A./M.P. Constituency/Local Area Development Scheme.

2.11. IMPROVING SCIENCE EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENT HIGH AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Science Education forms an essential part of the curriculum. Providing laboratory is essential to reinforce theoretical knowledge through practical experimentation. Hence steps have been taken to provide laboratory facilities and science equipments under State Plan Schemes and financial assistance from NABARD. Laboratories for 155 High Schools and 91 Higher Secondary Schools have been constructed. Under State Plan Scheme, science equipments to 125 High Schools and 150 Higher Secondary Schools and teaching appliances to 200 High Schools and 100 Higher Secondary Schools have been sanctioned during the years 2003-2005. **Science Equipments for 50 High Schools and 100 Higher Secondary Schools and teaching appliances to 50 High Schools and 75 Higher Secondary Schools will be supplied in the year 2005-2006.**

2.12. IMPROVING LIBRARY FACILITIES IN GOVERNMENT HIGH AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Learning is a continuous process. It is also a life-long process. In addition to learning the text books in classes, library study is also essential to develop the reading habit of students. So far, 626 schools have been provided with library facility. Further, schools are also linked with the nearby Public Libraries and good quality books are distributed to students. **During the year 2005-2006, 226 High and Higher Secondary Schools will be provided with library facility at a cost of Rs.37.50 lakhs.**

2.13. IMPROVEMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

Special emphasis is placed on the teaching of English language with a focus on expression and communication as these skills are required for securing employment opportunities in different sectors. English language teaching laboratories are being established in 600 Government High and Higher Secondary Schools. **In the year 2005-2006, 300 more Government High and Higher Secondary Schools will be covered.**

2.14. NATIONAL CADET CORPS, NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME, SCOUTS AND GUIDES AND RED CROSS SOCIETY

732 Junior wings of the NCC are functioning at school level comprising Navy, Air Force and Army Wings. There is a separate wing for girls.

The aim of the National Service Scheme is to foster the virtues of leadership, self confidence, patriotism, voluntary involvement and an aptitude for social service. At present, 1430 units are functioning in the State.

The scout movement is undertaking various social service activities like cleaning temples, tree plantation, traffic regulation, first aid etc. This activity is implemented in 5379 schools. The prestigious Rajya Puraskar award is given to the best scouts and guides every year.

The Junior Red Cross Society has been functioning in 4614 schools in Tamil Nadu.

2.14. NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR TEACHERS WELFARE

National Teachers Welfare Foundation was established in 1962. With assistance from the above Foundation, the following Schemes are implemented for the benefit of teachers:

Medical reimbursement of Rs.50,000/- or 75% of the actual cost whichever is less, for serious ailments.

A stipend to a maximum of Rs.6,000/- for the children of teachers who die while in service.

Assistance of Rs.10,000/- to physically handicapped and mentally retarded children of the teachers

A loan of Rs.50,000/- to children of teachers who are undergoing medical and engineering courses and a loan of Rs.10000/- for Arts and Science degree courses

Scholarship of Rs.5000/- for professional courses and Rs.2500/- for Diploma Courses.

2.16. STATE AWARD FOR TEACHERS

The 'Best Teacher Award' called Dr. Radhakrishnan Award are given every year on the 5th of September of Teacher's Day since 1960.

344 teachers from Primary, Middle, High and Higher Secondary Schools, Matriculation and Anglo-Indian Schools and Social Defence Schools are selected and given the award. The awardees are given a cash prize of Rs.2000/-, a gold coated silver medal and a certificate of appreciation. In addition, 6 teachers from the teacher training institutes are also awarded Best Teacher Awards.

2.17. NATIONAL AWARD FOR TEACHERS

The Ministry of Human Resource Development of Government of India gives National Award every year for the best teachers from all over the country. 25 teachers from Primary, Middle, High and Higher Secondary Schools and from teachers of special category are given the award.

The teachers selected for the National Award are given a prize amount of Rs. 25,000 a Silver Medal and a certificate of appreciation along with travelling allowance. In addition to this, the National awardee is given concession for III Tier A/C Railway journey and travel concession for all India tour with spouse.

2.18. PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS

Interaction and co-operation between parents and teachers is a must for the well being of the educational institution. Acting closely with the teachers, Parent Teachers Associations function with the aim of enrolling all children in the school going age, undertake constructive efforts to retain the pupil and collect donations for the developmental activities of schools.

The Parent Teachers Association plays an important role in the conduct of school improvement conferences which paves the way for augmenting the infrastructure facilities in all Government High and Higher Secondary Schools.

Under the School Puravalar Scheme, a minimum donation of Rs.1000 is collected from the public and with the interest accrued thereon, amenities are provided for the school.

3. MATRICULATION SCHOOLS

Matriculation Schools are self-financing English medium schools. These schools were once affiliated with the Universities of Madras and Madurai. From 1976, these schools were brought under the control of Directorate of School Education and are now under a separate Directorate of Matriculation Schools from 4.12.2001. These schools are following the curriculum and syllabus framed by the Board of Matriculation Education constituted under the chairmanship of Director of Matriculation Schools. There are about 3386 Matriculation schools and for effective supervision of these schools, 10 Inspectors of Matriculation schools are functioning.

3.1. REGULATION OF MATRICULATION SCHOOLS

Based on the recommendations of the committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr.S.V.Chittibabu, the Government has prescribed minimum infrastructure facilities for recognition of Matriculation Schools.

3.2. REVISION OF MATRICULATION CURRICULUM AND SYLLABUS

The revision of syllabus in the matriculation school will be implemented as per the schedule below:

Year	Standards
2005-06	LKG, UKG, I, II, VI and IX
2006-07	III, IV, VII and X
2007-08	V and VIII

The revised syllabus prepared by the High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr.A.Gnanam, former Chairman, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and former Vice Chancellor, Central University, Pondicherry and approved by the Board of Matriculation Education has been published on 12.1.2005.

3.3. TRAINING PROGRAMME

In order to enhance the competence of the teachers in matriculation schools, **training and orientation programmes will be conducted at a cost of about Rs.32.00 lakhs in 2005-2006.**

4. TEACHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND TRAINING

The objectives of this Directorate are to produce teachers of quality and impart in service training to teachers.

4.1. TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTES

There are 297 teacher training institutes in the State. The intake of students in these institutions is 19490 per year. The Government quota seats are being filled up by following the single window system from the academic year 2001-2002. The seats earmarked for management quota are filled up by management themselves.

A viable solution has been formulated on humanitarian grounds to redress the grievances of affected students who studied in the derecognised private teacher training institutes and 15670 students have completed their 2 years training by creating additional seats with the approval of the National Council for Teacher Education. Another batch of 3576 students are now undergoing training of 2 years from 2004-2005. Last batch of 3000 affected students will be given training during 2005-2006.

4.2. EDUCATION FOR ALL

“Education for All” scheme is implemented in all the districts of Tamil Nadu from 2001-2002. In-service training to teachers to attain this goal is entrusted with this Directorate. Training to teachers involves three levels of training – first to Key Resource Persons at state level, second to Block Resource Teacher Educators by DIET faculty at district level and third to teachers by Block Resource Teacher Educators at block level. Block resource teachers have been appointed in each block exclusively for this training. The teachers for classes 1 to 8 in turn are being given this in-service training by the Block resource teachers. Village Education Committees have been constituted in every village and training on Education for All is given to members of each committee.

4.3. EDUCATION TELEVISION STUDIO

The aim of Education Television Studio is to prepare audio/video cassettes for a clearer understanding of the syllabi. To improve the quality of primary education, video programmes are prepared for the benefit of students and telecast from the Doordharshan Kendra, Chennai under the “Kanbom – Karpom” programme. The video programmes are also used during the in-service training programmes conducted in the 29 District Institutes of Education and Training and in Block Resource Centres.

4.4. UTILISATION OF EDUSAT IN SCHOOLS OF TAMIL NADU

The ISRO has launched a dedicated satellite for education, termed as EDUSAT in September 2004. With the launch of this EDUSAT, TV, Radio and Data transfer has become affordable to educational institutions situated all over the country. Using this Satellite, quality education will be provided to school students especially in rural areas. This will also enable high quality in service training to school teachers in the state. Live programmes were broadcast through the studio at Anna University using EDUSAT in 2004-2005. For proper utilisation of EDUSAT, a plan of action has been formulated. Satellite interactive receiving terminals will be set up in all 29 District Institutes of Education and Training, 385 Block Resource Centres, 215 Urban Cluster Resource Centres and 2000 Government High and Higher Secondary Schools in a phased manner for which the assistance of Government of India has been sought.

5. NON FORMAL AND ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education and Non-formal Education are important educational strategies for achieving Universalisation of Elementary Education. The task of Non-formal Education is covered under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan scheme. The objective of this directorate is to impart literacy to all illiterates in the age group 15-35. To attain such an objective, Tamil Nadu Literacy Mission is functioning at the State Level and District Literacy Mission is functioning under the control of District Collectors at District Level.

5.1. OBJECTIVES

- 100% enrolment of adults in continuing education programme.
- Achieving total literacy
- Ensuring life long learning to all adults, dropouts and illiterates
- Reducing the gender gap in literacy

5.2. PERCENTAGE OF LITERACY

According to the Census of India, 2001, the literacy rate of Tamil Nadu in comparison to India is given below:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Average Percentage</u>
India	75.85	54.16	65.38
Tamil Nadu	82.33	64.55	73.47

5.3. CONTINUING EDUCATION

After the completion of the Total Literacy Campaign in 1999 and Post Literacy Programme in 2001, the Continuing Education Programme is implemented with the assistance of Government of India as the 3rd phase through the respective District Collectors. Those who have acquired literacy skills through Total Literacy Campaign and Post Literacy Programme can retain and foster their skills through the Continuing Education Programme.

This scheme is being implemented in 27 Districts for which the Government of India have so far released Rs.50.82 crores. Under this scheme, 11528 Continuing Education Centres and 1355 Nodal Continuing Education Centres are functioning. The total number of beneficiaries is 54.28 lakh, of which 23.44 lakh are men and 30.84 lakh are women.

5.4. SPECIAL PROGRAMME ON WOMEN LITERACY

Even after the implementation of Total Literacy Campaign, Post Literacy Programme and Continuing Education, the female literacy rate is low in certain Districts. Hence a special literacy programme for women has been implemented during 2004-2005. In 2005-2006, this programme will be continued with the aim of imparting literacy skill to illiterates in six months there by improving the literacy rate of women in 43 educationally backward blocks.

6. GOVERNMENT EXAMINATIONS

The foremost responsibility of the Directorate of Government Examinations is the conduct of examinations and publication of results in time. This directorate conducts 39 types of Government examinations. The most important school level examinations are the Higher Secondary, S.S.L.C., A.I.S.L.C. and Matriculation examinations.

The examinations for the Diploma in Teacher Education and Technical Teachers Certificates in subjects like Music, Drawing, Tailoring in the vocational stream are also conducted regularly. Instant supplementary public examinations are being conducted to enable the students failing in one or two or three subjects in the March/April Government public examinations to join higher educational courses immediately without wasting one whole academic year. 94,298 students were benefited in the June 2004 instant supplementary examinations.

6.1. ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS IN MARCH/ APRIL 2004

Examination	No.of Candidates appeared	No.of Candidates passed	Percentage of Pass
Higher Secondary (+2)	506754	386653	76.30
S.S.L.C	664900	514391	77.40
Matriculation	85998	77360	90.00
Anglo-Indian	4787	4528	94.60

6.2. PROCEDURES TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Central valuation system is adopted

Dummy numbers are assigned to the answer scripts in the subjects of Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Botany, Zoology, Mathematics, Commerce, Accountancy and Engineering based vocational subjects in the Higher Secondary public examination. Dummy numbers are assigned to answer scripts in all subjects of Matriculation Public examination.

Candidates can ask for retotalling of the valuation of their answer scripts and also get the Xerox copies of their answer scripts in the subjects of Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Biology, Botany and Zoology in Higher Secondary Examination. In case of doubt, they can ask for revaluation on payment of prescribed charges.

6.3. PREVENTION OF BOGUS CERTIFICATES

To counter the menace of the bogus certificates, in-built secret security features have been introduced in the mark certificates by using modern laser technology. Besides, the mark certificates are issued to the students with an endorsement by the Headmaster on the reverse of the certificates that "This mark certificate is distributed through this school".

6.4. WEBSITE FOR THE DIRECTORATE

A separate website for the directorate www.tn.gov.in/dge gives information regarding the schedules of examinations, application forms, rates of fee and procedure for obtaining duplicate certificates and certified copies of mark sheets. A reception counter has also been set up at the directorate level to cater the needs of the students and general public.

6.5. TALENT SEARCH EXAMINATIONS

This directorate conducts the National Talent Search Preliminary Examination for selecting 9th Standard passed students for the main examination conducted by the National Council of Educational Research and Training at All-India level. In the year 2004, 290 students were selected.

Under the Government of Tamil Nadu Scheme, 50 girls and 50 boys from the rural areas in each district are selected from those who have completed 8th Standard by conducting Rural Talent Search Examination. The selected students are awarded Rs.1000/- per year up to 12th Standard.

6.6. TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Training programmes on question paper-setting and evaluation of answer scripts for the teachers in 25 academic subjects in +2 course will be conducted in 2005-2006 at a cost of Rs.10.00 lakh

7. TEACHERS RECRUITMENT BOARD

The Teachers Recruitment Board started functioning from the year 1988 as a specialised institution with the objective of selecting teachers with aptitude, ability and sense of involvement through an open, written competitive and transparent recruitment process.

7.1. DETAILS OF TEACHERS RECRUITED UNDER VARIOUS CATEGORIES BETWEEN THE YEARS 2001-2002 AND 2004-2005 IS TABULATED BELOW:

Name of the Post	Years			
	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Vocational Instructors (Agriculture)	100			
Block Resource Teachers		3480		
School Assistant from Noon Meals Organisers			218	
School Assistants including Language Pandits	773	809	14 (Minority Languages) 5529	272 (Selected from terminated Junior Lecturers 7655)
Post Graduate Assistants	611	488	1387	368
Senior Lecturer	--	---	---	
Lecturer	--	---	---	
Junior Lecturer	--	444	211	
Total	1484	5221	7377	8295

7.2. INNOVATIONS IN THE RECRUITMENT PROCEDURE

Teachers Recruitment Board continued the computerised system introduced in 2001 for the conduct of Examinations and selection process. Application forms capable of being scanned and read through Intelligent Character Recognition System were used for speedy data verification and generation of database. Teachers Recruitment Board introduced Objective type multiple-choice questions and OMR Answer Sheets for marking answers in the written examinations. The details of vacancies, schedules for selection, marks obtained by the candidates in the written examination, and the final selection list after Certificate Verification are released through the Teachers Recruitment Board Website <http://trb.tn.nic.in>, enabling the public to know the various stages in the recruitment process. Teachers Recruitment Board also has created a Home Page which highlights all important activities and schedules of Teachers Recruitment Board for the whole year.

8. TAMIL NADU TEXT BOOK CORPORATION

8.1. PRINTING OF TEXTBOOKS

Tamil Nadu Text book Corporation was established in the year 1970. This Corporation prints and supplies the following text and other books:

- Text books for 1-12 stds. of State Board Schools.
- 10th Std. books for Matriculation and Anglo-Indian Schools
- Text books for minority language students in stds. 1-10; Language books for +1, +2 students; Readers upto 12th Standard
- Text books for L.K.G. to +2 Std. of Ariviyal Tamil
- Guides for 10th and +2 students of Adi-Dravidar, Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes Schools besides note books.
- Question bank, model question booklet and guides for entrance test of professional courses.
- Source books for Diploma in Teacher Education Course.

8.2. SUPPLY OF TEXTBOOKS

The printed textbooks both for free supply and sale are distributed through 21 Regional Offices of the Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation. The Regional Offices distribute the text books to the offices of the Education Department and other Welfare Departments, which in turn distribute these text books to the schools well in advance, enabling the students to have the text books immediately on reopening of schools. The text books meant for sale are distributed through the network of 42 District Cooperative Societies at the wholesale level and 2000 private retailers at the retail level. This ensures that all schools get their requirement fairly well before the opening of the schools.

A Sales Emporium is functioning on all working days at the administrative office of the Corporation at Chennai.

8.3. FREE TEXTBOOKS

At present Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation prints and distributes free textbooks to all students enrolled in Standard 1 to 5 and also supplies free textbooks to the noon-meal beneficiaries in standards 6 to 8 in Panchayat, Government and Aided Schools. The production cost is being reimbursed by the State Government to the Corporation. Besides this, Adidravidar and Tribal Welfare, Backward Classes and Minorities welfare, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities welfare departments are also supplying free text books. From the academic year 2005-2006, all students studying from 1st Standard to 10th Standard in Government and Government Aided Schools will be supplied text books free of cost.

8.4. NOTEBOOKS

Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation brings notebooks for Government Departments and for open market sales. Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation has also brought out flexible notebooks in laminated multi colour wrapper in the best quality paper at an economical price in addition to the conventional type of notebooks for open market sales.

9. PUBLIC LIBRARIES

9.1. OPENING OF NEW LIBRARIES

Each district is having a central library. Branch libraries are opened in places where the population is above 5000. Village libraries are opened where the population is between 1000-5000 with the support of the local public. Part-time libraries are opened wherever the population is less than 1000.

Libraries in Tamil Nadu

	No. of libraries
State Central library	1
District Central Libraries	29
Branch libraries	1568
Mobile libraries	12
Village libraries	1492
Part-time libraries	649
Total	3751

Number of members	34,92,326
Number of books	5,12,93,763
Number of readers	4,55,94,704

9.2. CONNEMARA PUBLIC LIBRARY, CHENNAI

The Connemara Public Library, Chennai is the State Central Library. It is one of the four National Depository Libraries in India which receives a copy of all books, Newspapers and Periodicals published in India at free of cost. It also serves as a Deposit Centre for UNESCO as well as Asian Development Bank Publications. **The services of the Connemara Public Library has been fully computerised with touch screen containing information about Connemara Public Library and internet facilities.**

The Connemara Public Library has been selected by the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkatta as the Best State Central Library for the year 2003.

9.3. RAJA RAMMOHUN ROY LIBRARY FOUNDATION ASSISTANCE

The RAJA RAMMOHUN ROY LIBRARY FOUNDATION, KOLKOTTA is rendering financial assistance to all States for developing public library movement. The assistance availed from the Foundation for the last four years is as follows:

Year	Rs. in Lakhs
2001 – 2002	100.00
2002 – 2003	150.00
2003 – 2004	150.00
2004 – 2005	200.00

9.4. LIBRARY CESS

The local bodies, collect library cess at the rate of 10 paise per rupee on property tax. The details of the cess received from local bodies during the last three years as detailed below:

Year	Rs. in Crores
2001 – 2002	16.31
2002 – 2003	22.48
2003 – 2004	38.28

9.5. PURCHASE OF BOOKS

In order to apprise the public with the recent scientific advancements and spend their leisure time in useful ways, good Tamil and English books are added to the libraries every year. During 2004–2005, a sum of Rs.8.53 crores have been incurred to purchase 3994 titles in Tamil books and a sum of Rs.2.44 crores to purchase 2411 titles in English books.

9.6. NEWSLETTER

A quarterly magazine "POTHU NOOLAGA CHEITHI MADAL" is being published. Developmental activities of the department and information about library movement are highlighted, and the magazine is well received by the Public.

9.7. VASAKAR VATTAM (READERS FORUM)

In order to make the library movement a public movement and to inculcate the reading habit among the public, an organisation called VASAKAR VATTAM is formed for each and every library comprising of educationists, readers of the library, and local residents. This Forum is conducting Book Introduction / Literary Lectures periodically.

9.8. CIVIL SERVICES STUDY CIRCLE

For the benefit of the downtrodden and weaker sections and the youth to participate in the competitive examinations conducted by various organisations such as the Banking Recruitment Board, Railway Recruitment Board, Union Public Service Commission, Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission, etc. "Civil Service Study Circle" has been started in 150 libraries including District Central Libraries and Libraries located in Municipal areas.

9.9. CONSTRUCTION OF LIBRARY BUILDINGS

In order to make the public to read in an airy and spacious place, library buildings are being constructed for the libraries housed in rented buildings. Out of the total number of 3751 Libraries, 1340 Libraries are functioning in own buildings, 349 Libraries are functioning in rented buildings and 2062 Libraries are functioning in rent-free buildings. Buildings for 40 libraries are under construction at a total cost of Rs.264 lakhs.

9.10.COMPUTERISATION

In order to render efficient and speedy library service to the public with the use of modern technology, Computer facilities have been provided to all District Central Libraries.

During 2004-2005, 10 prominent Libraries located at Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, Namakkal, Kancheepuram, Dharmapuri, Salem, Erode and Chennai Districts are being provided with Computers at a total cost of Rs.20/- lakhs with the financial assistance of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation. Internet facilities will be provided in 100 Public Libraries located in Municipal areas by the Local Library Authority during 2005-2006.

9.11.BOOK EXHIBITION

In order to develop book reading and buying habit among the Public, a permanent book exhibition has been started at Connemara Public Library, Chennai during February 2004.

10.RELIEF MEASURES FOR THE TSUNAMI AFFECTED SCHOOL STUDENTS

- Free supply of two sets of uniforms and free textbooks to students affected by Tsunami.
- Issue of duplicate certificates by the Directorate of Government Examinations to those who have lost their certificates in the Tsunami disaster without payment of fees. 263 duplicate SSLC certificates and 150 duplicate +2 certificates were issued.
- Exemption to +2 students in Tsunami affected areas from the submission of new practical note books in the event of their record note books got lost or damaged and awarding 20 marks earmarked for the same to such students.
- Separate public examination for standard 10th (SSLC/Matriculation/Anglo Indian and +2 students studying in the Tsunami affected schools. 10181 higher secondary students, 16564 S.S.L.C. students and 126 matriculation students will write this separate examination.
- The Government will bear the tuition fees and special fees payable to the concerned educational institutions from January 2005 by the students affected by Tsunami. Accordingly, the Government will bear the special fees of such students studying in Government/Government aided schools, the tuition fees and Special fees of such students studying in Matriculation schools, Government aided and unaided Arts and Science Colleges, Universities, Polytechnics and Industrial Training Institutes. Further, exemption is granted to such students from the payment of Public Examination fees. These concessions will be granted during the academic year 2005-2006 also.

C.Ve. Shanmugam
Minister for Education and Commercial Taxes