HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE
2026 – 2027

DEMAND No. 20

P.VISWANATHAN

MINISTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

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2026

HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
POLICY NOTE 2026-27
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"தொட்டனைத் தூறும் மணற்கேணி மாந்தர்க்குக் கற்றனைத் தூறும் அறிவு"

"The deeper you delve into the earth, the greater will be the flow of water. Likewise knowledge is in proportion to your learning."

(Thirukkural 396)

1. INTRODUCTION

Higher education occupies a central place in Tamil Nadu's vision of building an equitable, prosperous, and knowledge-driven society. Encompassing a wide range of educational pathways including undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, research degrees, diplomas, professional education, and distance learning, the higher education ecosystem serves

as a critical bridge between individual aspirations and collective social progress. As a complex and diverse system, it requires policies that are responsive to varying institutional realities, learner needs, and emerging societal challenges.

Tamil Nadu has been consistently leading in higher education, distinguished by its high Gross Enrolment Ratio, extensive institutional network, and commitment to geographical and social equity. The State's sustained investments in expanding access have enabled millions of first-generation students, women, students from marginalized communities, and economically disadvantaged groups to enter higher education. As access continues to expand, the focus must increasingly shift towards the next stage of transformation. strengthening research and innovation, enhancing employability, and ensuring greater societal relevance.

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The higher education system of Tamil Nadu is guided by the enduring values of social justice, rationality, inclusiveness, equality, and scientific temper. These principles are not merely foundational ideals but are expected to find expression in institutional practices, academic programmes, research priorities, and student experiences. Higher education must create not only skilled professionals and productive workers, but also informed citizens, critical thinkers, ethical leaders, and engaged members of society.

To translate these foundational ideals into tangible outcomes, the State has implemented a robust educational framework of progressive interventions designed to support learners comprehensively from initial entry to advanced academic inquiry. Ensuring equitable access remains a paramount administrative priority, systematically facilitated through the Tuition Fee

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Waiver Scheme, the First-Generation Graduation Concession Scheme, the pioneering 7.5% reservation for government school students, and essential logistical assistance via bus pass concessions and textbook distribution. Advancing this framework of equal access, the State has implemented strategic student welfare and financial assistance measures, notably the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme alongside Puthumai Penn Thittam and Tamil Puthalvan Thittam, while the Vetri Laptop Distribution Scheme actively bridges the digital education divide.

The contribution of higher education extends far beyond the boundaries of campuses and classrooms. The economic growth of the State, the strength of its institutions, the vitality of its democratic traditions, the advancement of science and technology, and the creation of an informed and progressive society are all closely

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linked to the quality of its higher education system. Graduates constitute the skilled workforce that powers industries and public institutions, while researchers and innovators generate knowledge that addresses contemporary challenges and creates new opportunities for development.

At a time when technological change, artificial intelligence, new forms of learning, and global economic shifts are reshaping higher education worldwide, Tamil Nadu must position its institutions to remain relevant, competitive, and future-ready. The State’s aspiration of becoming a leading knowledge economy and a major contributor to national development depends significantly on the strength of its higher education ecosystem and the quality of its human capital.

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REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 2026-27

Under Demand No.20 Higher Education, Total Outlay: **Rs. 8393.16 crore**

Sl. No.	Head of Department	Amount Allotted (Rs. in crore)
1.	Higher Education Department, Secretariat	12.57
2.	Directorate of Collegiate Education	4620.30
3.	Directorate of Technical Education	2340.80
4.	Universities	1284.06
5.	Commissionerate of Tamil Nadu Archives and Historical Research	27.12
6.	Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology	0.97
7.	Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre	4.47
8.	Science City	1.66
9.	Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education	101.21
10.	Tamil Nadu State Council for Technical Education	0.0001
	Total	**8393.16**

- **HIGHER EDUCATION** is Demand No.20. Group 1 answers that cite a demand number read as first-hand reading of the note.
- Collegiate Education alone takes **Rs.4,620.30 crore** - over half the department's outlay. The single largest line in Demand No.20.
- Total outlay of the Higher Education Department for **2026-27** is **Rs.8,393.16** crore (Revised Budget Estimate, Demand No.20).

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2. TECHNICAL EDUCATION

2.1. INTRODUCTION

The Directorate of Technical Education (DOTE) was established in 1957 to oversee and coordinate Technical Education in Tamil Nadu. It is responsible for developing new courses, updating curricula, promoting research activities, and ensuring the quality of Technical Education. DOTE also conducts Government Technical Examinations in Typewriting, Shorthand, Accountancy and Computer on Office Automation.

DOTE, **1957**. Pair it with Collegiate Education (**1965**) and Anna University (**1978**) for the founding-year chain.

There are 443 Engineering Colleges and 412 Polytechnic Institutions, including Government, Government-Aided, Anna University, and Self-Financing Institutions. The 55 Government Polytechnic Colleges offer 54 Diploma courses, while the 11 Government Engineering Colleges offer 16 Undergraduate Engineering courses, and 7 of these colleges also offer 16 Post-graduate

The scale of technical education in Tamil Nadu: 443 engineering colleges, 412 polytechnics, across Government, aided, Anna University and self-financing streams.

55 Government polytechnics run 54 diploma courses. The Government share of the 412 polytechnics is small - an equity point examiners like.

Only 11 of the 443 engineering colleges are Government-run. This number recurs throughout the note - alumni associations, foreign language labs, **ERP**.

Engineering courses. These Programs are designed to provide students with strong technical foundation, industry-relevant skills, and better employment opportunities. During the academic year 2025–26, a total of 1,72,906 students were enrolled in 412 Polytechnic Colleges, including 1,54,855 male and 18,051 female students. In the 443 Engineering Colleges, a total of 7,18,374 students were enrolled, comprising 4,38,044 male and 2,80,330 female students.

- Polytechnic enrolment **2025-26**: 1,72,906 (1,54,855 male, 18,051 female). The gender gap in diploma education is a standing essay theme.
- Engineering enrolment **2025-26**: 7,18,374 students - 4,38,044 male and 2,80,330 female. Female share here is far better than in polytechnics.

NUMBER OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN TAMIL NADU (2025-2026)

Category	Engineering Colleges	Polytechnic Colleges	Total
Government Colleges	11	55	66
Government Aided Colleges	3	31	34
Self-Financing Colleges	409	322	731
Affiliated Colleges to DOTE	-	4	4
Anna University Colleges	20	-	20
TOTAL	**443**	**412**	**855**

2.2. WELFARE SCHEMES AND INITIATIVES

2.2.1. 7.5% SEATS ON PREFERENTIAL BASIS TO GOVERNMENT SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Tamil Nadu Admission to Undergraduate Professional courses on preferential basis to students of Government Schools Act, 2021 was enacted in order to take affirmative action to bring about equality between students studying in Government schools and in private schools. Under this scheme, entire Fee such as Tuition Fee, Hostel Fee and Transportation Fee is being borne by the Government. From the academic year 2021-22 to 2025-26 number of the beneficiaries in first year increased from 6,613 to 12,124 and the expenditure incurred is Rs.344.68 Crore. Cumulatively 40,653 students have benefitted from this scheme. For the academic year 2026-27 a sum of Rs.390.65 Crore is allocated in the Budget for implementing the scheme.

- The 7.5% horizontal reservation Act, **2021** - the single most quoted higher-education law of Tamil Nadu. Know the exact title.
- First-year beneficiaries under the 7.5% scheme nearly doubled from 6,613 (**2021-22**) to 12,124 (**2025-26**); **Rs.344.68 crore** spent so far.
- 40,653 Government-school students admitted under the 7.5% quota since **2021-22**. **Rs.390.65 crore** is allocated for **2026-27**.

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2.2.2. FIRST GENERATION GRADUATION CONCESSION SCHEME IN ENGINEERING COLLEGE STUDENTS

To enable the students from all sections of the society to take up professional courses, Tuition Fee concession to "First Generation Graduate" students admitted in Engineering Colleges in the State is offered through Single Window Counselling. During the academic year 2025-26 the number of beneficiaries is 1,93,624 and the expenditure incurred is Rs.469.69 Crore. For the academic year 2026-27 a sum of Rs.469.79 Crore is allocated in the Budget for implementing the scheme and 2,00,000 students are likely to be benefitted.

- Tuition-fee concession for first-generation graduates in engineering - 1,93,624 beneficiaries in **2025-26** at **Rs.469.69 crore**, the department's biggest scholarship by headcount.
- **Rs.469.79 crore** is set aside for **2026-27** to cover 2,00,000 first-generation graduate students.

2.2.3. POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The Post Matric Scholarship Scheme was introduced with the objective to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio of SC, ST and SC converted into Christian students in higher

- The Post Matric Scholarship Scheme's stated objective - note the explicit inclusion of **SC** converted to Christianity, a Tamil Nadu-specific category.

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education. All compulsory and non-refundable Fee fixed by the Fees Fixation Committee are paid for the Engineering and Diploma students admitted under the Government / Management Quota in Self Financing Institutions including minority institutions. Academic allowance is also paid to the students. During the academic year 2025-26, 56,473 Polytechnic College students and 1,16,570 Engineering College students are benefitted under the scheme and the expenditure incurred is Rs.341.92 crore. For the academic year 2026-27, 60,000 Polytechnic College students and 1,25,000 Engineering College students are likely to be benefitted under the scheme.

- Post Matric Scholarship reach in **2025-26**, at **Rs.341.92 crore**. Targets for **2026-27** are 60,000 and 1,25,000.

2.2.4. POST GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP

The Government provides a stipend of Rs.6,000 per month to 1200 post-graduate students studying in Government, Government

aided Engineering Colleges, Anna University Department Colleges and Anna University Constituent Colleges 938 students have availed Post-Graduate Assistantship in Engineering Colleges for the academic year 2025-26 and incurred expenditure of Rs.6.75 Crore. A sum of Rs.8.64 Crore is allocated for implementing the scheme for 1200 students in the academic year 2026-27.

2.2.5. ISRO SCIENTIST SCHOLARSHIP FOR PG STUDENTS

- A scholarship named after **ISRO** scientists for 10 **PG** students admitted under the 7.5% Government-school quota - a small but very quotable scheme name.

To create interest in scientific discovery among Engineering students, a scholarship named after accomplished scientists will be awarded to 10 students who were admitted under the 7.5% allocation given to Government School students. These students must have completed their Undergraduate Engineering course and gained admission to a Master's Engineering course.

Through this scheme, they will be reimbursed all Fee, including Tuition Fee and Hostel Fee. A corpus fund of Rs. 10 Crore has been allotted for this Scholarship. The process of selecting the top ten students for the award of the ISRO Scientist Scholarship is currently in progress.

2.2.6. PUDHUMAI PENN SCHEME

Recognizing the low enrolment of girl students from Government schools to higher education and with the objective of promoting higher education among girls from economically weaker sections monthly financial assistance of Rs.1,000/- is provided to girl students pursuing higher education who have studied from Classes VI to XII in Government schools or from Classes VI to XII in Tamil Medium in Government-aided schools. During the academic year 2025-26, the number of beneficiaries is 56,971 in Engineering

Colleges and 7802 in Polytechnic colleges under the Scheme. For the academic year 2026-27, 60,000 Students from Engineering Colleges and 8,000 Students from Polytechnic Colleges are expected to be benefitted.

2.2.7. TAMIL PUDHALVAN SCHEME

With the objective of promoting higher education among boys belonging to economically weaker sections, monthly financial assistance of Rs.1,000/- is provided to boy students pursuing higher education who have studied from Classes VI to XII in Government schools or from Classes VI to XII in Tamil Medium in Government-aided schools. During the academic year 2025-26, the number of beneficiaries is 67,836 in Engineering Colleges and 57,486 in Polytechnic Colleges under the Scheme. For the academic year 2026-27, 70,000 Students from Engineering Colleges and

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60,000 Students from Polytechnic Colleges are expected to be benefitted.

2.2.8. TUITION FEE WAIVER SCHEME IN GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES

Most of the students pursuing Diploma courses belong to socially and economically disadvantaged sections of society. In order to encourage and support these students, the Government is waiving the Tuition Fee for the students studying in Government Polytechnic Colleges. During the academic year 2025–26, 51,284 students have been benefited. 52,000 students are expected to be benefitted in the academic year 2026-27.

2.2.9. BUS PASS CONCESSION SCHEME

Students studying in Government Polytechnic Colleges have been given free bus pass. During the academic year 2025-26,

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40,922 have been benefitted in the above scheme. 42,000 students are expected to be benefitted in the academic year 2026-27.

2.2.10. DISTRIBUTION OF TEXT BOOKS

Free Text books are being distributed to all the first year Diploma students getting admission in Government Polytechnic Colleges. Books for all the four major subjects in the first year Diploma Programme namely English, Engineering Mathematics, Engineering Physics and Engineering Chemistry are being distributed to help the Polytechnic college students to excel in their studies. During 2025-26, 13,864 students are benefited and Rs.39.31 Lakh has been spent for the above Scheme. For the academic year 2026-27, 14,000 students are expected to be benefitted and Rs.40.80 Lakh is expected to be incurred.

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2.2.11. INTERNSHIP TRAINING

The Government provided short-term internship support for Engineering and Polytechnic students to help them gain practical industry experience. To strengthen industry ties, six months internship model has been introduced from the academic year 2025-26 and 7068 final year students from Polytechnic Colleges are benefited. In addition to the existing six-month internship program, a one-year internship program has been introduced from the academic year 2026–27 through partnerships with 85 industries. This long-term internship program is integrated into the curriculum, enabling students to gain extensive practical industry experience while pursuing their studies. The initiative is designed to strengthen industry academia collaboration, equip students with job-ready skills, and enhance their employability and career

Six-month internship for final-year polytechnic students from **2025-26**; 7,068 benefited. A one-year internship starts in **2026-27** through 85 industry partnerships.

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opportunities. Students receive monthly stipends directly from industries and the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS). For the Academic year 2026-27, 10,000 students are likely to be benefitted under the scheme.

2.2.12. INTENSIVE COACHING FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

The Intensive Coaching for competitive examination scheme was introduced to enable the students to succeed in GATE/CAT/GMAT/GRE and IELT/TOEFL competitive examinations, and also to enhance their employment opportunities with reputed firms at the National and International level. A recurring fund of Rs.1.19 Crore has been allotted in 2026-27 for implementing this scheme and the process of conducting intensive coaching is under progress for the academic year 2026-27.

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2.2.13. TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES

To provide interested students with enhanced academic support and equip them with foreign language skills for improved employment and career opportunities, training in foreign languages such as French, German, and Japanese is being offered to final-year students of the 11 Government Engineering Colleges. Foreign Language Laboratories have been established in all 11 Government Engineering Colleges to facilitate this initiative. For the academic year 2026–27, around 2,000 students are likely to be benefitted under the scheme.

2.2.14. EARN WHILE LEARN DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

The Earn While Learn Diploma Programme in Digital Manufacturing Technology was introduced in five Government Polytechnic Colleges to meet the evolving needs of industry

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and enable students to enhance their qualifications while earning a stipend during their course of study. During the academic year 2026-27, 150 students are expected to be admitted.

Similarly, the Earn While Learn Diploma Programme in Renewable Energy was introduced from the academic year 2025–26 in eight Government Polytechnic Colleges to cater to the growing demand for skilled manpower in the renewable energy sector. During the academic year 2026-27, 240 students are expected to be admitted.

2.2.15. SELF SUPPORTING DEGREE AND DIPLOMA COURSES IN ENGINEERING AND POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES FOR WORKING PROFESSIONALS

Employees working in industrial organizations can enhance their knowledge and

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competencies by pursuing Degree and Diploma Programmes relevant to their respective fields. Such programmes enable them to acquire contemporary technical skills and upgrade their professional capabilities in line with the latest technological advancements in industry. This, in turn, enhances their employability, career progression and opportunities for improved remuneration within their organizations. With a view to facilitate lifelong learning and skill upgradation for working professionals, permission has been accorded by the Government of Tamil Nadu to commence self-supporting Degree and Diploma courses in Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges for employees working in industries from the academic year 2025-26.

During the academic year 2026-27, 11 self-supporting diploma courses for working

- Self-supporting degree and diploma courses for working professionals begin in 21 polytechnic colleges - lifelong learning under **NEP** framing.

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professionals will be commenced in 21 Polytechnic Colleges.

2.2.16. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMERGING COURSES IN GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING AND POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES

Considering the rapid advancement of technology and the evolving requirements of industry, students can acquire skill training in emerging fields and also to enhance their employment opportunities, the new emerging UG courses such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Cyber Security, Data Science, Information Technology, Mechatronics, Robotics and Automation, Instrumentation Engineering and Industrial Biotechnology have been introduce in 11 Government Engineering Colleges and also the Diploma courses such as Digital Manufacturing Technologies, Cyber System and, Information Security, Food Technology, Fire Technology and

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Safety, Packaging Technology, Petrochemical Engineering, Footwear Technology, Leather and Fashion Technology, Fashion and Clothing Technology have been introduced in 9 Government Polytechnic Colleges.

NEW COURSES – ENGINEERING COLLEGES

S.NO	NAME OF THE ENGINEERING COLLEGES	COURSES	STUDENT INTAKE
1	Government College of Technology, Coimbatore	B.E. Computer Science and Engineering (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning)	60
2	Government College of Engineering, Salem	B.E. Computer Science and Engineering (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning)	60
3	Government College of Engineering, Bargur	B.E. Computer Science and Engineering (Cyber Security)	60
4	Government College of Engineering, Bodinayakanur	B.E. Computer Science and Engineering (Data Science)	60

5	Government College of Engineering, Erode	B.E. Computer Science and Engineering (Data Science)	60
6	Alagapppa Chettiyar Government College of Engineering and Technology, Karaikudi	B.Tech. Information Technology	60
7	Government College of Engineering, Dharmapuri	B.Tech. Information Technology	60
8	Government College of Engineering, Srirangam	B.E. Mechatronics Engineering	60
9	Thanthai Periyar Government Institute of Technology, Vellore.	B.E. Robotics and Automation	60
10	Government College of Engineering, Thanjavur	B.E. Robotics and Automation	60
11	Government College of Engineering, Tirunelveli	B.E. Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering	60
		B.Tech. Industrial Biotechnology	60
Total			**720**

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NEW COURSES – POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES

S.NO	NAME OF THE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES	COURSES	STUDENT INTAKE
1	Thanthai Periyar E.V.R Government Polytechnic College, Vellore	Digital Manufacturing Technologies	30
2	Government Polytechnic College, Srirangam	Cyber System and Information Security	30
3	Government Polytechnic College, Papanasam, Thanjavur	Food Technology	30
4	Central Polytechnic College, Chennai	Fire Technology and Safety	30
5	Government Polytechnic College, Coimbatore.		30
6	Institute of Printing Technology, Tharamani, Chennai	Diploma in Packaging Technology	30

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7	Institute of Chemical Technology, Tharamani, Chennai	Diploma in Petrochemical Engineering	30
8	Institute of Leather Technology, Tharamani, Chennai	Diploma in Footwear Technology	30
		Diploma in Leather and Fashion Technology	30
9	Institute of Textile Technology, Tharamani, Chennai	Diploma in Fashion and Clothing Technology	30
		Diploma in Apparel Technology	30
TOTAL			**330**

2.2.17. POLYTECHNIC CURRICULUM REVISION BASED ON INDUSTRIAL REQUIREMENT

Tamil Nadu has been producing one of the largest pools of technical talent in the country for several decades. Polytechnic Colleges contribute significantly to the State's skilled workforce by producing competent technicians who support

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industrial growth and economic development. However, rapid technological advancements, evolving industry requirements, changing workplace competencies, and emerging National and International Educational Standards necessitate periodic revisions to the Polytechnic Diploma curriculum to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. Accordingly, curriculum revisions are generally undertaken once every three to four years. The existing curriculum was implemented from the academic year 2023–24.

It is proposed to revise the syllabus to align with the objectives of a student-centric, outcome-based, competency-driven and globally benchmarked education framework. The revised curriculum framework is planned for implementation from the academic year 2027–28.

2.2.18. CHIEF MINISTER'S RESEARCH GRANT SCHEME (CMRG)

The Chief Minister's Research Grant (CMRG) scheme was instituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Objective of the CMRG scheme is to conduct World Class Research to bring translational outcomes (Process Development / Product Development / Patent / Technology Transfer / Commercialization etc). Directorate of Technical Education is the nodal agency for CMRG.

This scheme provides research grants to researchers, including faculty members, Ph.D. scholars, and undergraduate/post-graduate students, in the State Government Universities and their Constituent Units, as well as 248 Tamil Nadu State Government Colleges. The Government of Tamil Nadu has sanctioned a recurring grant of Rs.50.00 Crore towards the

- Chief Minister's Research Grant (**CMRG**): **Rs.50 crore** recurring. Up to **Rs.40 lakh** per faculty-led project and **Rs.20 lakh** per student-led project; 1,673 proposals received for **2026-27**.

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implementation of CMRG Scheme for Higher Education Institutions in the State.

Under the CMRG Scheme, financial assistance of up to Rs.40.00 Lakh is provided for each faculty-led research project, while up to Rs.20.00 Lakh is provided for each student-led research project. For the academic year 2026–27, a total of 1,673 research proposals have been received. The proposals are presently under process.

2.2.19. WORLD SKILL ACADEMY AND SMART MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY CENTRES

To equip students with world class skills in Electrical Installation, Industrial Controls, Industrial Automation, Building Automation and Smart Manufacturing, World Skills Academies and Smart Manufacturing Centers have been established in six Government Polytechnic

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Colleges located at Chennai, Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Mayiladuthurai, Tiruchirappalli and Thoothukudi in collaboration with Schneider Electric India Ltd. and with financial assistance from the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC), Chennai, at a total cost of Rs.9.93 Crore. As part of the establishment of the WorldSkills Academy and Smart Manufacturing Centre, faculty members were provided with specialized training to enable them to effectively train students in advanced manufacturing technologies and industry-relevant skills. During the academic year 2026-27, 6,000 students are likely to undergo training in this scheme.

2.2.20. ESTABLISHMENT OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS IN GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING AND POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES

Government Engineering Colleges and Polytechnic Colleges play a pivotal role in

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imparting technical education and equipping students with industry relevant knowledge and skills. To strengthen institutional development through alumni engagement, the Government has sanctioned Rs.1.30 Crore for the establishment of Alumni Associations in 11 Government Engineering Colleges and 54 Government Polytechnic Colleges, at the rate of Rs.2.00 Lakh per institution. The establishment of these Alumni Associations has strengthened alumni engagement, fostered closer collaboration among alumni, academia, and industry, enhanced student employability, improved academic and institutional outcomes, and created a sustainable support network for the long-term growth and development of the institutions.

During the academic year 2026-27, Alumni association of Alagappa Chettiar Government College of Engineering and Technology, Karaikudi

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was motivated by the Government to Mobilize Rs.75 Crore for the establishment of Alagappa Incubation Forum and Research Park. It is envisioned as an integrated ecosystem connecting academia, research institutions, industries, startups, investors, and Government agencies. The Research Park will promote research, incubation, technology development, and industry collaboration.

- Alagappa Chettiar Government College of Engineering, Karaikudi mobilised **Rs.75 crore** of alumni funding for an Incubation Forum and Research Park - the model case for alumni engagement.

2.2.21. INTRODUCTION OF DIPLOMA COURSES IN TAMIL MEDIUM

Diploma in Civil Engineering and Diploma in Mechanical Engineering in Tamil Medium have been introduced in Government Polytechnic Colleges at Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Nagercoil and Central Polytechnic College, Chennai. This enables the students to clearly understand the concepts and applications. Also, it helps the students to avail the benefits of reservation under Persons Studying in Tamil

Medium category. During the academic year 2026-27, 500 students are likely to get admitted.

2.2.22. WOMEN-FRIENDLY DIPLOMA COURSES

Women friendly Diploma courses (1) Mechanical Engineering (CAD) in Central Polytechnic College at Chennai (2) Office Management and Computer Application in State Institute of Commerce Education at Chennai (3) ECG Technology in Government Polytechnic College at Coimbatore (4) Web Technologies in Tamil Nadu Polytechnic College at Madurai (5) Bio-Medical Electronics in Government Polytechnic College at Nagercoil and (6) Interior Decoration in Dr. Dharmambal Government Polytechnic College for Women are introduced in order to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio as well as the women enrolment in Diploma level courses and also to motivate the Diploma qualified students progress to higher studies.

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During the academic year 2026-27, 150 students are likely to get admitted.

2.2.23. TRAINING PROGRAM FOR POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE STUDENTS FOR THE WORLD SKILLS COMPETITION

The World Skills Competition is the Global Platform for skills competition, held once every two years. The 48th World Skills Competition is scheduled to be held in Shanghai, China, from September 22 to 27, 2026. To participate in the World Skills Competition, students are selected through Regional, State, and National Skill Competitions. To enhance their performance and prepare them for national and international standards, the students were provided with intensive skill enhancement training, expert mentoring, hands-on practical exposure, and structured training programmes through the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC).

48th World Skills Competition - Shanghai, China, 22-27 September **2026**. The 49th is at Aichi, Japan in November **2028**. Straight current-affairs fodder.

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Students from the Polytechnic Colleges in the State showcased their technical skills and talents at every stage of the competition. In the competitions, 9 medals (5 Gold, 2 Silver, 2 Bronze) are secured at the Regional Level and 4 Bronze medals secured at the National Level. Among the national-level medal winners, four students are from Government and Government-Aided Polytechnic Colleges and reflecting the high standard of technical education and skill development imparted by the Polytechnic Colleges. The 49th World Skills Competition is scheduled to be held in Aichi, Japan, in November 2028. Preparatory measures for the competition have been initiated, and the process of planning and organizing the required activities is currently underway.

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2.2.24. COMPREHENSIVE INITIATIVES TOWARDS A DRUG-FREE TAMIL NADU IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

The Government of Tamil Nadu, through the Technical Education Department, is implementing comprehensive and sustained measures to realize the vision of a "Drug-Free Tamil Nadu." Extensive anti-drug awareness Programmes are conducted across all technical institutions, supported by regular monitoring through fortnightly reports and active institutional participation. Key initiatives include the annual Mass Anti-Drug Pledge by students, establishment of Anti-Drug Clubs in 907 institutions with trained master trainers, and integration of a Health and Wellness course in the Polytechnic curriculum to promote preventive awareness. Clear protocols such as a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), dedicated helpline numbers, and structured reporting systems have been put in place to address incidents effectively.

Anti-drug clubs in 907 technical institutions with trained master trainers, plus a Health and Wellness course in the polytechnic curriculum.

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A wide range of awareness activities including rallies, campaigns, competitions, and interactive sessions are being carried out, complemented by orientation and capacity building Programmes. The launch of the Anti-Drug Campaign Portal and promotion of digital tools have further strengthened outreach and engagement. In order to fulfill the vision of the Hon'ble Chief Minister through these coordinated efforts, the department continues to reinforce its commitment to safeguarding students and fostering a healthy, drug-free academic environment across the State.

2.2.25. PLACEMENT CELLS IN GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING AND POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES

The Placement Cells established in all Government Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges function as the institutional mechanism for strengthening industry–institution linkages and facilitating meaningful employment opportunities

for students. A faculty member nominated by the Director of Technical Education is designated as the Placement Officer and is responsible for coordinating placement activities, facilitating industry engagement, campus recruitment, providing appropriate career guidance and student support.

The Government shall strengthen placement outcomes through sustained industry partnerships, industry-oriented training and skill development programmes, enhanced career guidance, and wider campus recruitment initiatives, with a focus on improving both the placement rate and quality of employment opportunities for students.

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2.3. INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

2.3.1. PERUNTHALAIVAR KAMARAJAR COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The scheme aims to strengthen and modernize the academic infrastructure of Government technical institutions in 11 Government Engineering Colleges and 55 Government Polytechnic Colleges through the creation of smart classrooms, e-libraries, hostels, and modern laboratories, facilitating the effective implementation of new academic programmes, ensuring compliance with AICTE norms, and improving the quality of technical education.

2.3.2. ENHANCEMENT OF SPORTS FACILITIES IN GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING AND POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES

To promote unity, discipline, leadership, and holistic development among students, the Government will strengthen and enhance the

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sports infrastructure in Government Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges during the academic year 2026–27 with modern sports facilities, fitness centres, quality equipment, and professional coaching. Regular inter-college, State, and National-level competitions will be conducted. The initiative aims to enhance student participation, improve sporting excellence, and foster a vibrant sports culture across Government Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges in Tamil Nadu.

2.3.3. SKILL TRAINING FOR THE WELFARE OF DIFFERENTLY ABLED STUDENTS

To enhance the employability and self-reliance of differently abled students, the Government have established the Sudaroli Skill Training Centre at Central Polytechnic College. The Centre provides industry-oriented skill training by nurturing the individual abilities of students and equipping them with competencies

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required for sustainable employment in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation and Commissionerate for Welfare of the Differently Abled. For the academic year 2026-27, the center will continue to provide training for differently abled students in Wireman Control Panel Electronics and Wiring Harness Assembly Operator trades, with greater emphasis on industry collaboration, hands-on learning, certification, and placement support. The initiative aims to empower differently abled students to become confident, independent, and self-driven individuals, enabling them to secure meaningful employment and lead a life of dignity and self-esteem.

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2.3.4. LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM INTEGRATED WITH AN ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SOFTWARE (LMS & ERP)

A single, unified Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platform has been developed for the Government Higher Education Institutions covering the complete academic and administrative journey. In-house ERP software development for 250 Government Higher Education Institutions comprising 11 Government Engineering Colleges, 55 Government Polytechnic Colleges, 171 Government Arts & Science / Education Colleges and 13 State Universities. For the provision of 24,827 computers and related accessories, to ensure that every campus is fully equipped to leverage the ERP Software and strengthen learning, teaching and administration at a cost of Rs.198.84 Crore.

- One in-house **ERP** for 250 Government institutions: 11 engineering colleges, 55 polytechnics, 171 arts & science/education colleges and 13 State universities.
- **Rs.198.84 crore** for 24,827 computers and accessories to run the **ERP** across every Government campus.

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2.3.5. PROVISION OF WIFI FACILITY IN ALL GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING COLLEGES AND GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES IN TAMIL NADU

In order to enable the students to stay updated on their studies through the college's internet facilities and to access and explore academic resources online using their laptops and mobile phones, Wi-Fi connectivity has been established in all 11 Government Engineering Colleges and 54 Government Polytechnic Colleges in Tamil Nadu.

2.3.6. INDUSTRY INSTITUTION INTERFACE CELL IN GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES

In order to provide industrial exposure to teachers and students, promote industry within institutions, enhance students' employability, strengthen industry academia collaboration, and encourage skill development in line with industry

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requirements, Industry Institution Interface Cells (IIICs) have been established in 54 Government Polytechnic Colleges across Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs.1.08 Crore at the rate of Rs.2.00 Lakh each. So far, Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) has been made between 44 Institutions and with the industries. In the academic year 2026-27, the process of registering the Industry-Institution Interaction Cell (IIIC) as a Society has been initiated, and the Bye-laws and Memorandum of Association have been prepared.

2.3.7. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE TRAINING CENTERS IN FIVE GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES

With the rapid expansion of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) sector, the demand for drones across various industries in India has been growing significantly. To provide structured training to the youth of Tamil Nadu in this

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emerging field, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Training Centers have been established in five Government Polytechnic Colleges in Madurai, Tiruvallur, Krishnagiri, Sivagangai and Tuticorin Districts at a cost of Rs.2.50 Crore.

- **UAV** Training Centres in five Government polytechnics - Madurai, Tiruvallur, Krishnagiri, Sivagangai, Tuticorin - at **Rs.2.50 crore**. Learn the five districts.

2.4. E-GOVERNANCE

2.4.1. TAMIL NADU ENGINEERING ADMISSION

Tamil Nadu Engineering Admission (TNEA) has been conducted by Anna University till 2018-19. From academic year 2019-20 onwards TNEA is being conducted by Directorate of Technical Education. All the activities related to admission such as registration of applications, certificate verification, counselling for special category, vocational counselling, publication of provisional allotment, etc have been conducted through online mode from the academic year 2020-21. In the academic year 2025-26, a total of 1,38,936 students were admitted through TNEA

- **TNEA** moved from Anna University to **DOTE** in **2019-20**, and went fully online from **2020-21**. A clean administrative-change question.
- **TNEA 2025-26** admitted 1,38,936 students; 2,45,235 candidates registered for **2026-27**.

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Counselling. In addition, admissions to B.Arch. (First Year), B.E./B.Tech. (Lateral Entry and Part-Time), MBA/MCA (First Year) and Government Polytechnic Colleges (First Year) are being carried out by Directorate of Technical Education.

For the academic year 2026–27, a total of 2,45,235 candidates have registered for the Tamil Nadu Engineering Admissions (TNEA). The counselling process is currently underway for admission to engineering colleges across the State.

2.5. CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE (CoEs)

2.5.1. UPGRADATION OF 44 GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES INTO CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE (CoEs) ALIGNED WITH INDUSTRY 4.0 STANDARDS

44 Government Polytechnic Colleges across Tamil Nadu are upgraded into Centres of

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Excellence (CoEs) in alignment with Industry 4.0 standards, in collaboration with Tata Technologies Ltd., Pune at a cost of Rs.2590.30 Crore. The initiative focuses on infrastructure modernization, development of industry-aligned curricula and faculty capacity building, benefiting approximately 36,000 students from 44 Government Polytechnic Colleges every year. 14 laboratories are established to impart 15 advanced skill training courses in the CoEs.

The syllabus for the above 15 courses has been developed, and the courses are offered to the students from the academic year 2026–27. Further, the following three new Diploma Programmes have been initiated, with a total approved intake of 3,570 students.

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Course Name	Number of colleges started the course in 2026-27	Sanctioned Intake
Digital Manufacturing Technologies	38	1140
Automation and Robotics	38	1140
Internet of Things	43	1290
	Total	**3570**

- Three new diploma programmes with 3,570 sanctioned seats: Digital Manufacturing (38 colleges/1,140), Automation and Robotics (38/1,140), Internet of Things (43/1,290).

2.6. HELP DESK

To assist students, parents and visitors, helpdesk centres have been established at the Directorate of Technical Education, all Government, Government-aided, and Self-financing Engineering and Polytechnic colleges, as well as Anna University Departments and Constituent Colleges. These centres provide guidance on admissions, academic information, and grievance redressal.

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3. COLLEGIATE EDUCATION

The Directorate of Collegiate Education, functioning under the Higher Education Department, is the nodal agency responsible for the administration and development of collegiate education in the State. Established in 1965, after being separated from the erstwhile Directorate of Public Instruction, it oversees Government, Government-aided and Self-financing Arts and Science colleges, colleges of Education and Physical Education colleges. The number of colleges functioning under the Department of Collegiate Education is as follows.

Directorate of Collegiate Education, **1965**, carved out of the Directorate of Public Instruction. An easy date to lose and an easy mark to gain.

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COLLEGES	GOVT. COLLEGES	GOVT. AIDED COLLEGES	SELF FINANCING COLLEGES	TOTAL
Arts and Science Colleges	181	142	656	979
Physical Education	0	3	8	11
School of Social Work	0	2	0	2
Colleges of Education	7	14	639	660
Total	**188**	**161**	**1,303**	**1,652**

- 979 arts and science colleges; 660 colleges of education; 11 physical education colleges; 2 schools of social work.
- 1,652 colleges under Collegiate Education: 188 Government, 161 aided, 1,303 self-financing. Self-financing runs to nearly four-fifths of the sector.

3.1. WELFARE SCHEMES

3.1.1. TUITION FEES

As a measure to reduce the financial burden of parents, payment of tuition fee is waived for all under graduate and post graduate students of Government Colleges and also all under graduate students of aided colleges. Total number of students benefited during the academic year 2025-26 were 5,97,264. Nearly 6 lakh students will be benefited during the academic year 2026-27.

3.1.2. BUS TRAVEL CONCESSION

Free bus pass is being issued to the Government College students. During the academic year 2025-26, 1,59,600 students have benefited under this scheme. During the academic year 2026-27 nearly 1,65,000 students will be benefited under the scheme.

- 1,59,600 beneficiaries in **2025-26**, rising to about 1,65,000 in **2026-27**, under the collegiate education scholarship head.

3.1.3. PUTHUMAI PENN THITTAM AND TAMIL PUTHALVAN THITTAM

Pudhumai Penn Scheme provides Rs.1000 to girl students who have studied in 6th to 12th standard in Government schools and the girl students who have studied 6th to 12th standard in Tamil medium in Government Aided schools and pursuing Higher Education.

- Pudhumai Penn - **Rs.1,000** a month for girls who studied classes 6-12 in Government schools and go on to higher education. Tamil Puthalvan is the boys' counterpart.

Tamil Puthalvan Scheme provides Rs.1000 to boy students who have studied in 6th to 12th standard in Government schools and the boy students who have studied 6th to 12th standard in

Tamil medium in Government Aided schools and pursuing Higher Education.

During the academic year 2026-27, so far, 2,58,313 students are being provided with the benefit. Further, on completion of first year admission, another 1,00,000 students will be benefited.

Pudhumai Penn and Tamil Puthalvan together reach 2,58,313 students in **2026-27**, with another 1,00,000 expected after first-year admissions.

3.1.4. STIPEND FOR TAMIL MEDIUM STUDENTS

To encourage the student who enrolled in Tamil medium, stipend amount of Rs. 900/- per annum is being given by the Government. For the year 2026-27, Government has allotted Rs.4.59 crore under this scheme for benefiting 51,000 students.

3.1.5. CHIEF MINISTER'S RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP SCHEME (CMRF)

Under this scheme a monthly fellowship is being paid to students pursuing doctoral research. Previously, a total of 120 students belonging to Arts, Humanities, Social Science and Science streams received a monthly Fellowship of Rs.25,000 per student and a contingency grant of Rs.12,000 for Science and Rs.10,000 for Arts per year.

State fellowship of **Rs.25,000** a month plus a contingency grant (**Rs.12,000** Science, **Rs.10,000** Arts). Eligible strength has risen from 120 to 180 scholars.

A total of 72 students have been enrolled in the programme and 16 students have completed their research studies, and 56 students are still pursuing. So far, Rs. 5.16 crore has been disbursed under this scheme.

At present, the total students eligible to receive the stipend under this scheme is 180 from Arts, Humanities, Social Science, Science and other streams offered by State Universities like

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Agriculture, Fisheries, Oceanography etc. The Teachers Recruitment Board has been addressed for selecting the candidates through examination.

3.1.6. RASHTRIYA INDIAN MILITARY COLLEGE (RIMC) SCHOLARSHIP

- **Rs.40,000** a year for Tamil Nadu students at **RIMC**, Dehradun - a niche scheme that shows up in objective papers precisely because it is small.

Scholarship of Rs.40,000/- per annum is given to the students belonging to Tamil Nadu studying in Rashtriya Indian Military College, Dehradun. An amount of Rs.1.27 lakhs has been disbursed for 3 beneficiaries in 2025-26. An amount of Rs. 2.80 lakhs has been allotted under this scheme for the year 2026-27.

3.2. INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT

3.2.1. CONSTRUCTION OF PERMANENT BUILDING.

- **Rs.256.94 crore** to build permanent campuses for 14 Government arts and science colleges still in temporary buildings; completion by January **2028**.

The Government has accorded sanction of Rs. 256.94 Crore towards the Construction of permanent buildings for 14 Government Arts and

Science Colleges, which are functioning in temporary buildings. The construction of permanent buildings will be completed by January 2028.

3.2.2. PERUNTHALAIVAR KAMARAJAR COLLEGES DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Due to the introduction of new courses and an increase in admission of students in Government Arts and Science Colleges, it is imperative to improve the infrastructural facilities, namely laboratories, classrooms, toilets and other amenities.

During 2025-26 Rs. 190.69 crore was sanctioned towards the creation of infrastructure facilities like classrooms and toilets in 29 Government Colleges.

- **Rs.190.69 crore** sanctioned for classrooms and toilets in 29 Government colleges.

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3.2.3. PROCUREMENT OF LAB EQUIPMENT FOR GOVERNMENT COLLEGES

For upgrading laboratories in 131 Government Colleges, Rs. 19.18 crore was allocated during the year 2025, as phase I and the purchase of lab equipment has been completed. An amount of Rs. 19.18 crore has been allocated for the year 2026-27 as phase II.

- Lab upgrades in 131 Government colleges - **Rs.19.18 crore** in Phase I (**2025**) and the same again for Phase II in **2026-27**.

3.2.4. PROCUREMENT OF INTERACTIVE SMARTBOARDS FOR GOVERNMENT ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGES

In the current technological era, to retain students' attention and to enhance technology-enabled teaching, Interactive Smart Boards have been installed. During the last academic year, 318 Interactive Boards have been installed in 58 Government Arts and Science Colleges at a cost of Rs. 4.35 crore.

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3.3. FACULTY STRENGTH ENHANCEMENT

3.3.1. FILLING UP ASSISTANT PROFESSOR POSTS IN GOVERNMENT ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGES AND COLLEGES OF EDUCATION

The Teachers Recruitment Board issued a notification to fill 2,708 Assistant Professor posts in Government Arts, Science and Education colleges through a competitive written examination. The recruitment process is going on and will be completed shortly.

- **TRB** notification for 2,708 Assistant Professor posts in Government arts, science and education colleges through a written examination.

3.3.2. GUEST LECTURERS' ENGAGEMENT IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGES

At present, a total of 8083 Guest lecturers are working in the vacant posts of Assistant Professor positions in various Government Arts, Science and Education Colleges, and they are being paid Rs.30,000 per month.

- 8,083 guest lecturers are holding vacant Assistant Professor posts at **Rs.30,000** a month - the number behind the 2,708-post recruitment.

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3.4. STUDENT SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.

3.4.1. FREE LAPTOP DISTRIBUTION SCHEME

During the academic year 2025–26, free laptops were distributed to eligible second-year and third-year students studying in Government, Government-Aided, and Self-Financing colleges. A total of 6,47,581 free laptops were distributed under this scheme. During the current year Vetri Laptop Scheme for college students will be implemented.

- 6,47,581 free laptops distributed in **2025-26** to second- and third-year students in Government, aided and self-financing colleges.

3.4.2. SCHEME FOR STUDY ABROAD (ONE SEMESTER) FOR GOVERNMENT COLLEGE STUDENTS

Meritorious students from economically weaker and rural backgrounds studying Computer Science / Computer Applications / Information Technology Courses in Government Arts and Science Colleges will be facilitated to study one

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semester in foreign universities. A total of 25 final-year students who excel academically will be selected and sponsored by the Government to pursue one semester at the Australian Universities. A total of Rs 5 crore has been sanctioned for the year 2026-27 at the rate of Rs. 20 lakhs per student.

3.4.3. BHARATHI YOUNG POET AWARD

Mahakavi Day is observed on 11th September every year and is celebrated by conducting State-level Poetry Competitions. "Bharathi Young Poet Award" is awarded to one male and one female student along with prize money of Rs.1,00,000/- each. For the academic year 2026-27, Rs 2 lakhs has been sanctioned for the conduct of this programme.

- Bharathi Young Poet Award - **Rs.1,00,000** each to one male and one female student. Names of State awards are standard Group 1 objective material.

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3.4.4. SETTING UP OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE FORUMS

Archaeological heritage forums are functioning in 37 colleges. Forums are headed by the Principal of the college, a teacher interested in archaeology and the district-based archaeology officers as vice-chairmen and interested students are enrolled in the forum. The forum conducts various events such as essay competition, speech competition, archaeology conservation, training and discourse by archaeology experts. One college per district is selected to carry out activities like encouraging interested students to make short films.

3.4.5. ANTI–DRUG AWARENESS

In order to establish Drug-free Tamil Nadu and to prohibit the supply of drugs in all institutions, Anti-drug clubs were established to create awareness about the ill effects of drugs in

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every Government, Aided and Self-Finance College.

A curriculum focused on hygiene and well-being has been developed and implemented.

All Colleges are instructed to show the information through the designated mobile number 9498410581 for registering complaints about drug supply and associated problems.

The special mobile application and the toll-free number 10581 have been displayed in focus areas of college premises.

- Anti-drug complaints: mobile number 9498410581 and toll-free 10581, displayed in every college. Worth remembering as a Tamil Nadu-specific helpline.

Details of Anti-Drug awareness camps conducted in Colleges

College	No. of Anti-Drug clubs	No. Of Awareness Campaigns conducted	No. Of Students participated
Govt Colleges	238	880	1,38,345
Aided Colleges	312	832	1,00,430
Self - Financing Colleges	535	6,640	1,61,225

3.4.6. CONSTITUTION OF INSTITUTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (IMC) IN GOVERNMENT ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGES

In order to improve the day-to-day functioning, academic activities, and infrastructure facilities of the colleges, IMCs were constituted, comprising the College Principal, Parents and representatives from nearby industries. These committees have been established in 181 colleges.

Further, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) are being signed with the industrial partners who are members of the IMC for providing internships and job placements. So far, a total of 75 MoUs have been signed with institutions like Tech Mahindra, ONGC, Samsung, Ashok Leyland, etc. Through the IMCs, 4,259 students have undergone internships and 170 students got placements.

- Industry-Institution Mentoring Committees in 181 colleges have put 4,259 students into internships and 170 into placements.

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3.4.7. ESTABLISHMENT OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGES

Government is encouraging the establishment of alumni associations in Government Arts, Science and Education colleges in order to facilitate alumni to contribute to their institutions in various aspects. Alumni associations have been started in 172 colleges, except the newly started 16 colleges.

3.4.8. ONLINE REGISTRATION OF APPLICATIONS

A separate online portal has been created for the online registration of applications. Students can apply online for admission to UG and PG courses in Government Colleges. The admission portal allows students to apply to any number of Government colleges and courses by means of a single application. This online registration portal has reduced cumbersome

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procedures and provides easy access even through smartphones. The admissions for the academic year 2026-27 are ongoing, and upto 10.08.2026, 2,61,035 applications have been registered online.

3.4.9. JOB FAIR

Job Fair is being conducted in the Government / Government Aided Colleges every year. Special efforts will be taken to help the students studying in Government Arts and Science Colleges to find jobs after completion of their course.

3.4.10. HELPDESK

Help centers have been set up in all Regional Joint Directorate of Collegiate Education offices and in all Government, Government-aided, and Self-financed colleges to guide students, parents, and visitors regarding student admissions,

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academic year-related information and to resolve other grievances.

3.5. CONVERSION OF GOVERNMENT /GOVERNMENT AIDED COLLEGES INTO CO-ED COLLEGES

In order to increase the overall student enrolment ratio, the following colleges have been converted from the academic year 2026–27 as detailed below

1. Koothanallur Government Women's Arts and Science College into a Co-Ed college.

2. Kodaikanal Government Women's Arts and Science College into a Co-Ed college.

3. Paramakudi Government Women's Arts and Science College into a Co-Ed college.

4. Chennai Pachayappa's College for Men (Govt aided) into Co-Ed college.

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5. Chennai C.Kandasamy Naidu College for Men (Govt aided) into Co-Ed college

3.6. GRANTS TO AIDED COLLEGES

At present, 161 Government Aided Colleges are functioning under the administrative control of the Directorate of Collegiate Education.

S.No.	Types of Colleges	No. of Colleges
1.	Linguistic Minority Colleges	10
2.	Religious Minority Colleges	55
3.	Non-Minority Colleges	96
Total		**161**

In these colleges, a total of 10,582 Teaching posts and 5,925 Non-Teaching posts have been sanctioned.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is disbursing 100% salary grant to the Teaching and Non-Teaching staff working in these colleges. For the salary grant, the Government has allocated a total sum of Rs.2,131 crore for the year 2026-27.

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4. UNIVERSITIES

In the State of Tamil Nadu, 22 State Universities are functioning out of which the following 13 Universities under the aegis of Higher Education Department: -

1. University of Madras
2. Annamalai University
3. Madurai Kamaraj University
4. Anna University
5. Bharathiar University
6. Bharathidasan University
7. Mother Teresa Women's University
8. Alagappa University
9. Manonmaniam Sundaranar University
10. Periyar University
11. Tamil Nadu Open University

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12. Thiruvalluvar University

13. Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University

An outline of the above said Universities are given below.

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4.1. UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

The University of Madras was established in 1857. It is the mother of all South Indian universities since, as an affiliating university, it had authority over the entire Madras Presidency. At present, it has jurisdiction over four districts in Tamil Nadu covering Chennai, Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu and Kanchipuram Districts.

It is an acclaimed University in the field of Arts and Science education and has 72 teaching and research departments, 47 Research Centres and 138 affiliated colleges. It also holds the credit for being the first to introduce the concept of autonomous colleges within the University system. Presently, 24 autonomous colleges are affiliated to the University of Madras. Students Strength in the University during the academic year 2025-2026 is 3,115.

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The University set up the Institute of Distance Education (IDE) in 1981 to provide wider access to higher education. It presently offers 16 UG courses, 19 PG courses, 19 Diploma courses and 16 Certificate courses. These courses are recognized by Distance Education Bureau [DEB], UGC.

The University has the distinction of maintaining high accreditations and placed in 4th Cycle 'A++' Grade with 3.59 CGPA by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). It has also been recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) as 'University with Potential for Excellence' and completed Phase I and Phase II and also conferred "Category II" status under Graded Autonomy. The University has been placed at 38th position among the top Universities of the country and 18th position among the state public

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university and 68th position in overall category in the National Institutional Ranking Framework 2025 (NIRF). The University has made 1733 Publications in the Scopus & Web of Science in 2025 listed peer reviewed journals with the H-index of 101.

- University of Madras stands 68th overall in **NIRF 2025** with 1,733 Scopus/Web of Science publications and an H-index of 101.

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4.2. ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

Annamalai University was established in the year 1929 at Annamalai Nagar, Chidambaram, Cuddalore District and has jurisdiction over Cuddalore, Villupuram, Kallakurichi and Mayiladuthurai Districts.

- Annamalai University, **1929**, Chidambaram - jurisdiction over Cuddalore, Villupuram, Kallakurichi and Mayiladuthurai.

Annamalai University manages a total of 85 Affiliated Colleges, comprising 22 Government, 6 Government - Aided, and 57 Self-Financing Institutions.

The Annamalai University offers on-campus programmes, which include Ph.D., Postgraduate and Undergradate in Professional programmes P.G. Diploma and Diploma through 52 Departments of Teaching under the Faculties of Arts, Science, Marine Sciences, Indian Languages, Education, Fine Arts, Engineering and Technology, and Agriculture.

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The Directorate of Distance Education, currently Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE) as per the DEB norms, established in 1979, now offering 27 Under Graduate/Post Graduate programmes as per the approval of UGC-DEB. Apart from this, the Centre is also offering 98 various Diploma / Certificate Programmes.

During the academic Year 2025-26, the University enrolled approximately 10,700 students in on-campus programs, 21,300 students through distance and online education, and 33,600 students across its affiliated colleges.

The University was accredited with 'A+' Grade by NAAC in 2022. Annamalai University holds an Institutional NAAC "A+" Accreditation Grade with a CGPA Score of 3.38 valid upto June 2027.

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4.3. MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY

Madurai Kamaraj University was started as a Post Graduate Extension Centre of the University of Madras and elevated to the status of State University in the year 1965 as Madurai University. Later named as Madurai Kamaraj University in the year 1979.

- Madurai Kamaraj University: Madras University **PG** centre, State University in **1965** as Madurai University, renamed in **1979**.

There are 118 affiliated colleges and 18 recognized institutions spread among Madurai, Theni, Virudhunagar, and Dindigul districts. The University with 20 Schools comprising 77 Departments offers 47 Post Graduate, 45 Ph.D programmes,2 D.Sc. / D.Litt. and 12 diploma/P.G. diploma/ certificate courses. Student's Strength during the academic year 2025-26 is 1836 PG students and 356 Ph.D students.

Madurai Kamaraj University was accredited with "A++" status (CGPA Score of 3.54) by in the 4th cycle during March 2021, valid upto

- **MKU** holds **NAAC** A++ with **CGPA** 3.54 (4th cycle, March **2021**), ranked 85th among universities and 31st among State public universities in **NIRF**.

March 2028. Presently, the University is in the status of Category – I amongst the Universities of India. It is ranked 85th among universities and 31st among State Public Universities in NIRF, and holds 261-270 ranks in the QS Asia Ranking (2024). The University has made 8461 Publications which includes 138 publications in H-Index. The University has undertaken 56 ongoing research projects with a total funding of Rs.21.75 Crores from various agencies.

The establishment of a Research Park at Madurai Kamaraj University marks a significant collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), aiming to synergize academic research with industrial application. To facilitate this initiative, the University has allocated a dedicated space of 4,000 square feet to TIDCO, which will serve as the initial operational base for the facility. This

partnership is strategically focused on developing and commercializing research outcomes, particularly those derived from the 16 product-based active research areas that the University has identified as having high potential for industry collaboration and market realization.

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4.4. ANNA UNIVERSITY

Anna University, one of India's premier technical universities and among the largest institutions dedicated to engineering and technology education, was established in 1978 by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

- Anna University was established in **1978** by the Government of Tamil Nadu - the parent of the State's engineering system.

The University was formed as a unitary institution through the integration of four renowned technical institutions located in Chennai. Among them, the College of Engineering, Guindy (CEG) holds a distinguished place as Asia's oldest technical institution, founded in 1794 and the oldest engineering institution established outside Europe.

- College of Engineering, Guindy, 1794 - Asia's oldest technical institution and the oldest engineering institution founded outside Europe. A guaranteed question.

1. College of Engineering, Guindy (CEG) – established in 1794.

2. Alagappa College of Technology (ACT) – established in 1944.

- The four Anna University constituent colleges and their years: **CEG** 1794, **ACT 1944**, **MIT 1949**, School of Architecture and Planning **1957**.

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3. Madras Institute of Technology (MIT) – established in 1949.

4. School of Architecture and Planning (SAP) established in 1957.

The above said campuses house 36 academic departments and 63 Autonomous Centers.

Apart from the above, thirteen Constituent Colleges are located at Arni, Kancheepuram, Tindivanam, Villupuram, Dindigul, Ariyalur, Ramanathapuram, Tiruchirappalli, Panruti, Pattukkottai, Thirukkuvalai, Nagercoil and Thoothukudi and three Regional Campuses at Coimbatore, Madurai and Tirunelveli.

University has 457 Affiliated Colleges, including 306 non-autonomous and 151 autonomous institutions, comprising Government, Government-Aided and Self-Financing Engineering Colleges.

Anna University affiliates 457 colleges - 306 non-autonomous, 151 autonomous - and guides about 14,242 doctoral scholars.

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In addition, Anna University serves as a major centre for advanced research, with around 14,242 doctoral scholars pursuing Ph.D programmes across the University Departments and affiliated engineering institutions throughout Tamil Nadu.

CASR Remote Pilot Training Organization (RPTO), Anna University, India's first DGCA – approved Remote Pilot Training Organization for small and medium category drones under the UAS Rules, 2021, continues to be a leader in drone pilot training and certification.

- **CASR-RPTO** at Anna University is India's first **DGCA**-approved Remote Pilot Training Organisation for small and medium drones under the **UAS** Rules, **2021**.

In QS World University ranking 2027, Anna University was ranked 470th position in the World and 11th among Indian Universities. In the NIRF ranking 2025, Anna University was ranked second among State Public University category and ranked as 9th in Innovation category, 26th among

- Anna University: 470th in **QS** World University Rankings **2027** and 11th among Indian universities; 2nd among State public universities in **NIRF 2025**.

Research Institutions and 20th among the Engineering Institutions in India.

The 'H' index of the University is 237 (Scopus indexed) with 44,140 publications and 7,93,886 Citations. A total of 174 funded research projects and 1546 consultancy assignments have been carried out at a total cost of Rs.113.48 crores.

Over the years, Anna University has evolved from a unitary institution into an affiliating university that oversees technical education across the State of Tamil Nadu. The University has played a pivotal role in producing highly skilled engineers, architects, technologists, managers and researchers who contribute significantly to national development and global technological advancement.

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4.5. BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY

The Bharathiar University was established at Coimbatore in 1982 with 9 academic departments and is located at the foothills of Marudhamalai with the aim of establishing an equitable social and economic order and ascertaining the secular ideas of nation. Currently the University has 13 Schools housing 38 Departments offering 5 UG Programmes, 46 PG Programmes and 38 Ph.D. Programmes.

Bharathiar University has 145 Affiliated Colleges & 35 Research Institutions. Among them 22 are Government Colleges, 15 are Government Aided Colleges, 1 Airforce Administrative College and 107 are Self-Financing Colleges. Among these, 38 Colleges are having Autonomous Status & 13 are Management Colleges. During the academic year 2025-2026, a total of 92,826 students were admitted in the UG & PG courses

Bharathiar (Coimbatore) and Bharathidasan (Tiruchirappalli) were both established in **1982** - an easy pair to confuse and an easy pair to score on.

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where 84161 students are from affiliated colleges, 1422 students from University Departments, 2818 students from Centre for Distance learning, 4359 students from Online learning and 66 students from University Industry Collaboration. [BU-CUC-Bharathiar University Centre for University and University Collaboration].

Bharathiar University has been accredited with a score of 3.63 CGPA & "A++" Grade in the fourth cycle by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) valid until March 29, 2030. Bharathiar University has been ranked 10th among state public Universities, 46th among Indian Universities and 76th in the overall category by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for the year 2025. The University has been ranked as 47th position in Southern Asia and 283rd among Asian Universities by QS ranking, U.K. for the year 2026.

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Bharathiar University has 24,019 publications with the citations of 3,29,639 with "H" index of 172 as per Scopus Database.

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4.6. BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY

Bharathidasan University was established in 1982 at Tiruchirappalli named after the great revolutionary Tamil Poet Bharathidasan.

Bharathidasan University affiliated 153 colleges covers Eight Districts namely Ariyalur, Karur, Nagapattinam, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur and Thiruvarur.

Bharathidasan University's academic structure includes 4 Faculties, 16 Schools, and 37 Departments, Including 01 PG Extension Centre. In University 36 Centres and 14 Cells, Chairs and Committees are actively in teaching, research, training programmes. The Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAPS) increases employability to differently abled children, by offering, BCA and other Diploma programmes for speech and hearing-impaired children.

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Bharathidasan University got A+ in NAAC accreditation and NAAC has extended the accreditation validity for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) as the launch of the new Maturity-Based Graded Levels (MBGL) framework. Bharathidasan University secured the 36th rank among all Indian Universities and the 16th rank in the State Public University category in the NIRF 2025 rankings at the national level.

Times Higher Education (THE) system ranks Bharathidasan Universities globally rank of 1201–1500 and THE Asia Rankings was 401–500 during 2025. H index of Bharathidasan University is 156. The student strength in the University Departments is 2,751.

4.7. MOTHER TERESA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY

Mother Teresa Women's University was established in 1984 at Kodaikanal, Dindigul District. The University bears the pride of being the only one of its kind in the State, and the third in the Nation with its unique status, 'by, for, and of the women'.

Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal, **1984** - unitary at first, affiliating from **2002**. The State's women-only university.

The Women's Colleges in Theni and Dindigul Districts come under the affiliation of Mother Teresa Women's University. There are 13 Colleges which include 3 Government, 4 Autonomous, 1 Constituent and 5 Self Financing Colleges.

The University has 16 departments with three Research and Extension Centers at Chennai, Madurai and a Training Centre for Women Empowerment at SIPCOT Campus, Pallapatti Dindigul District. The University which was unitary became an affiliating type in 2002.

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102 research articles have been published in SCOPUS Indexed journals during the period of 2025-2026 and the associated H-index is 53 with more than 13,222 citations. The University is accredited with NAAC 'A' grade up to November 2026 and is a NIRF participated institution. Currently, the Student Strength in the University is 1064, and the student strength in the affiliated colleges is 15755.

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4.8. ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

Alagappa University was established in 1985 at Karaikudi. It has 4 faculties, 45 Departments, 10 Directorates, 85 Approved Research Centres and 3 University Constituent Colleges. Besides, it has 46 Affiliated Colleges spreading two districts namely Sivagangai and Ramanathapuram. The total Student's Strength for 2025-2026 stands at 76,666, which includes 4,411 in University Departments, 1,302 in Research (Ph.D), 37,911 in Affiliated Colleges, and 33,142 in Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE).

- Alagappa University, Karaikudi, **1985** - the first State university awarded **NAAC** A++ in the fourth cycle under dual-mode category, **CGPA** 3.59.

Alagappa University was the first State University awarded with A++ Grade by NAAC with an impressive CGPA of 3.59 in the Fourth Cycle Under Dual Mode Category. It has also been awarded with 44th rank by National Institutional Ranking Framework NIRF (2025), 32nd rank in QS India (2024), 93rd rank in QS South Asia (2026)

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and 369th place in QS Asia Ranking (2026). Underscoring its global academic footprint, the University's research contributions are widely indexed in leading international databases, including Scopus, Web of Science and Google Scholar, making a milestone through 12,568 publications with H-index 135.

Alagappa University has received the "Green Champion Award – 2025" from Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Sivagangai.

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4.9. MANONMANIAM SUNDARANAR UNIVERSITY

Manonmaniam Sundaranar University was established in 1990 at Tirunelveli named after the Tamil poet litterateur Prof. P. Manonmaniam Sundaram Pillai. The University caters to the needs of the four southern districts of Tamil Nadu, viz., Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Thenkasi and Kanniyakumari Districts.

- Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli, **1990**, named after the Tamil poet-litterateur; **NAAC** A+ with **CGPA** 3.46.

The University encompasses 29 departments including one PG Extension Centre, 106 affiliated colleges, 6 Manonmaniam Sundaranar University Colleges, 22 Community Colleges and 77 Vocational Skill Development Centres.

The Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion of this University is working effectively for the upliftment of the marginalized communities in

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society and also to do research on various social issues.

There are 56 academic programmes which includes 3 UG programme/Diploma programme/ Certificate Programme / Integrated Programme, are offered through university departments/PG centres and 29 programmes are offered through distance education mode.

The University is re-accredited with 'A+' Grade (CGPA-3.46) by NAAC and is placed in between 101-150 rank band under overall ranked and ranked 33rd position under State Public University category by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), 2025.

In the records of Scopus, the number of citations for this University is 73,169 with an H-index of 93.

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4.10. PERIYAR UNIVERSITY

Periyar University was established in Salem in 1997. The University is named after the Great Social Reformer E.V.Ramasamy, affectionately called "Thanthai Periyar". The University has jurisdiction over Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri, and Krishnagiri Districts.

Presently, the University has 05 Science Schools and 04 Arts Schools comprising 27 Departments offering 35 Postgraduate programmes, 02 Undergraduate Programmes, 03 Diploma programmes, 01 PG Diploma Programme (Part-Time), 05 Certificate programmes and 28 Research programmes. Periyar University Centre for Postgraduate and Research Studies at Dharmapuri performs well, with 08 departments including 117 affiliated colleges.

- Periyar University, Salem, **1997** - **NAAC** A++ (**2021**), 94th among Indian universities in **NIRF 2025**.

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Periyar University has 04 Departments supported by UGC-SAP and 07 departments supported by DST-FIST programme sanctioned by DST.

The University obtained 12(B) and 2(f) status from the University Grants Commission, New Delhi and the NAAC reaccredited it with "A++" Grade in 2021**.** The University secured 94th rank among Indian Universities by NIRF-2025.

Periyar University has secured a 4.00 / 5.00 star rating at the national level from the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) for the past three consecutive years. The overall Students Strength in the University is 1795.

Periyar University imparts higher education through Departments of Study and Research, Affiliated Colleges and the Periyar University Centre for Distance and Online Education (PUCDOE).

4.11. TAMIL NADU OPEN UNIVERSITY

The Tamil Nadu Open University (TNOU) was established in 2003 to provide cost effective, socially relevant Open and Distance Learning Programmes to the hitherto unreached as well as the disadvantaged groups such as those who mainly live in remote and rural areas including the working people, housewives and disadvantaged groups.

Tamil Nadu Open University has 382 Study Centers functioning under the direct supervision of 12 Regional Centers established all over the State of Tamil Nadu to deliver the academic Programmes and provide Learning Support Services to the students at their doorsteps. The Nilgiris (Kothagiri) Regional Centre is one of its kind established primarily to cater the educational needs of tribal students.

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TNOU currently offers 78 Programmes, including Postgraduate, Undergraduate, Diploma, Advanced Vocational Diploma, Vocational Diploma, Certificate and Short-Term Programmes through Study centres across Tamil Nadu. Additionally, the various School Studies offers Ph.D Research Programmes in 25 disciplines, with 107 scholars currently pursuing their Research Degree. The Student Strength in 2026-27 is 24209 students.

The University has 'A+'Grade with a CGPA of 3.32 out of 4 in its very first cycle of accreditation from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bengaluru declared on 02.08.2023. The University's H-index is 28.

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4.12. THIRUVALLUVAR UNIVERSITY

Thiruvalluvar University was established during 2002 at Vellore. The University campus houses 15 academic departments offering programmes in various disciplines.

Thiruvalluvar University has 83 affiliated Arts and Science Colleges under its jurisdiction and maintains academic collaboration with six institutions situated in the districts of Vellore, Tiruvannamalai, Ranipet, and Thirupattur.

The University established "Business Administration" and Library and Information Science" departments in the University from the Academic Year 2025-26 and the institution of M.B.A. and M.L.I.S

During the Academic Year 2025-26, a total number of 796 students were enrolled in the University Departments and 34,821 students were

- Thiruvalluvar University, Vellore, **2002**. With **TNOU**'s 382 study centres under 12 regional centres, this completes the State university roll-call.

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enrolled in the affiliated colleges. The University’s NAAC Grade is B+, with NAAC validity up to 2026.

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4.13. TAMIL NADU TEACHERS EDUCATION UNIVERSITY

Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University was established in the year 2008 for promoting excellence in teachers' education. At the time of inception, there were 491 colleges of education deemed to have been affiliated to this University and now the University is having 665 colleges of education including 7 Government, 14 Government Aided and 644 self-financing colleges of education. It has six Departments of Study and Research in the field of Education. 54 centres are functioning in the University. The University Students Strength is 2191 and other B.Ed Colleges have a strength of 1,34,121.

TNTEU, **2008** - now 665 colleges of education (7 Government, 14 aided, 644 self-financing) with 1,34,121 B.Ed students.

The following courses are offered in the University and affiliated colleges:

a) Courses offered in Affiliated Colleges

i) 2-Year B.Ed Degree Programme

ii) 2-Year M.Ed Degree Programme

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iii) Ph.D Degree Programme

b) Courses offered in University Department

i) 2-Year M.Ed Degree Programme

ii) Ph.D Degree Programme

Following 6 departments of study and research have been established in the University.

1. Department of Pedagogical Sciences
2. Department of Value Education
3. Department of Educational Psychology
4. Department of Educational Technology
5. Department of Curriculum Planning and Evaluation
6. Department of Educational Planning and Administration

The University got NAAC on Nov 2021 with Accreditation of 'A' Grade with CGPA of 3.17 by NAAC. The H-index for university faculty is 35.

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4.14. BLOCK GRANT TO UNIVERSITIES

The Government revised the Block Grant to the 13 Universities under the aegis of the Higher Education Department with effect from 1.1.2026 as detailed below to meet out the salary, pension and other day to day expenses:-

- Block grants to the 13 universities under the Higher Education Department were revised with effect from **01.01.2026** to cover salary and pension - Annamalai alone takes **Rs.525 crore** of **Rs.767 crore**.

S. No.	Name of the University	Amount of Block Grant (Rs. in Crore)
1.	University of Madras	52.00
2.	Madurai Kamaraj University	60.00
3.	Anna University	10.00
4.	Bharathiar University	16.00
5.	Bharathidasan University	20.00
6.	Mother Teresa Women's University	10.00
7.	Alagappa University	12.00
8.	Manonmanium Sundaranar University	20.00
9.	Periyar University	12.00
10.	Tamil Nadu Open University	6.00
11.	Thiruvalluvar University	16.00
12.	Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University	8.00
13.	Annamalai University	525.00
Total		**767.00**

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4.15. PERFORMANCE GRANT

In order to increase the academic as well as financial performance of the Universities, the Government has fixed Performance Grant to the Universities as detailed below. The Performance Incentive Grant shall be released to the Universities on fulfilment of the conditions prescribed by the Government for fiscal discipline and academic performance.

Sl. No	Name of the University	Amount of Performance Grant (Rs. in Crore)
1.	University of Madras	20.00
2.	Madurai Kamaraj University	20.00
3.	Anna University	20.00
4.	Bharathiar University	20.00
5.	Bharathidasan University	20.00
6.	Mother Teresa Women's University	5.00
7.	Alagappa University	10.00

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8.	Manonmanium Sundaranar University	10.00
9.	Periyar University	10.00
10.	Tamil Nadu Open University	5.00
11.	Thiruvalluvar University	10.00
12.	Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University	5.00
13.	Annamalai University	20.00
	Total	**175.00**

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5. TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Tamil Nadu Archives plays a vital role in preserving the original record of the Government. In 1909 Archives was established with the nomenclature of Madras Record Office. It was later rechristened as Tamil Nadu Archives with effect from 1968 and as Tamil Nadu Archives and Historical Research in the year 1973. Tamil Nadu Archives serves as a knowledge repository for researchers visiting from all over the world.

- Madras Record Office **1909**, renamed Tamil Nadu Archives in **1968**, and Tamil Nadu Archives and Historical Research in **1973**. Learn all three dates.

5.1. LIBRARY

Tamil Nadu Archives Library is one of the important Archival Library in India. The library has a collection of 2,32,127 records and documents. The library has already digitized 44,000 books and the digitized materials are given access to the scholars.

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5.2. DISTRICT GAZETTEERS

Tamil Nadu Archives and Historical Research Department is engaged in the preparation and publication of District Gazetteers for all districts in the State on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu. District Gazetteers document the geography, climate, rivers, irrigation, agriculture, industries, trade, administration, population, customs, religion and historical monuments of each district.

At present preparation of preliminary draft for 6 District Gazetteers (Dindigul, Virudhunagar, Tenkasi, Chengalpattu, Tiruvarur and Tiruvannamalai) is under progress and collection of data for 4 Districts (Theni, Sivagangai, Vellore and Nagapattinam) is going on.

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5.3. RESEARCH HALL

The records preserved in this Archives is of immense value as a source of first-hand information regarding the past. Tamil Nadu Archives allow the Bonafide researchers to conduct research and consult the archival records. In the year 2025, 289 scholars have been given permission to access the archival records.

5.4. DETAILS OF ISSUE OF INFORMATION UNDER RTI ACT

From the year 2011 onwards the Tamil Nadu Archives have started issuing copies of records to the public, through RTI Act 2005. In the year 2025, 19,664 archived information have been furnished.

5.5. DISTRICT RECORD CENTRES

District Record Centres play a significant role in strengthening record management at the

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district level while safeguarding the documentary heritage of Tamil Nadu. For preserving the important district-level Government department records six District Record Centres are functioning in Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Madurai, Salem, Thanjavur and Trichy.

5.6. MENDING OF RECORDS USING JAPANESE TISSUE METHOD

Preservation of records is one of the primary function of Archives. The Government have sanctioned Rs.10.00 crore for mending and preserving the records. Around 10 lakhs sheets were mended in 2024. In 2025, another Rs.10.00 crore was sanctioned and mending work is in progress.

5.7. TAMIL NADU COUNCIL OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Tamil Nadu Council of Historical Research was reconstituted in the year 2024. For the year

- **TNCHR** was reconstituted in **2024**; 18 research fellows draw **Rs.35,000** a month for **2025-26**.

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2025 – 26, 18 Research Fellows are pursuing the research fellowship with a monthly stipend of Rs.35,000/- per month.

5.8. WEB PORTAL

Digitization of the records is an ongoing process in Tamil Nadu Archives and so far, 1.60 crore pages have been scanned and uploaded in the web portal (*digitamilnaduarchives.tn.gov.in*). This web portal is a digital platform for accessing the digitized records, which are uploaded under various categories.

- **1.60 crore** archival pages digitised on digitamilnaduarchives.tn.gov.in; 19,664 **RTI** information requests answered in **2025** and 289 scholars given access.

6. TAMIL NADU STATE COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

As the principal body entrusted with the advancement of higher education quality in the State, the Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education (TANSCHE), under the provisions of the TANSCHE Act 1992, plays a central role in strengthening academic standards across institutions of higher learning. The foundation of academic quality lies in key areas such as curriculum, teaching-learning processes, evaluation methods, and research activities. In this regard, TANSCHE proposes to undertake a series of assessments and developmental exercises to understand existing conditions and identify pathways for academic and institutional improvement. By adopting a holistic and interconnected approach, the Council aims to support sustainable progress, innovation, and

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excellence in higher education throughout the State.

6.1. EQUIVALENCE

TANSCHE conducted meetings of various Chairpersons, boards of studies and subject experts for obtaining equivalence to the courses offered by educational institutions for the purpose of employment in public services and placing it in the Equivalence Committee meetings to issue necessary Government orders. So for, in 41 Equivalence Committee meetings, 1783 courses for employment purposes and 167 courses on higher studies have been declared equivalent/not equivalent.

TANSCHE's Equivalence Committee has ruled on 1,783 courses for employment and 167 for higher studies across 41 meetings - the body that decides degree equivalence in Tamil Nadu.

6.2. STATE INSTITUTIONAL RANKING FRAMEWORK

The ranking of Higher Educational Institutions based on their commitment to prioritizing student welfare among other things, is

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envisaged through the development of a dedicated framework. The framework parameters have been finalized and the portal infrastructure has been developed for pilot implementation in government higher education institutions.

After successful pilot testing, the ranking framework will be rolled out.

6.3. ANNUAL CURRICULUM FAIR

The core objective of this initiative is to analyze the curricula offered by State Universities through comparison with nationally and globally reputed universities, in order to identify and showcase best practices. Curriculum analyses for the subjects of Physics, Zoology and Tamil have been carried out by the subject experts and detailed reports have been obtained. Similarly, subject experts of Economics have been identified and curriculum review is currently underway. The reports of these expert committees will be shared

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with the universities to support the refinement and enhancement of future curricula.

The reports will be communicated to universities with a request to follow the best practices.

6.4. PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Clarity in the principles of competency based teaching is essential for effective education delivery. In this regard, various training programmes are being conducted to enhance the capacities of teachers. Outcome-Based Education training programmes covering course outcomes, assessment methods, and AI-assisted teaching have been conducted for multiple universities. Workshops for the remaining universities are ongoing.

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Rewriting of course outcomes will be ensured, proportion of analytical questions in end semester exams will be increased gradually.

6.5. STATE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

Recognizing the essential need for continuous training of teachers in Higher Educational Institutions, it was proposed to establish a dedicated institutional mechanism for providing such training on a sustained basis. Consultations with national and state-level faculty training institutions have also been undertaken for establishing the institute.

Suitable land will be identified and preliminary work will be started.

6.6. CORE SUBJECT TRAINING FOR SCIENCE FACULTY

There is an imminent need to promote interest in basic sciences among our students. In

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view of the anticipated impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on future employment patterns, greater emphasis is being placed on promoting student engagement in the study of basic sciences. Three phases of faculty training in Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics on how to inspire students have been completed with participation from 180 faculty members. Additional programmes and alignment of refresher course modules with university practices are in progress.

Series of trainings will be planned to cover more topics in each subject.

6.7. BASIC SCIENCE PROMOTION PLAN

Enhancing the participation of students from Tamil Nadu in premier national research institutions has been identified as a priority. A training initiative has been planned towards this objective. Under this initiative, 180 students from

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Government Colleges were selected and provided with intensive training to prepare them for entrance examinations for admission to postgraduate and doctoral programmes in nationally reputed higher educational institutions. Two phases of intensive academic training for students have been completed. Seventeen participants cleared IIT–JAM and GATE examinations, and continued mentoring support is being provided.

One more batch of 180 students will be trained.

6.8. STATE ACTION PLAN FOR ACADEMIC LABS

There is an imminent need to strengthen the academic labs, both in respect of equipment and curriculum, in Government Arts and Science Colleges. Subject expert committees prepared equipment lists and technical specifications for

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laboratory strengthening across disciplines. Procurement has been completed in Government Arts and Science Colleges, while centralised procurement is being planned for Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges.

6.9. DISTRICT STEM LABORATORIES

District-level STEM laboratories were proposed to promote scientific temper and create awareness among school and college students as well as the general public. Consultations and field visits with State and National-level scientific institutions were undertaken to study their operational models and public outreach mechanisms, for establishing two district-level laboratories.

Space will be identified and preliminary steps will be taken towards establishment of the STEM labs.

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6.10. SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE IN BASIC SCIENCES

The establishment of State-promoted science research institutions of global standards forms the core objective of this initiative. The scheme aims to stimulate interest in basic science research among students and provide them with appropriate opportunities in this field. In the context of the rapidly expanding impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on employment patterns, strengthening foundational knowledge in the basic sciences is considered essential as an alternative pathway. Accordingly, it was decided to establish two such research institutions. A Special Officer has been appointed, and preliminary activities are currently underway.

6.11. KALLOORI KALAI THIRUVIZHA

Kalloori Kalai Thiruvizha is being implemented as a platform to bring out and

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promote the multifaceted talents of students in Government Colleges. Guidelines, events, and fund disbursement processes were completed for the conduct of the festival across colleges. All 252 colleges conducted the programme and submitted Utilisation Certificates. These programmes will be continued in coming years. The regional and State level competitions will be planned.

6.12. SPORTS PROMOTION

It is essential to engage students in sports activities to ensure the holistic development of students in Government Colleges. Sports kits and implementation guidelines were prepared in coordination with the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu. The procurement of the sports kits have been completed and usage is being monitored.

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Equipment for this year will be procured and a strategy to improve collegiate sports ecosystem will be devised.

6.13. WEB PORTAL FOR PHD STUDENTS

There is a felt need to regulate and standardize the academic processes of research scholars across the State and a dedicated web portal is being developed to monitor the status.

The portal development will be completed and rolled out.

6.14. SKILL TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

This scheme aims to provide appropriate training to teachers to enable them to understand the social backgrounds of students, interact with them in a sensitive and inclusive manner, and effectively handle issues relating to sexual harassment. Multiple batches of social sensitivity, gender sensitization, and Internal Committee

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training programmes have been completed across regions and universities. Nearly 700 teaching and non-teaching staff participated in these initiatives and this year 750 will be trained.

6.15. PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2026-27

TANSCHE is actively engaged in developing schemes after in-depth studies to drive quality initiatives in higher education. To improve the academic quality and rigour of institutions, the Council has outlined a series of ongoing and proposed initiatives. The key activities to be undertaken in the upcoming year are as follows:-

6.15.1. STUDY OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES

A detailed study of libraries in Government Arts and Science Colleges will be undertaken to examine their infrastructure, functioning, accessibility, digital resources, staffing, funding, and student usage. The study will also assess the

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role of libraries in teaching, learning, and research, and identify gaps affecting their effectiveness as academic spaces. Field visits, institutional data collection, and stakeholder consultations will be carried out, based on which recommendations and an action plan for strengthening college libraries will be developed.

6.15.2. REVIEW OF TRANSGENDER PARTICIPATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

A detailed assessment of the participation of transgender persons in higher education will be undertaken to examine enrolment patterns, access barriers, institutional experiences, and support systems. The study will analyse issues such as school-level dropout, stigma, economic vulnerability, and institutional rigidity, along with the effectiveness of scholarships, reservation policies, counselling systems, and campus inclusion practices. Based on data analysis, field

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interactions, and stakeholder consultations, recommendations to improve access, participation, retention and support for transgender students will be developed.

6.15.3. REVIEW OF OPEN EDUCAITON

A detailed review of open and distance education systems will be undertaken to examine their present status, accessibility, relevance, and role in expanding higher education opportunities. The study will assess issues relating to enrolment, learner support, digital access, curriculum flexibility, institutional capacity, and employability outcomes, especially for working persons, women, rural learners, and students unable to continue in regular education. Based on the findings, recommendations will be developed to strengthen and revive open education systems in Tamil Nadu.

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6.15.4. ASSESSMENT OF CHALLENGES FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED PARTICIPATION AND SUCCESS

A detailed study on the participation and success of differently abled students in higher education will be undertaken to examine issues relating to access, inclusion, continuity, and completion of studies. The study will analyse academic, infrastructural, financial, technological, and social challenges faced by students, and review the effectiveness of existing entitlements, assistive provisions, and institutional support systems. Based on the findings, action points and policy recommendations to strengthen accessibility, inclusion and academic support will be developed.

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7. RASHTRIYA UCHCHATAR SHIKSHA ABHIYAN (RUSA)

The Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), introduced in 2013, is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed at strengthening and improving the higher education system across the country. Under the scheme, the financial contribution is shared between the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 60:40, with financial assistance being extended to eligible Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in the State.

Tamil Nadu has implemented the scheme through RUSA 1.0 and RUSA 2.0, with a combined approved allocation of Rs.873.95 crore. The assistance provided under this scheme has supported the development and strengthening of higher educational institutions across the State.

- **RUSA**, **2013**, is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Tamil Nadu's **RUSA** 1.0 and 2.0 together carry an approved allocation of **Rs.873.95 crore**.

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The RUSA initiatives cover a wide range of institutional development activities like expansion and modernization of existing infrastructure, strengthening of research and innovation, improvement of access, equity and quality in higher education. State level Universities and Government Arts and Science Colleges are the principal stakeholders in the implementation of the scheme in Tamil Nadu.

7.1. Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) 1.0

Under RUSA 1.0 an amount of Rs.374.00 crore was approved under 7 components supporting 74 beneficiary institutions comprising 10 State Universities and 64 Government Arts and Science Colleges. The scheme enabled the Universities to establish state–of–the-art research laboratories and promote high level research projects. All projects

- **RUSA** 1.0: **Rs.374 crore**, 7 components, 74 institutions (10 State universities and 64 Government arts and science colleges); completed by **31.03.2026**.

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and activities under RUSA 1.0 were completed by 31.03.2026.

Infrastructure created/upgraded
Classrooms - 443
Smart Classrooms - 82
Laboratories/Sports Facilities - 31
Toilet blocks - 18
Auditoriums - 2

7.2. Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) 2.0

RUSA 2.0 began in **2018** with **Rs.499.95 crore** approved; **Rs.377.27** crore utilised as on **31.03.2026**.

RUSA 2.0 scheme commenced in 2018 and an amount of Rs.499.95 crore was approved under 7 components. The Scheme supports 10 State Universities and 12 Government Arts and Science Colleges. Under MMER (100% Central Grant) Rs. 4.95 Cr has been allotted out of which Rs. 1.87 Cr has been utilized. Components such as Infrastructure Grants to Colleges, Equity Initiatives and Faculty Improvement have been completed in 12 Government Arts and Science

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Colleges and 2 State Universities. As on 31.03.2026 a total amount of Rs.377.27 Cr has been utilized under RUSA 2.0.

7.3. Under RUSA 2.0, during the current year 4 components are being executed in 8 Universities. The details are tabulated below:-

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Component	No. of Institutions benefitted	Approved amount	Amount utilized	Amount to be utilized
Infrastructure Grants to Universities	03	Rs.60.00 @.Rs.20.00 each	Rs.58.05	Rs.1.95 for Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University
Research, Innovation and Quality Improvement	06	Rs.300.00 @Rs.50.00 each	Rs.199.08	Rs.100.92 for 6 State Universities
Enhancing Quality and Excellence in Select State Universities	01	Rs.100.00	Rs. 83.46	Rs.16.54 for Alagappa University
Preparatory Grants	01	Rs.3.00	Rs.2.81	Rs.0.19

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7.4. Infrastructure created/ upgraded under RUSA 2.0 are furnished below:-

Infrastructure created/upgraded
Classrooms - 79
Boys Hostels - 03
Girls Hostels - 03
Research Centre - 01
Auditoriums - 03
Indoor Fitness Centre - 01
Indoor Auditorium - 01

7.5. The Universities have strengthened the Research and Innovation Ecosystem by establishing Entrepreneur Hubs for the benefit of the faculty members and students. Computer systems and laboratory equipment have also been procured as per institutional requirements.

7.6. Under RUSA 1.0, a series of online lectures were organized featuring eminent corporate leaders, distinguished scientists and renowned

industrialists. These sessions have provided valuable insights to nearly 86,602 students across Tamil Nadu thereby enhancing their professional knowledge and skills. This initiative was recognized by “NITI Aayog” as best practice among the Southern States.

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8. POPULARISATION OF SCIENCE

Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre (TNSTC), Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) and Science City are operating under the focal theme of the "Popularization of Science". These departments integrate educational, research, and technical institutions to foster curiosity and scientific temper across urban and rural communities. Through structural initiatives including interactive science centers, tech-driven planetariums, student financial fellowships, and advanced infrastructure updates, these departments drive long-term socioeconomic and technical growth throughout the state.

8.1. SCIENCE CITY

Science City was established in 1998 by a policy decision taken by the Government to

- Science City, **1998** - a policy decision to integrate the education and research institutions of the Taramani area. The Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre dates from **1983**.

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integrate all the Educational and Research Institutions in the Taramani area.

Promotion of science and technology is the primary objective of Science City.

8.2. TAMIL NADU SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

Science centres are essential for building a society that is knowledgeable about science. The Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre has established various science centres to illustrate the principles and powers of science and technology in everyday life.

The Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre was established in 1983. Since its inception, it has established Science Centres in the following Districts in Tamil Nadu:

(i) Periyar Science and Technology Centre with B.M. Birla Planetarium in Chennai.

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(ii) Anna Science Centre-Planetarium in Tiruchirappalli.

(iii) Dr. Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi District Science Centre in Vellore.

(iv) Regional Science Centre in Coimbatore.

8.2.1. ACTIVITIES

(i) Tamilnadu Science and Technology Centre is engaged in the activities of establishment of Science Centres, Science Galleries, Planetariums, research on development of interactive science exhibits and state-wide Science Popularisation activities.

(ii) To keep pace with modern technology, in the planetarium at Periyar Science and Technology Centre the most advanced Hybrid Projection System and a new hemispherical dome for high quality images are being used. This is a new generation planetarium system, combining

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the beautiful starry sky projected by opto-mechanical projectors with full dome digital video systems that bring dynamic colorful images to the dome such as apparent motion of stars, space, flight, planets, nebulae, galaxies and other astronomical images.

(iii) Science On a Sphere is an astonishing piece of technology that uses computers and video projectors to display dynamic, animated images of the atmosphere, oceans and land on an illuminated sphere of six feet in diameter. The spherical projection system known as Science on a Sphere (SOS) created by the United States National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is being used at Periyar Science and Technology Centre, Chennai to explain complex environmental processes to the visitors in an innovative way that is both educational and interactive.

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(iv) During the financial year 2025-26, 4,67,000 people, mostly students have visited the Planetariums, Science on a Sphere, Science galleries and Science parks of the Science Centers and got benefitted.

- 4,67,000 visitors in **2025-26** to the planetariums, Science on a Sphere, galleries and science parks; 27,330 students reached by the Mobile Science Exhibition.

(v) Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre strive to communicate Science and educate masses by its Mobile Science Exhibition, Lectures and Demonstrations, Training and Workshops, Publications etc. During the year 2025-26, 27,330 students got benefited in Mobile Science Exhibition has been covered all rural and urban area schools.

(vi) Short-term courses, Astronomy Camp, Robotics, Telescope workshops, Science Camps and Quiz competitions are conducted periodically to reach out several hundreds of students yearly.

(vii) Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre has also developed Science Park exhibits

and established Science parks in various cities of Tamil Nadu.

(viii) Sky Observation programmes are also conducted during astronomical events as well as on a regular basis for the public to observe the night sky through Telescopes. These programmes are very popular among the students.

8.2.2. ONGOING ACTIVITIES

8.2.2.1. INSTALLATION OF A NEW LIFT FOR PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED AND ELDERLY VISITORS

Periyar Science and Technology Centre, Chennai is setting up a "New lift" at a cost of Rs.25.00 lakhs for Physically Challenged and aged persons visiting our Centre. The works are under progress.

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8.2.2.2. MODERNIZATION OF HEART GALLERY IN PERIYAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, CHENNAI

The Heart Gallery at the Periyar Science and Technology Centre, Chennai, is being modernized at a cost of Rs.40.00 lakhs.

8.2.2.3. SETTING UP OF ONLINE ENTRY TICKETS, QR CODE AND WEB APPLICATION FOR EXHIBITS

The system setup for online ticketing, QR codes, and exhibit web applications at the Periyar Science and Technology Centre, Chennai, is underway at a cost of Rs.10.00 lakhs. Work is currently in progress.

8.2.2.4. PROCUREMENT OF A "NEW MOBILE SCIENCE EXHIBITION BUS" FOR THE PERIYAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, CHENNAI

A new Mobile Science Exhibition Bus is being deployed for the Periyar Science and Technology Centre, Chennai, at a cost of

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Rs.80.00 lakhs. The bus chassis has been purchased and custom body fitting is complete. Exhibit installation is now underway.

8.2.2.5. TECHNOLOGY TRAINING FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

To provide opportunity to the students to learn and understand Science and Technology concepts and to innovate, Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre has established Innovation Hub at a cost of Rs.100 lakhs at Periyar Science and Technology Centre, Chennai, Rs.1.80 Crore at Regional Science Centre, Coimbatore and Rs.1.50 Crore in Anna Science Centre-Planetarium, Tiruchirappalli.

These Innovation Hubs are actively conducting workshops in Robotics, 3D Printing, Internet of Things (IoT), Drone Technology and other emerging technologies. A special focus is given to supporting students from government

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schools, for whom these programs are offered free of cost. In addition, these centers provide internship opportunities for college students, helping them gain practical experience and industry-relevant skills.

8.2.2.6. INSPIRE MANAK AWARD SCHEME FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre, is implementing INSPIRE Award – MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) programme in Tamil Nadu in coordination with Department of Science & Technology and National Innovation Foundation (NIF)-India.

This Programme is being implemented for the attraction of talent amongst students to study science and pursue career in research. An award of Rs.10000/- is given to the selected students and deposited in their bank accounts for the

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preparation of project displaying idea and for participation in the contests. In Tamilnadu during the past 17 years, 89,581 students were honoured with this award and cash awards worth Rs.52.84 crore was given.

INSPIRE Award in Tamil Nadu over 17 years: 89,581 students honoured and **Rs.52.84 crore** in cash awards, at **Rs.10,000** per selected student.

In November 2025, INSPIRE Award - State Level Exhibitions and Project Competitions for the year 2023-24 and 2024-25 was conducted and 20 students have been selected for the National Level exhibition and Project competition which is to be held at New Delhi.

8.3. TAMIL NADU STATE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Established in 1984 by the Government of Tamil Nadu, Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) is the apex autonomous organization promoting Science and Technology through research, innovation, capacity building, technology transfer, and science

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popularization. The Council also hosts specialized Centres such as the Patent Information Centre (PIC), Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre (IPFC) for MSMEs, and Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TTFC).

8.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS

(i) The Patent Information Centre (PIC) has established 40 IPR Cells in higher educational institutions. The Council has obtained through its PIC, 4 GIs such as Thanjavur Veenai, Dindigul Locks, Kodaikanal Malai Poondu, and Udankudi Panangkarupatti.

(ii) During the year 2025-26, PIC has facilitated 680 patents, 230 industrial designs, 54 copyrights, 13 trademarks, 11 GI applications, 1 Semi-conductor Integrated Circuits Layout Design (SICLD) application, and 352 GI authorized user applications. It also conducted

- The Patent Information Centre facilitated 680 patents, 230 industrial designs, 54 copyrights, 13 trademarks and 11 **GI** applications in **2025-26**, and runs 40 **IPR** cells.

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34 IPR awareness programmes benefiting 10,078 participants.

(iii) The Centre facilitated 150 industrial design filings through Mother Teresa Women's University for products developed by indigenous communities of Kodaikanal in a single day.

(iv) Through collaborations, including an MoU with ICMR, PIC promotes technology transfer and biomedical innovation. Its outstanding contribution to IPR promotion was recognized with the National Intellectual Property Award 2023 by the Government of India. Tamil Nadu has emerged as the No.1 State in patent filing in the country.

- The Patent Information Centre won the National Intellectual Property Award **2023** from the Government of India - a State body with a national award.

(v) The SC-ST Cell conducted 98 hands-on skill development programmes in livelihood-oriented areas, benefiting 3,105 SC/ST beneficiaries through training in agriculture, food

processing, handicrafts, waste-to-wealth technologies, and entrepreneurship.

(vi) TNSCST received the Jury Special Mention Award at India International Science Festival 2025 for showcasing Tamil Nadu's scientific achievements and innovation ecosystem. The Council also secured First Prize at the National Science Expo during the 38th Kerala Science Congress under the "Other State Councils" category.

- **TNSCST** took the Jury Special Mention at **IISF 2025** and first prize at the National Science Expo of the 38th Kerala Science Congress.

(vii) National Science Day was celebrated on 28 February 2026 with Presidency College, Chennai, on the theme "Women in Science," promoting scientific awareness and interest among students.

- National Science Day **2026** was marked at Presidency College, Chennai on the theme 'Women in Science'.

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8.3.2. ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL

SCHEMES SUPPORTED BY STATE GOVERNMENT

1. STUDENT PROJECTS SCHEME

Financial support for final-year UG/PG engineering and PG science students to develop socially relevant innovations, research papers, and patents.

2. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

Funding for researchers and scientists in higher education institutions to solve state-specific challenges and secure larger national grants.

3. YOUNG STUDENT SCIENTIST PROGRAMME

The programme nurtures scientific curiosity among 9^{th} standard students by providing exposure to research institutions, laboratories,

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and interactions with scientists, encouraging careers in Science, Technology, and Research.

4. YOUNG SCIENTISTS FELLOWSHIP SCHEME

The scheme provides 2–6-month fellowships for young scientists and researchers (below 40 years) to receive advanced training and collaboration with leading institutions and enhance research and teaching capabilities.

5. ASSISTANCE FOR SEMINAR/SYMPOSIUM/ WORKSHOP

Financial assistance is provided to institutions for organizing scientific events that promote knowledge sharing, research collaboration, and dissemination of recent advances in Science and Technology.

6. TAMIL NADU SCIENTISTS AWARD (TANSA)

- **TANSA** honours scientists across ten Science and Technology disciplines with a cash prize and citation - the State's top science award.

The award recognizes outstanding scientists across ten Science and Technology disciplines

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with a cash prize and citation, encouraging excellence, innovation, and research.

7. DISSEMINATION OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

The scheme transfers need-based technologies to farmers, entrepreneurs, and communities through training and demonstrations, promoting livelihoods and socio-economic development.

8. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CAPACITY BUILDING FOR INDUSTRIAL NEEDS

The programme enhances students' technical, professional, and entrepreneurial skills through industry-oriented training, improving employability and entrepreneurship.

9. IMPROVEMENT OF S&T INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AT GOVERNMENT COLLEGES

Financial assistance is provided to Government colleges to upgrade laboratories and

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scientific infrastructure, strengthening science education and research.

10. INDIAN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL

The Council participates in the national science festival to showcase achievements, foster collaborations and promote knowledge exchange with leading scientific organizations.

SCHEMES SUPPORTED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

1. PATENT INFORMATION CENTRE (PIC)

The Patent Information Centre, supported by DST, Government of India, provides IPR facilitation services for students, researchers, faculty, scientists, entrepreneurs, and innovators. It has established 40 IPR cells across institutions and promotes patent awareness and protection.

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2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FACILITATION CENTRE FOR MSMES (IPFC)

Established with MSME Ministry support, the Centre promotes IPR awareness and provides assistance in IP filing, commercialization, and reimbursement support. It facilitated 44 IP disclosures, conducted 6 awareness programmes, and released Rs.22.49 lakh as IP reimbursement support, including GI initiatives

3. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FACILITATION CENTRE (TTFC)

Established with MSME Ministry support, TTFC promotes technology transfer, IP commercialization, and industry–academia collaboration. Through initiatives and partnerships, including collaboration with StartupTN, it supports transforming research innovations into market-ready technologies and strengthens industrial competitiveness.

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4. CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE DAY

The Council celebrates National Mathematics Day and National Science Day to promote scientific awareness and inspire students towards Science and Mathematics careers. The 2026 Science Day celebration on the theme “Women in Science” benefited 500 students and highlighted the contributions of eminent scientists.

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9. TAMIL NADU STATE URDU ACADEMY

The Government of Tamil Nadu established Tamil Nadu State Urdu Academy for promotion of Urdu language in the State in the year 2000. The objective of functioning of the Tamil Nadu State Urdu Academy (TNSUA) is to promote the Urdu Language and Literature in the State of Tamil Nadu and encourage the Urdu Scholars, Poets and Urdu Language students

The Tamil Nadu State Urdu Academy has conducted number of functions, seminars and symposiums jointly with University of Madras (Department of Urdu, Arabic and Persian) to encourage the Urdu students, Scholars and Urdu poets and given certificates, prizes and awards to them. Tamil Nadu Urdu Academy and Indian Abacus jointly organized Maths competition to Government Schools and Corporation School.

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On the representation of TNSUA, 6 block education officers and Teachers are appointed to 278 Urdu Medium School. At present, Urdu language is offered in Colleges in the State. The Tamil Nadu State Urdu Academy helped in translation from English version of the books of 11^{th} and 12^{th} standard to Urdu language successfully.

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10. TAMIL NADU STATE COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

In order to plan, coordinate, and improve the Technical Education in Tamil Nadu, this Council was established under the Tamil Nadu State Council for Technical Education Act, 2010.

10.1. MAJOR ACTIVITIES

A Training programme on "Emotional Quotient-(EQ)" for the students of Government Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges was imparted at the cost of Rs. 20.77 lakhs and 16,962 students were benefited.

A Training Programme for the Ministerial staff of DOTE on Office Administration was conducted.

10.2. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

To enhance the reputation and academic credibility of engineering colleges, workshops to

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motivate the active participation in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) by highlighting its benefits, will be conducted.

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11. TAMIL NADU UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES CORPORATION

The Tamil Nadu Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Corporation (TNUAVC) has been established in partnership with Madras Institute of Technology, Anna University to cater to the drone-based requirements of various Departments of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Corporation provides drone-based solutions and services across multiple sectors including law enforcement, mining, revenue and municipal administration, urban development, water management, agriculture and allied sectors, disaster management, health, forestry, archaeology, GIS, and environmental studies.

The Corporation is registered under the Companies Act as a 100% Government-owned Private Limited Company.

- **TNUAVC**, set up with **MIT** Anna University, is a wholly Government-owned company supplying drone solutions to police, mining, revenue, agriculture, disaster management and forestry.

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Apart from trading various types of drones, the Corporation also provides a wide range of drone-based services such as agricultural pesticide spraying, monitoring, mapping, surveillance, search and rescue operations, and volumetric analysis for user departments. Through its solutions, services, and products, the Corporation aims to generate employment opportunities in the State.

11.1. ACTIVITIES IN 2025-2026

Drone-based surveillance system established in the Madukkarai Forest Range from February 2026, with the objective to prevent wild elephants from approaching railway tracks and to reduce train accidents.

- Drone surveillance in the Madukkarai Forest Range from February **2026** to keep wild elephants off railway tracks - the flagship example of drones in wildlife conflict management.

Supplied drones and drone components to NCC – 5 TN Air Squadron for establishing a Drone Training Centre.

Provided consultancy support to Tamil Nadu Police for identifying anti-drone solutions for VIP security.

Signed MoU with Vinayaka Missions for establishing MRO and RPTO training centre at Vinayaka Missions College.

11.2. ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS

11.2.1. ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL UNIT FOR CERTIFICATION FOR UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES

In order to support drone manufacturers in Tamil Nadu and provide additional certification opportunities to other drone manufacturers across India, a specialized Drone Certification Division is being established near Chennai through the Tamil Nadu Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Corporation at a cost of Rs.15 lakh.

- A specialised Drone Certification Division is being set up near Chennai at **Rs.15 lakh**, plus **MRO** and **RPTO** training centres - Tamil Nadu building a full drone ecosystem.

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11.2.2. ESTABLISHMENT OF MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, OVERHAUL (MRO) AND REMOTE PILOT TRAINING ORGANISATION (RPTO) TRAINING CENTRES

The establishment of Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) facilities alongside Remote Pilot Training Organisations (RPTO) forms a comprehensive aviation ecosystem. While MRO centers maintain and Repair unmanned aerial vehicle, RPTOs train unmanned aerial vehicle operators. Together, they bridge the gap between technical infrastructure and skilled human capital.

Establishing MRO and RPTO Training Centers in five Government Polytechnic Colleges namely:

(i) Government Polytechnic College, Krishnagiri.

(ii) Alagappa Government Polytechnic College, Karaikudi

(iii) Government Polytechnic College, Thoothukudi

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(iv) Government Polytechnic College, Sevvapet, Thiruvallur

(v) Government Polytechnic College, Melur, Madurai

11.2.3. SUPPLY OF DRONES TO COASTAL SECURITY GROUP

Supplying two numbers of long-range endurance drones and a Mobile Command Control Station to Coastal Security Group, Tamil Nadu Police.

P. VISWANATHAN
MINISTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

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A review meeting on the activities and schemes of the Higher Education Department was held on 06.07.2026 at the Secretariat under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister.

(i)

1



The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the class rooms and other buildings constructed at a cost of Rs.274.46 crores in Government Polytechnic Colleges, Government Engineering Colleges and Thiruvalluvar University under the Higher Education Department at the Secretariat on 04.08.2026.

(ii)

2



A consultative meeting was conducted on 06.08.2026 under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, regarding the Demand for Grants of the Higher Education Department for the financial year 2026-27.

(iii)

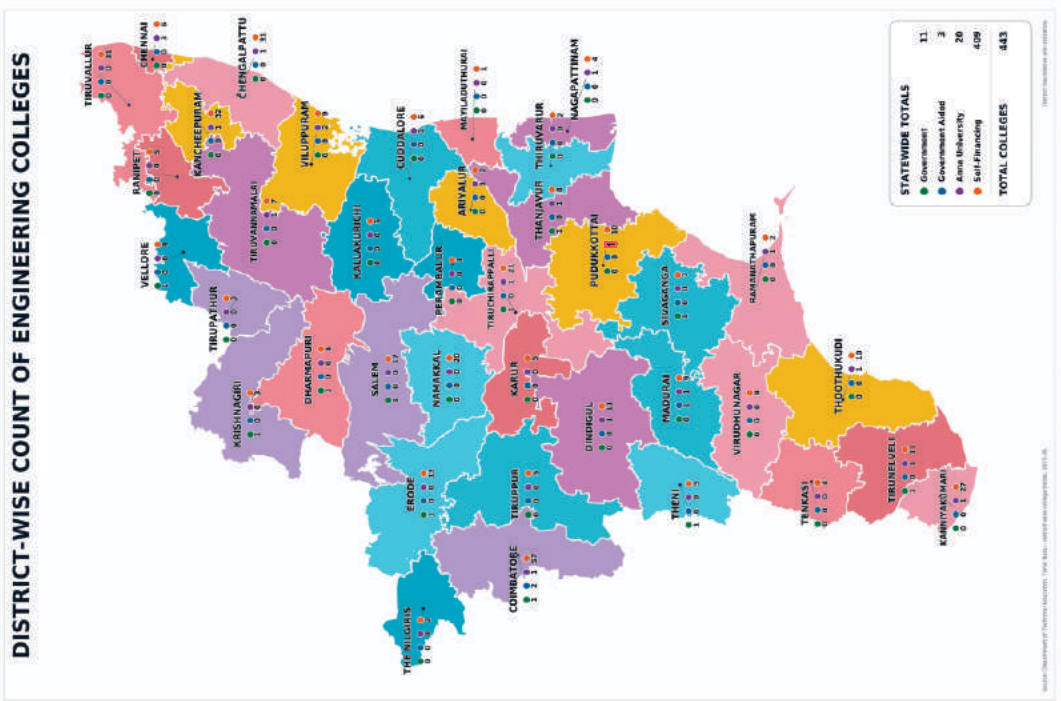
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On 07.07.2026, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education inspected the basic amenities and the quality of food provided at the Students Hostel of Dr. Dharmambal Government Women's Polytechnic College, Taramani, Chennai.

(iv)

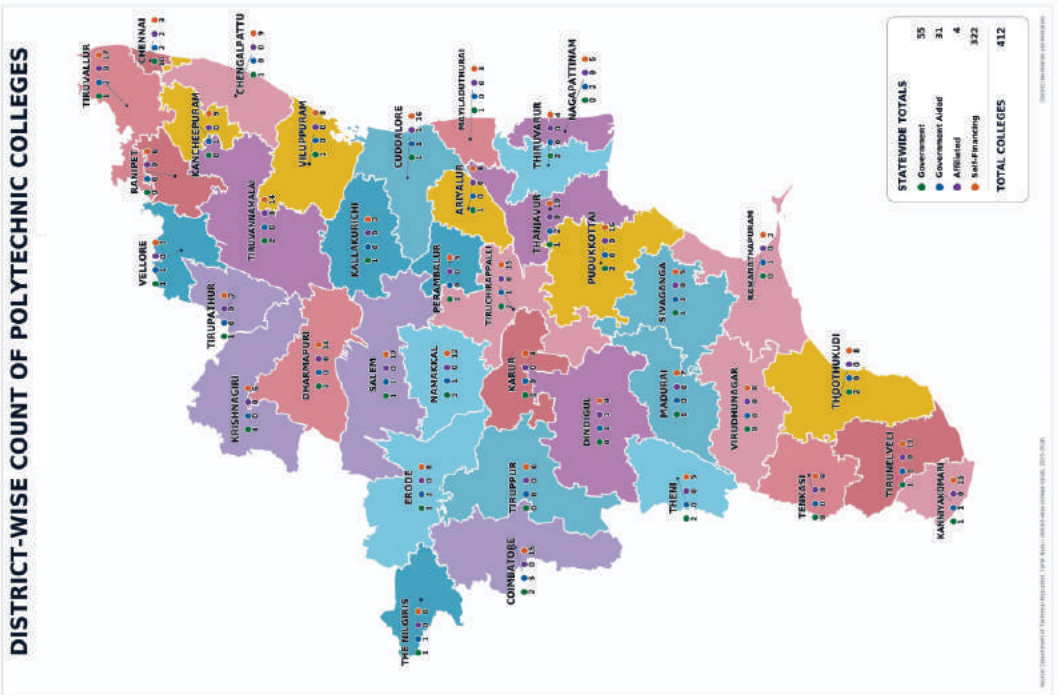
4



District wise number of Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu.

(v)

5



District wise number of Polytechnic Colleges in Tamil Nadu.

(vi)

6



District wise number of Arts and Science Colleges and Education Colleges in Tamil Nadu.

(vii)

7

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