SPECIAL PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE
2026 – 2027

Demand No.53

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Chief Minister

©
Government of Tamil Nadu
2026

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SPECIAL PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE 2026-2027

இயற்றலும் ஈட்டலுங் காத்தலுங் காத்த வகுத்தலும் வல்ல தரசு.

பொருள் வரும் வழிகளை மேன்மேலும் உண்டாக்குதலும், அங்ஙனம் வந்த பொருள்களை ஒரு வழிப்படச் சேர்த்தலும், சேர்த்த பொருளை அழியாமல் காத்தலும், காத்த பொருளை அறம், பொருள், இன்பங்களின் பொருட்டு முறைப்படியே பகுத்துச் செலவிட வல்லதே சிறந்த அரசு.

திருக்குறள்-385

1. Introduction

The Government of Tamil Nadu, under the leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, has formulated the **"Vetri Tamizhagam – Vision Document"** to provide a strategic direction for the State's long-term development. The schemes outlined under this Vision Document are intended to promote balanced socio-economic development

- The department exists to monitor the schemes set out in the Vetri Tamizhagam Vision Document - the State's long-term development frame.

across the State and to ensure that the benefits of development reach all sections of society.

The schemes / programmes envisaged in the Vision Document are structured to benefit every citizen with a special focus on the welfare of women, farmers, fishermen, marginalized communities and youth of Tamil Nadu. It also aims at upholding Tamil identity and pride while insisting on providing dignified living for the people of the State. Emphasis is also made for providing world-class education, health, infrastructure and environmental protection for comprehensive development of all sectors in the State while striving for prosperous people's Government i.e. an honest and transparent governance.

The effective implementation of these schemes, programmes and projects requires robust monitoring and periodic review at the highest levels of Government. To facilitate this

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process, the Department is mandated to monitor the progress of Government initiatives and coordinate high-level review meetings to assess implementation status, address emerging challenges and ensure that the intended developmental objectives are achieved.

2. Main Functions of the Department

Effective monitoring of Government schemes is essential to ensure their efficient implementation and to facilitate the delivery of intended benefits to the targeted beneficiaries. Recognising the importance of this responsibility, the Special Programme Implementation Department has been assigned the following key functions:

- Monitoring the issuance of necessary Government orders pertaining to all policy announcements made on the floor of the Legislative Assembly and announcements made during various Government functions,

Function one: track whether Government Orders are actually issued for every announcement made on the floor of the Assembly or at a Government function - the gap between announcement and G.O. is what this department measures.

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and reviewing the progress of their implementation in coordination with the concerned Departments.

- Monitoring the implementation of Flagship / Key Infrastructure Projects undertaken by various Government Departments by tracking their progress against the projected milestones and facilitating their timely completion.
- Convening monthly meetings of the District Monitoring Officers under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government to review the findings of their field inspections on major Government schemes, deliberate on implementation issues in consultation with the concerned Departments, identify bottlenecks affecting scheme execution and facilitate timely corrective interventions to ensure effective implementation.

- District Monitoring Officers meet monthly under the Chief Secretary, so field findings reach the top of the administration rather than stopping at the district.

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- Performing special tasks and responsibilities assigned to the Department by the Government, as and when required.

The Department is staffed with officials deputed from various Government Departments, to strengthen its monitoring and coordination functions for the effective implementation of its assigned responsibilities.

3. Monitoring

Monitoring is a continuous and structured process of collecting and analysing information to assess the progress of Government programmes and schemes towards achieving their intended objectives. It facilitates periodic review of implementation, identifies field-level issues through regular feedback and observations. This enables informed decision-making and timely corrective interventions for improving programme outcomes.

This Department gathers data of the status of implementation of various policy announcements made by the Government in coordination with the line departments concerned.

3.1. Monitoring of Policy Announcements

This Department is primarily responsible for monitoring the implementation of all Government announcements made through the Hon'ble Governor's Address, Budget Speech, Agriculture Budget, under Rule 110 in the floor of the Legislative Assembly and all other announcements made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in addition to the announcements made by the Hon'ble Ministers on the floor of the Legislative Assembly.

- Announcements monitored come from five sources - the Governor's Address, the Budget Speech, the Agriculture Budget, Rule 110 statements in the Assembly, and other announcements by the Chief Minister and Ministers.

3.2. Online Monitoring through Secretariat Intranet

The Department has developed and deployed an interactive web-based monitoring system on the Secretariat Intranet for capturing and monitoring

- An interactive web system on the Secretariat Intranet captures implementation status department by department, with a designated Nodal Officer in each.

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the implementation status of Government policy announcements across Departments. The application generates a range of analytical reports and is periodically upgraded to meet evolving monitoring and reporting requirements.

Nodal Officers have been designated by all administrative departments to coordinate with their respective Heads of Departments and ensure the timely updating of the implementation status of Government announcements on the Secretariat Intranet monitoring system.

To facilitate effective monitoring, progress updates on announcements received from the concerned Departments through the online monitoring system are categorised and consolidated into analytical reports for High-Level Review Meetings including the Monthly All Secretaries' Review Meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary to Government.

Consolidated reports feed the Monthly All Secretaries' Review Meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary.

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3.3. District Monitoring Officers

To oversee the implementation of key Government schemes and programmes in the districts, the Government appoints senior officers and Heads of Departments as District Monitoring Officers. The District Monitoring Officers undertake field inspections, review the progress of implementation, interact with District Collectors and district officials and provide guidance to address implementation bottlenecks and facilitate timely execution of schemes and programmes. To facilitate focused monitoring, a monthly list of priority schemes and programmes requiring special attention is communicated to the District Monitoring Officers for inspection in their assigned districts.

The Monitoring Officers also focus on those areas requiring convergence and coordination among departments, implementation of Schemes

District Monitoring Officers are senior officers and Heads of Departments assigned to districts - an inspection layer sitting outside the district administration they inspect.

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as stipulated in the Guidelines, etc. Besides the above, any district specific scheme or those Schemes requiring higher level intervention are also taken up for review by the Monitoring Officers. The Monitoring Officers furnish the scheme-wise observations, action points and suggestions after performing their district visits, to this Department for compilation and necessary follow up.

The Department consolidates and analyses the findings and observations of the District Monitoring Officers and places key implementation issues before the monthly review meetings chaired by the Chief Secretary to Government. The participation of the concerned Secretaries to Government and Heads of Departments facilitates informed discussions, expeditious resolution of implementation issues and coordinated follow-up action to improve the delivery of Government schemes and programmes.

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3.4. Monitoring of Flagship / Key Infrastructure Projects

The successful and timely execution of major infrastructure projects is essential for sustaining the State's socio-economic development. Accordingly, these projects require focused monitoring to ensure their completion and operationalisation within the stipulated timelines. Such projects in various sectors, namely, Energy, Water and Sanitation, Industrial Corridors, TIDEL Parks, Elevated Road Projects, Outer Ring Roads, Bridges, Heritage Projects, Transport Projects, Schools of Excellence, Environment Projects, Multi-speciality Hospitals, Fishing Harbours, IT Projects, Irrigation Projects, Sports Stadiums, etc., have been identified as key infrastructure Projects. This Department organises and compiles the progress reports for the periodical review meetings of key infrastructure projects.

- Key infrastructure projects tracked span energy, water and sanitation, industrial corridors, TIDEL parks, elevated roads, outer ring roads, bridges, heritage, transport, Schools of Excellence, hospitals, fishing harbours, irrigation and stadiums.

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II. Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation

1. Introduction

In order to empower the youth of Tamil Nadu through skilling and making them employable, a not-for-profit Company under Section 8 of the Companies Act 2013, was formed as Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) on 11.06.2013.

TNSDC is the State's nodal agency for skill development that undertakes a range of initiatives to strengthen the skilling ecosystem through comprehensive skill development programmes for unemployed youth and college students, to meet the workforce needs of emerging industries. Through these efforts, TNSDC aims to establish Tamil Nadu as one of the country's leading hubs for skill development.

- **TNSDC** was formed on **11.06.2013** as a not-for-profit company under Section 8 of the Companies **Act 2013** - the State's nodal agency for skill development.

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Credit-based, industry-curated skill courses are provided to students pursuing Engineering, Arts & Science, Paramedical, Polytechnic Diploma, and ITI programmes, developed in consultation with industry experts and academicians to strengthen their career readiness.

Similarly, industry-relevant skill training at no cost is provided to unemployed youth through a network of empanelled Skill Training Institutions. Around 500 skill courses, which are National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) aligned or industry relevant across 35 sectors including Healthcare, IT/ITES, Automobile, Agriculture and Green Jobs thereby equipping candidates with relatively more practical knowledge and technical competencies required for emerging employment opportunities are imparted by TNSDC.

- About 500 courses, **NSQF**-aligned or industry relevant, across 35 sectors including healthcare, IT/**ITES**, automobile, agriculture and green jobs.

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2. Short Term Skill Training Scheme

The scheme is intended, in particular, for youth in the age group of 18 to 35 years who have either completed or have discontinued their studies, so as to render them employable. Special emphasis has been laid on the skilling and employment of women and vulnerable sections.

- Short Term Skill Training targets 18 to 35 year olds who have completed or discontinued studies, with emphasis on women and vulnerable sections.

To recognise the competencies of experienced workers, TNSDC also implements the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme, which provides formal certification to individuals who have acquired skills through work experience without undergoing formal training. This enhances their career progression and access to better livelihood opportunities.

- Recognition of Prior Learning certifies skills acquired through work experience without formal training - it turns existing competence into a credential.

TNSDC undertakes specialised initiatives to provide advanced skill training to artisans engaged in various arts and crafts. It also designs targeted interventions for socially and economically

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disadvantaged groups, including Sri Lankan Tamils, inmates of prisons and Government observation homes, Differently Abled Persons, Transgenders and other vulnerable communities, enabling them to acquire market-relevant skills, secure sustainable employment and improve their quality of life.

Through these focused interventions, TNSDC continues to strengthen Tamil Nadu's human resource capital by equipping unemployed youth and students with future-ready skills ensuring an inclusive and sustainable growth by creating a skilled and Industry-ready workforce.

In the year 2025–26, 1,20,953 beneficiaries were trained under the following schemes:

- 1,20,953 trained in **2025-26**: 1,02,568 in short term training, 15,720 artisans upskilled and 2,665 through **RPL**. The **2026-27** target is 1,00,000.

Scheme	No. of beneficiaries
Short Term Skill Training	1,02,568

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Scheme	No. of beneficiaries
Upskilling for Artisans	15,720
Recognition of Prior Learning	2,665
Total	**1,20,953**

During the year 2026-27, skill training will be imparted to 1,00,000 youth.

2.1. Industry Led Skill Training

This programme constitutes an important initiative to address the skill demand of the industries and is implemented on the basis of a well-structured 'Recruit, Train and Deploy' model. TNSDC in partnership with Government undertakings, leading industries and industry associations imparts market-driven training in major sectors including Electronics & Hardware, Automotive and Manufacturing trades.

- Industry Led Skill Training runs on a Recruit, Train and Deploy model with industry partners - the employer is identified before the training starts. 35,930 trained in **2025-26**, 40,000 targeted.

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In the year 2025-26, a total of 35,930 candidates have been trained under this programme.

During the year 2026-27, a total of 40,000 candidates will be trained under this programme.

2.2. Agriculture and Allied Skill Development for Rural Livelihoods

In order to improve the rural livelihood through skill training, TNSDC has collaborated with the following Government departments / institutions

1. Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
2. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
3. Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops
4. Department of Agricultural Engineering
5. Animal Husbandry Department

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6. Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University
7. Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University
8. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
9. Advanced Institute for Integrated Research on Livestock and Animal Sciences and other allied institutions
10. Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)

During 2025–26, 18,332 candidates were certified under this programme.

During 2026–27, 20,000 candidates will be benefited under this programme.

- Agriculture skilling runs through ten partners including **TNAU**, the Fisheries University, **TANUVAS**, Aavin and the Krishi Vigyan Kendras. 18,332 certified in **2025-26**.

3. Special Initiatives

Various special initiatives were undertaken considering the requirement for niche courses.

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3.1 Foreign Language and other special trainings

As a special project on a pilot basis, TNSDC has launched Foreign Language Training, Drone Pilot Programme and Scuba Diving Programme. These programmes lead to well-recognised market certifications, including The European Language Certification (TELC) and GOETHE for German, Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) for Japanese, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for drone piloting and Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) for scuba diving.

- Pilot special courses lead to external certifications - **TELC** and Goethe for German, **JLPT** for Japanese, **DGCA** for drone piloting and **PADI** for scuba diving.

In the year 2025-26, 250 candidates have been trained under these special initiatives.

During the year 2026-27, 500 candidates will be trained under these special initiatives.

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3.2. Manuscripting Courses – Tamil University, Thanjavur

TNSDC in collaboration with Tamil University, Thanjavur, has conducted specialised training programmes in Palm Leaf Manuscripts, Epigraphy and Rare Paper Manuscript Studies, with a view to promoting heritage conservation and research competencies. As a pilot measure, 54 candidates were successfully trained.

- With Tamil University, Thanjavur, **TNSDC** piloted training in palm leaf manuscripts, epigraphy and rare paper manuscript studies for 54 candidates - heritage conservation treated as a skill trade.

3.3. Media Sector Skill Training

Six-month certificate programmes in "Applied Journalism" and "Artificial Intelligence for Media" were conducted for 120 candidates in association with Loyola College. The successful candidates underwent internships and secured placements in leading media and Information Technology organisations.

- Six-month certificates in Applied Journalism and Artificial Intelligence for Media were run with Loyola College for 120 candidates.

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4. Inclusive Skill Training Programme

TNSDC in convergence with various government departments has identified vulnerable groups in need of skill training to improve their livelihood. In order to ensure easy access, training programmes were conducted in their respective localities, thereby enhancing their skills for better employment opportunities.

S.No	Beneficiaries	Number of Candidates Trained
1	Sri Lankan Tamils	3,135
2	Tribals	1,384
3	Differently Abled Persons	1,060
4	Urban Habitat Tenements	5,590
5	Transgenders (Home Guard Training)	41
6	Vada Chennai Valarchi Thittam	1,008
Total		**12,218**

During the year 2026-27, 10,500 beneficiaries will be imparted skill training.

- Inclusive training reached 12,218 people - 5,590 in urban habitat tenements, 3,135 Sri Lankan Tamils, 1,384 tribals, 1,060 differently abled persons, 1,008 under Vada Chennai Valarchi Thittam and 41 transgender home guards.

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5. Skill Incentive for Vulnerable Groups

Among the candidates undergoing short term skill courses, Skill incentive payment is disbursed only to eligible candidates from vulnerable groups identified through Aadhaar-based verification from the database maintained by TNeGA.

As per scheme guidelines, skill incentive is provided at the rate of Rs. 6,000 upto 250 hours of training and Rs. 12,000 for training beyond 250 hours.

During 2025–26, skill incentive has been disbursed to 65,222 eligible beneficiaries.

- Skill incentive: **Rs.6,000** up to 250 hours of training and **Rs.12,000** beyond, paid only to vulnerable-group candidates identified through Aadhaar verification against the TNeGA database. 65,222 received it in **2025-26**.

6. Upskilling for Artisans

With an objective of empowering artisans and skilled workers in traditional and heritage trades, TNSDC imparted advanced skill training through modernised tools and techniques to the artisans engaged in metal work, jewellery making, pottery

- Artisan upskilling covers metal work, jewellery, pottery and terracotta, basket, mat and broom making, rope weaving, toy making, sculpting and stone carving, traditional textile printing and musical instrument making. 15,720 certified in **2025-26**.

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including terracotta work, basket/mat/broom making and rope weaving, doll/toy making, sculpting and stone carving, traditional textile printing, and traditional musical instrument making.

During 2025–2026, 15,720 artisans have been successfully trained and certified in traditional skills.

During the year 2026-27, 5,000 artisans will be given upskilling in traditional skills.

7. Thiranagam – District Skill Offices

Thiranagam (District Skill Office) have been established in all districts of Tamil Nadu to implement the skill development initiatives at the grassroots level. Most of the District Skill Offices are located in District Employment & Career Guidance Centres. Thiranagam is structured with the District Collector as Chairman, supported by a

- Thiranagam District Skill Offices operate in every district, chaired by the District Collector with a District Skill Officer and a **TNSDC** Programme Executive, mostly housed in Employment and Career Guidance Centres.

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District Skill Officer (in the cadre of Junior Employment Officer) and a Program Executive from TNSDC. These offices provide career counselling, industry connect, local job market demands, entrepreneurship support and mobilise candidates for district level job fairs.

8. Curriculum and Assessment

The National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has recognised TNSDC as an Awarding Body and Assessment Agency (Dual Recognition). Consequent to this recognition, TNSDC has commenced the standardisation and curation of curriculum and the conduct of assessments through empanelled assessors, and is awarding certificates to successful candidates.

NCVET, under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, has recognised **TNSDC** as both an Awarding Body and an Assessment Agency - dual recognition, so it sets curriculum and certifies.

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8.1 Monitoring and Evaluation

To strengthen the quality of skill training, TNSDC introduced the Trainer Eligibility Test (TrET) to assess trainer competency alongside the existing Training of Trainers (ToT) certification.

- A Trainer Eligibility Test was introduced alongside Training of Trainers certification, with a mandatory pre-commencement inspection of training centres including their placement MoUs.

The Faculty Training Programme successfully coordinated Community Skill Schools (CSS) ToT activities covering 27 trades, benefiting 5,322 trainers.

- Community Skill Schools training of trainers covered 27 trades and 5,322 trainers.

To ensure training quality, a mandatory pre-commencement inspection was also introduced for training centres, to assess infrastructure & basic amenities and their placement-related Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with employers.

8.2 Assessment

The Assessment Wing plays a vital role in ensuring quality, standardisation and industry

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relevance of the skill training programmes including Short Term Skill Training, RPL programmes, Government/Industry-sponsored initiatives and Focus Block Development Programme (FBDP). Candidates are evaluated across diverse sectors and job roles enabling certification for better employability.

During the FY 2025-26, 1,05,233 candidates were assessed and certified.

- 1,05,233 candidates were assessed and certified in **2025-26** across short term training, **RPL**, sponsored programmes and the Focus Block Development Programme.

9. Government of India Programmes

9.1 Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 4.0

Under PMKVY 4.0, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India, has allocated a target of 3,060 candidates to Tamil Nadu. TNSDC has already commenced training through Government institutions, Government Polytechnic Colleges, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Agricultural Engineering

- Under **PMKVY** 4.0 the Centre allotted Tamil Nadu a target of 3,060 candidates; 720 were under training as on 31.3.**2026**.

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Institutions and Tamil Nadu Agricultural Universities, across various job roles. As on 31.3.2026, 720 candidates are undergoing training.

9.2 Prime Minister's Internship Scheme (PMIS)

TNSDC has been designated as the State Nodal Agency for implementation of the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme (PMIS) in Tamil Nadu, under which youth are provided industry exposure and practical workplace experience through internships in reputed organisations. Interns are paid a monthly stipend of Rs. 9,000, of which Rs. 8,100 is contributed by the Government of India and Rs. 900 by the host industry. TNSDC is undertaking awareness generation, candidate mobilisation and industry coordination for successful implementation of the scheme and for

- **TNSDC** is the State Nodal Agency for the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme - a **Rs.9,000** stipend split **Rs.8,100** from the Centre and **Rs.900** from the host industry.

enhancing the employability of youth across the State.

10. Skill Courses at Colleges

Skill courses at colleges are being implemented by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC). The programme was conceived to bridge the gap between the curriculum offered by higher education institutions and the skills required by industries in today's workforce.

At its core, the programme integrates emerging technology and employability skills directly into the academic curriculum as mandatory, credit-bearing courses delivered every semester. Training is conducted on-campus by global and national industry/training partners, ensuring that students receive practical, industry-aligned education without any financial burden. The programme is fully funded by the Government

- The college skilling programme is not an add-on: courses are mandatory, credit-bearing and delivered every semester, taught on campus by industry partners and fully funded by the State.

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of Tamil Nadu and is accessible to students across Engineering, Arts & Science, Polytechnic, ITI, and Paramedical streams from Government, Government-aided non-autonomous and self-financing non-autonomous institutions.

The programme goes beyond imparting technical skills by developing well-rounded talent through a blend of emerging technology competencies, English language proficiency, digital literacy and employability skills. By equipping students with the capabilities needed to succeed in a rapidly evolving economy, the programme aims to position Tamil Nadu as India's leading Skill Capital through the creation of the country's largest and most structured higher education skilling ecosystem.

In order to achieve seamless implementation, a dedicated web platform at

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www.skilldevelopment.tn.gov.in enables access to training, certifications, and career support.

- skilldevelopment.tn.gov.in is the platform for training, certification and career support.

10.1 Programme Coverage

Streams Covered	Engineering, Arts & Science, Polytechnic, ITI and Paramedical
Institutions	2,587 — Government (Autonomous & Non-Autonomous), Government-Aided Non-Autonomous, Self-Financing Non-Autonomous
Delivery Model	On-campus training by industry/training partners, integrated as mandatory credit courses every semester.
Cost	100% funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu
Platform	www.skilldevelopment.tn.gov.in

- 2,587 institutions are covered - Government autonomous and non-autonomous, Government-aided non-autonomous and self-financing non-autonomous.

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11. Sectors and Courses Offered

The scheme delivers industry-vetted courses across five streams of higher education i.e., Engineering, Arts & Science, Polytechnic, ITI and Paramedical. Courses are refreshed periodically in consultation with industry partners and academia to ensure continued relevance with evolving technology landscapes and industry requirements.

In addition to student training, faculty members are also trained and certified through a structured Faculty Development Programme so as to carry out the assessments for the courses provided to the students.

11.1 Engineering Colleges

Engineering colleges offer domain-specific technical courses aligned to each branch, alongside cross-domain foundational courses for students across all semesters.

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Domain	Courses Offered
CSE / IT	Full Stack Development, Cyber Security, Cloud Engineering, Data Analytics, DevOps, Big Data, UI/UX Design, ServiceNow Administrator, Salesforce Developer, Advanced AI/ML, Node.js & REST API, Front End Technologies, Java with Spring Boot, Unity
ECE	ADAS Advanced Level, IC Chip Design & Verification, Industrial IoT & Industry 4.0, Embedded Systems for IoT (Raspberry Pi), Embedded C & Microcontroller Programming, Network Essentials, IoT Application (ESP32)
EEE	PCB Design, EV Technology, Sensor Interfacing Techniques, Battery Management System, Industrial Automation,

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Domain	Courses Offered
	Autonomous Electric Vehicle, PLC Programming
Mechanical	Hyper Mesh, Tool Design, Additive Manufacturing, Product Lifecycle Management, Sheet Metal Modelling, Pro-E (Creo Design), Product Conceptualization & Prototyping
Civil	3D Modelling using Terrain LiDAR, Building Information Modelling, Sustainable Building Design, UAV Mapping, 3D Printing in Civil, Interior Design Techniques
Foundation — All Branches	English Language Training (Semester 1 & 2), Digital Skills, Employability Skills, AI & Digital Skills

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During the academic year 2025-26, a total no. of 2,15,603 students in engineering colleges were covered under this scheme.

- 2,15,603 engineering students were covered in **2025-26**, with **2 lakh** targeted for **2026-27**.

For the academic year 2026-27, courses will be delivered through renowned Industry/ Training partners for 2 lakh students.

11.2 Arts & Science Colleges

Arts and Science colleges offer courses spanning IT, BFSI and Healthcare domains. Courses are mapped to the career aspirations of students in all disciplines, equipping them with skills relevant to the services sector, digital economy and emerging industries.

Domain	Courses Offered
IT & Digital	Fundamentals of Web Development, AI & Digital Skills, Oracle APEX, Full Stack — Front-End & Back-End Development, Generative AI, Agentic AI

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Domain	Courses Offered
	Application Developer, Cyber Security, Advanced Data Analytics & Visualisation, AI-Driven Digital Marketing, Salesforce Developer & Administrator, System Admin with IT Service Management, Oracle Database Foundation, Oracle App Development, Graphic Design.
BFSI — Banking, Financial Services & Insurance	Advanced Tally with GST, Financial Modelling & Valuation, FinTech, Income Tax & GST, GST Compliance & Auditing, NBFC Products & Services, Retail Banking & Wealth Management, Insurance Service & Operations, Operational Logistics, Claim Analyst.
Healthcare	Medical Coding, Good Manufacturing Practices — Quality Assurance, Food Safety & Quality Management, Healthcare Data Management. Employability & Communication Skills, English

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Domain	Courses Offered
	Language Communication, Digital Marketing, Career Skill Enhancement & Employability Readiness.

During the academic year 2025–26, the programme reached a total of 7,81,547 students in Arts & Science Colleges.

- Arts and Science colleges are the largest block - 7,81,547 students in **2025-26**, about **7.5 lakh** targeted for **2026-27**.

For the academic year 2026–27, industry-relevant courses will be delivered through renowned industry and training partners to approximately 7.5 lakh students.

11.3 Polytechnic Colleges

Technical and vocational courses mapped to branch-specific engineering competencies are offered with an emphasis on hands-on, industry-relevant skills for diploma students.

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As part of their academic curriculum, fifth-semester students from Government Polytechnic Colleges are being mapped either to the newly established Industry 4.0 Labs across 44 institutions for hands-on technical training or to industry internships ensuring that all students gain practical exposure aligned with their course requirements.

- Fifth-semester Government Polytechnic students are mapped either to Industry 4.0 Labs in 44 institutions or to industry internships.

Domain	Courses Offered
Civil	Building Information Modelling, Digital Construction, Construction Cost Estimation, Drone Surveying, Piping Design, Revit
CSE / IT	Mobile Application Development, Cloud Computing, Information Network Cabling, Cyber Security Essentials, Generative AI, UI/UX Design, IT Network System Administration
ECE	PCB Design & Testing, IoT and its Applications, IoT & Sensor Integration

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Domain	Courses Offered
EEE	Industrial Automation, EV Technology, PLC Programming & Applications, Home Automation
Mechanical	Additive Manufacturing, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Reverse Engineering, Mechanical Engineering Design CAD using SolidWorks, Industrial Design Technology
Foundation — All Branches	English Essentials, Employability Skills, Digital Skills

The programme has consistently expanded its reach with a total of 1,26,278 students in Government Polytechnic colleges were covered during the academic year 2025–26

- 1,26,278 polytechnic students covered in **2025-26**; 33,067 **ITI** students took Basic English for Employability and 33,139 paramedical students communicative English and digital skills.

In the academic year 2026–27, industry-aligned training will be provided through reputed

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industry and training partners to approximately 2 lakh students.

11.4 Industrial Training Institutes

Basic English for Employability Course is offered to first-year students of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) both for the one year and two-year trades.

In the year 2025-26, 33,067 students were trained.

In the year 2026-27, the training will be provided to 30,000 students.

11.5 Paramedical colleges

The scheme has been extended to Paramedical colleges across Tamil Nadu covering students in Nursing, Allied Health Sciences, Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) and Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (BOT) programmes. First-year students will be provided training in

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Communicative English, Digital Skills and Orientation to Computer Applications aimed at strengthening their communication, digital literacy and workplace-readiness skills.

A total of 33,139 students were trained in the year 2025-26

In the year 2026-27, training will be provided to 35,000 students.

12. Placement Support

Placement support being an essential part of the Skill Training, the programme does not merely train students but actively facilitates their transition into employment through structured, large-scale placement drives with industry engagement.

12.1 Pooled Campus Placement Drives

Pooled Campus Placement Drives were introduced to overcome the limitations faced by the

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students at smaller or lesser-known institutions having restricted access to quality recruiters. By aggregating students from multiple colleges into centralised drives, the programme has significantly democratised access to employment opportunities across Tamil Nadu.

In 2025–26, the scheme facilitated international placement opportunities for 68 students in Dubai and 9 students in Japan, marking a significant milestone in the programme's evolution. These international placements were a direct outcome of the global industry partnerships cultivated through the Tamil Nadu State Level Placement Programme, demonstrating that Tamil Nadu's skilled graduates are competitive not just nationally but on a global stage.

- Pooled campus placement drives aggregate students from smaller colleges into centralised recruitment; in **2025-26** they produced international placements - 68 students in Dubai and 9 in Japan.

The pooled campus drives will also be continued for the students currently in the final year i.e. 2026-27.

13. Hackathons & Innovation Initiatives

13.1 Niral Thiruvizha — State-wide Hackathon

Niral Thiruvizha is an annual state-wide hackathon, designed to cultivate a culture of innovation, problem-solving, and entrepreneurial thinking among students across Tamil Nadu. The hackathon serves as a platform where students — guided by faculty mentors — develop solutions to industry and societal challenges across themed problem statements sourced directly from industry partners.

- Niral Thiruvizha is the annual State-wide hackathon on problem statements sourced from industry partners.

The hackathon has grown consistently each year, both in participation and in the depth of ideas submitted, signalling a growing innovation culture across higher education institutions in the state.

In the year 2025-26, 50,605 students participated under 12 themes for 85 problem statements. A total of 15,337 ideas were

- **2025-26**: 50,605 students, 12 themes, 85 problem statements, 15,337 ideas, with **Rs.10,000** each to the top 916 teams for prototypes. **2026-27** registration stands at 80,757.

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submitted. Rs 10,000 was awarded to the top 916 teams for prototype development.

For the year 2026-27, Niral Thiruvizha is in progress with 80,757 students registered for 49 problem statements under 12 themes. 24,411 ideas were submitted. The top 500 teams are selected and will be reviewed.

13.2 SCOUT — Scholarships for Outstanding Undergraduate Talent

SCOUT is a flagship international exposure initiative that provides meritorious undergraduate students — primarily from Government Arts & Science and Engineering colleges — with global internship and academic immersion opportunities. SCOUT is built on a three-way collaboration between the Government of Tamil Nadu, reputed global universities, and international industry partners.

SCOUT sends meritorious undergraduates, mainly from Government arts, science and engineering colleges, on structured internships abroad.

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The programme selects students from final-year and pre-final-year batches and places them in structured internships abroad, giving them hands-on industry experience, cross-cultural exposure, and in some cases, direct employment opportunities.

In the year 2025-26, 121 students were sent to the UK, Japan, South Korea, Bahrain, Malaysia, Dubai, and Thailand

- 121 **SCOUT** students went to the **UK**, Japan, South Korea, Bahrain, Malaysia, Dubai and Thailand in **2025-26**; 150 are planned for **2026-27**.

In the year 2026-27, 150 students across the state will be provided international internships under SCOUT.

13.3 Career Guidance Support Initiatives

Kalloori Kanavu: In order to encourage higher secondary students to make informed choices about their higher studies, a statewide career guidance programme was implemented. It provided structured career counselling and

- Kalloori Kanavu gave career counselling to 81,149 higher secondary students; Uyarvukku Padi enrolled 28,796 out-of-school students into higher education.

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aspirational guidance to these students enabling them to select the courses of their interest and academic institutions.

In the year 2025-26, 81,149 students were given counselling.

Uyarvukku Padi: A targeted intervention to enroll potential school dropouts into higher educational institutions through statewide mass enrolment events was conducted thereby 28,796 out of school students have joined various educational institutions to pursue their higher education.

14. WorldSkills

Tamil Nadu has emerged as one of the leading States in skill competitions, improving its performance from 10th place with 23 medals in IndiaSkills 2021 to 3rd place with 40 medals in IndiaSkills 2024, and now at 2nd place in the

- IndiaSkills trajectory: 10th place with 23 medals in **2021**, 3rd with 40 medals in **2024**, and 2nd with 108 medals in **2026**.

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IndiaSkills Competition 2026 with 108 medals. After a rigorous selection process, 12 competitors from Tamil Nadu will represent India at the WorldSkills Competitions to be held in September 2026 at Shanghai, China. Preparations for WorldSkills 2028 have also commenced, with the nomination process for aspiring competitors being launched through the online portal to identify and nurture prospective talent.

- Twelve competitors from Tamil Nadu will represent India at the WorldSkills Competition at Shanghai in September **2026**; preparation for WorldSkills **2028** has begun.

15. Competitive Exams Vertical

The Competitive Exams Vertical is designed to support aspirants from Tamil Nadu in preparing for Central Government services and other national-level competitive examinations. The programme provides structured coaching and mentoring along with study resources to enhance success rates in examinations such as UPSC, SSC, Railways, Banking, and other recruitment examinations. By improving access to quality preparation and

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reducing regional disparities, the initiative aims to enable more youth from Tamil Nadu to secure careers in public service, Central Government institutions and PSUs.

The vertical offers a comprehensive support ecosystem — UPSC Prelims scholarships of Rs.7,500/month to 1,000 selected candidates for 10 months, Mains scholarships of Rs.25,000, and a Personality Test incentive of Rs.50,000.

The competitive exams vertical has witnessed an increasing number of aspirants clearing the UPSC exams.

- The Competitive Exams Vertical pays **UPSC** Prelims scholarships of **Rs.7,500** a month to 1,000 candidates for ten months, **Rs.25,000** for Mains and **Rs.50,000** as a Personality Test incentive.

COMPETITIVE EXAMS VERTICAL

Year	UPSC Prelims cleared	Mains cleared	Final Selection	Final Selection		
				SSC	Railways	Banking
2023-24	-	117	39	-	-	-
2024-25	276	134	50	19	2	40
2025-26	316	161	56	20	12	85

- **UPSC** results rose year on year: 276 prelims, 134 mains and 50 final selections in **2024-25**, against 316, 161 and 56 in **2025-26** - plus 85 banking, 20 **SSC** and 12 railway selections.

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16. Way Forward

Tamil Nadu's flagship short-term skilling programme shall continue to provide industry-aligned training and employment opportunities to the youth. Building upon the foundation already laid through sector-specific skilling, industry partnerships and placement support, the next phase of the programme shall focus on establishing a comprehensive skilling-to-employment ecosystem which enables youth to move seamlessly from training to industry exposure and sustainable employment.

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III. MAGALIR URIMAI THITTAM

Magalir Urimai Thittam enables women to improve their livelihood, enhancing the quality of their lives to lead a life with dignity and self-respect in society.

The eligibility criteria for the scheme are defined as follows:

Scheme Eligibility Criteria

Families applying to avail the benefit of Magalir Urimai Thittam should satisfy the following criteria,

- Families earning an annual income below Rs. 2.5 lakh.
- Families holding less than five acres of wetland or less than ten acres of dryland.
- Families consume less than 3600 units of electricity per year for domestic use.

Magalir Urimai Thittam eligibility: annual family income below **Rs.2.5** lakh, less than five acres of wetland or ten acres of dryland, and domestic electricity use below 3,600 units a year.

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- Women who are not pensioners themselves but belong to families receiving benefits under social security schemes such as the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme, Destitute Widow Pension Scheme, Pension Scheme for Destitute or Deserted Women, Pension Scheme for Poor Unmarried Women above 50 years of age, Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, Chief Minister's Farmers' Security Scheme, Old Age Pension Schemes administered through Unorganised Workers' Welfare Boards, Disability Pension provided by the Revenue Department, or the Maintenance Assistance Scheme for persons with disabilities provided by the department for the welfare of persons with disabilities, are eligible to apply under Magalir Urimai Thittam, provided they fulfill all other

- Women in families drawing widow, destitute, old age or disability pensions are still eligible, provided they are not themselves the pensioner and meet the other conditions.

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eligibility criteria and do not fall under any of the ineligible category.

- Eligible women belonging to families of pensioners who served in various Government departments under the Special Time Scale system and are currently receiving pensions may apply, provided they satisfy all other eligibility conditions and do not fall under any ineligible category.
- Women belonging to families that own a four-wheeler vehicle acquired through government subsidy schemes are also eligible to apply, provided they satisfy all other eligibility conditions and do not fall under any ineligible category.

In the first phase under Magalir Urimai Thittam, 1.63 crore applications were received. Based on government database and field verification, approximately 1.13 crore eligible

- Phase one drew **1.63 crore** applications; about **1.13 crore** women were found eligible and have been paid **Rs.1,000** a month by direct transfer since September **2023**.

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women have been benefitted with Rs.1,000 per month, which is directly credited to their bank accounts from September 2023 onwards. Around 14,000 women belonging to Sri Lankan Tamil refugee camp families are also benefitted from this scheme.

In the second phase of the Magalir Urimai Thittam, 30 lakh applications were received. Based on government database and field verification, 16,94,339 eligible women have been benefitted with Rs.1,000 per month which is directly credited to their bank accounts. At present, approximately 1.31 crore women are being benefitted under the scheme.

- Phase two drew **30 lakh** applications and admitted 16,94,339 women, taking the total to about **1.31 crore** beneficiaries. Around 14,000 are from Sri Lankan Tamil refugee camp families.

An amount of Rs.14,413.80 crore has been earmarked in the financial year 2026–27, for this scheme.

- **Rs.14,413.80 crore** is earmarked for Magalir Urimai Thittam in **2026-27** - a single scheme larger than most departments' entire budgets.

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IV. Conclusion

The Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to achieving the objectives of the "Vetri Tamizhagam - Vision Document" through efficient, transparent and people-centric governance. The Government will focus on promoting social and economic progress thereby improving the quality of life of the people, empower women and youth and create sustainable livelihood opportunities. This Department will support these efforts through continuous monitoring of the implementation of Government schemes and programmes.

C. JOSEPH VIJAY

Chief Minister

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Printed by Govt. Central Press, Chennai - 600 001.