

## 12. URBAN DEVELOPMENT

### Urbanisation scenario:

Urban development which represents the holistic development of urban areas is a reflection of the overall creation of economic opportunities and social development. According to the Census of India 2001, urban population of India was 285.3 million and of Tamil Nadu was 27.5 million. Thus, Tamil Nadu accounted for 6 percent of the country's total population and 9.6 per cent of country's urban population. While the country's urban population increased from 12 to 28 per cent during 1931-2001, that of Tamil Nadu increased from 18 to 44 percent. While States such as Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Chattisgarh have not crossed even the 1971 national level of urbanization, Tamil Nadu ranks first in urbanization among the 15 major States in the country. Tamil Nadu apart from being highly urbanized, is also one of the most progressive States in the country.

### General framework of Urban Local Bodies:

The urban local bodies, which strives to provide basic services such as roads, streetlights, storm water drains, primary health care, education, comprise of 10 Corporations, 148 Municipalities and 561 Town Panchayats. The administrative control of Corporations come under the purview of the Mayor, while the Directorate of Municipal Administration is the authority incharge of 148 Municipalities. Directorate of Town Panchayats is the administrative control of 561 Town Panchayats. From the year 2008-09 onwards, the number of Corporations had increased to 10 with the inclusion of Vellore and Thoothukudi Corporations along with the existing Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Salem, Thirunelveli, Erode and Tiruppur Corporations.

Based on the annual income and population, the 148 Municipalities and 561 Town Panchayats are classified into different grades as mentioned below. While the income limit for classification of Municipalities had been revised during 2008-09, the income limit of Town Panchayats remains unchanged.

**Table-1: Classification of Municipalities**

Sl. No.	Grade	Annual income (Rs. in crores)	No. of Municipalities
1.	Special grade	Above 10.00	20
2.	Selection grade	6.00 – 10.00	29
3.	First grade	4.00 – 6.00	29
4.	Second grade	Below 4.00	21
5.	Third grade	Population above 30,000	49
	<b>Total</b>		<b>148</b>

*Source: Performance budget of MN&WS department, 2008-09.*

**Table-2: Classification of Town Panchayats**

Sl. No.	Grade	Annual income (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Town Panchayats
1.	Special grade	Above 20.00	13
2.	Selection grade	16.00 – 20.00	245
3.	Grade – I	8.00 – 16.00	221
4.	Grade – II	4.00 – 8.00	82
	<b>Total</b>		<b>561</b>

*Source: Performance budget of MN&WS department, 2008-09.*

### Plan Outlay for the year 2008-09:

Of the total revised plan outlay of Rs.16,000 crore for the year 2008-09, Rs.2157.71 crore had been allocated for the Housing and Urban Development sector including water supply and sanitation. This has accounted for 13.49 percent of the total allocation made for the year.

**Table-3: Plan Outlay for the year 2008-09**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Sector	2007-08 (Actual)	2008-09 (B.E.)	2008-09 (R.E.)
1.	Water Supply and Sanitation	62408.01	87618.47	64090.17
2.	Housing	14947.88	11851.38	13190.21
3.	Urban development	69838.72	80499.44	138491.05
	<b>Total</b>	<b>147194.61</b>	<b>179969.29</b>	<b>215771.43</b>
	<b>Total allocation of all the sectors</b>	<b>1422431.59</b>	<b>1600000.00</b>	<b>1600000.00</b>

Source: Annual Plan 2009-10 – website.

The highest priority in the plan outlay had been given to the 'power sector' (15.62%) followed by 'Transport and Communication' (14.44%) and 'Housing and Urban development' (13.49%). As compared with the actuals of 2007-08, the funds utilized for the Urban Development sector has increased by one fold (98.3%). This is an indicator of improved infrastructure provided to the urban agglomerates by way of road over bridges, road under bridges, beautification measures of the city and other amenities.

**Table-4: Revenue and Expenditure of Urban Local Bodies:**

(Rs. in crores)

ULB	2007-08 (RE)		2008-09 (Provisional)	
	Receipts	Expenditure	Receipts	Expenditure
Municipalities	1427.95	1289.29	1631.91	1510.21
Corporations including Chennai	1735.44	1602.25	2041.56	2077.67
Town Panchayats	726.14	514.24	1307.34	968.33

Source: Performance budget of Municipal administration and water supply department 2008-09.

The above table presents a consolidated picture of revenues and expenditure of urban local bodies during 2007-08 and 2008-09. Revenue receipts of Municipalities and Corporations had improved considerably during 2008-09 by 14 percent and 18 percent respectively as compared to 2007-08. Town Panchayats had shown a major hike in its receipts at around 80 percent. The expenditure component of the budget estimate of local bodies also indicated a similar increase of 17 percent, 30 percent and 88 percent for Municipalities, Corporations and Town Panchayats respectively as compared to the revised estimate of 2007-08. A comparative analysis of revenue and expenditure of the budget estimates of Municipalities and Town Panchayats had shown a revenue surplus of Rs.121.7 crores and Rs.339.01 crores respectively and that of Corporations a revenue deficit of Rs.36.11 crores.

### Basic amenities provided and the performance of other Schemes during 2008-09:

Table given below presents a detailed picture of the basic amenities such as roads, street lights, water supply, etc. provided by the urban local bodies during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09. In addition, facilities such as conversion of roads, modern gassifier crematoria, modern bus stands, etc. were provided. Around 352.77 kms length of roads were converted into BT / cement concrete roads at a cost of Rs.59.73 crore during 2008-09. With a view to beautify the transport network, modern bus stands were constructed at seven locations situated along the National Highways and State Highways of Nagercoil, Krishnagiri, Erode, etc. The construction of seven new bus stands in and around Coimbatore Corporation at a cost of Rs.32.70 crores is in progress. Modern gassifier crematoria were constructed in four towns at a cost of Rs.1.82 crore during 2008-09. The crematorium of Tiruchirappalli Corporation has been awarded the ISO certification.

**Table – 5: Details of Basic Amenities provided**

(Rs.in crores)

Basic amenities	Year	Municipalities		Corporations		Town Panchayats	
		Physi-cal	Finan-cial	Physi-cal	Finan-cial	Physi-cal	Finan-cial
1.Road laid / Relaid (km)	2007-08	1842.30	231.77	1493.72	251.93	1839.81	145.99
	2008-09	1823.45	279.06	1441.36	262.27	3580.51	147.41
2.Street Lights (Nos.)	2007-08	20782	14.54	13038	18.27	16726	16.17
	2008-09	23521	16.59	1737	30.41	20698	15.90
3.Vehicles purchased(Nos.)	2007-08	855	22.12	109	7.92	-	-
	2008-09	949	27.34	847	19.61	-	-
4. Water Supply a. Extension of pipelines (km)	2007-08	1021.31	24.73	185.99	4.85	3291	16.85
	2008-09	1113.18	25.99	119.46	4.36	868.51	12.44
b. Other works (Nos.)	2007-08	687	9.86	385	6.53	2401	24.00
	2008-09	900	15.57	272	11.28	969	22.58

Source: Performance budget of Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, 2008-09.

Municipal Slum dwellers, the population of the urban poor are assisted through the schemes viz., '*Basic Services to Urban Poor*' (BSUP) and '*Integrated Housing Slum Development Programme*' (IHSDP).

#### Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP):

Basic services to the urban poor is one of a sub-mission programmes under JNNURM launched at the end of Dec'2005. The three 'Mission cities' viz Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore Corporations and the urban local bodies in these agglomerates are covered under this scheme. This scheme provides facilities for housing and other infrastructures like water supply, sewerage, drainage, storm water drain etc. Under this

scheme, 51 projects had been approved at a cost of Rs.2327.32 crore for the construction of 91318 housing units and other infrastructures for the period from 2006-07 to 2008-09.

Of the total works sanctioned for housing, only 8 per cent of the works (6889 units) have been completed so far with the utilization of 43.7 per cent of the funds received. Under the creation of infrastructure, 51 per cent of the works have been completed with the utilization of 32.5 per cent of the funds received. Around 66 per cent of the work orders taken under housing and 34 per cent of the work orders taken under infrastructure are in progress. It is noticed from the table that all the works taken up by TNSCB are not completed and are in progress.

**Table- 6 : Physical and Financial Progress of BSUP**

Sl. No.	Implementing Agency	Housing			Infrastructure			Total cost of the projects (Rs. in lakhs)
		No. of units sanctioned	No. of units completed	Funds utilized (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of works sanctioned	No. of works completed	Funds utilized (Rs. in lakhs)	
1.	Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore corporations	46366	5348	5237.98	2317	1520	10110.23	95082.49
2.	Chengalpattu, Madurai and Tiruppur regions	6399	718	1220.39	629	66	601.2	12154.34
3.	Tamil Nadu slum Clearance Board (TNSCB)	35270	0	8881.18	13	2	788.52	20853.94
4.	Directorate of Town Panchayat (DTP)	3283	823	764.18	249	51	486.79	4640.96
	<b>Total</b>	<b>91318</b>	<b>6889</b>	<b>16103.73</b>	<b>3208</b>	<b>1639</b>	<b>11986.74</b>	<b>232731.91</b>

*Source: Website.*

### **Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP):**

Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme is another sub-mission programme of JNNURM, implemented in all the ULBs except those, which are covered under BSUP. This scheme also aims at the provision of housing and infrastructure facilities for the slum dwellers. During the period from 2006-07 to 2008-09, 35266 construction works and 1921 work orders for the creation of other infrastructures were sanctioned at a cost of Rs.474.91 crores. While 12 per cent of the works had been completed under housing, around 17 per cent of the works had been completed under the provision of infrastructures. Around 50 per cent of the work orders taken up are in progress.

**Table – 7: Physical and Financial progress under IHSDP**

Sl. No.	Implementing Agency	Housing			Infrastructure			Total cost of the projects (Rs. in lakhs)
		No. of units sanctioned	No. of units completed	Funds utilized (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of works sanctioned	No. of works completed	Funds utilized (Rs. in lakhs)	
1.	Corporations	7231	578	762.51	321	67	492.91	8927.06
2.	Regions	23493	2030	3519.65	1337	182	1134.18	32620.79
3.	Directorate of Town Panchayat	4542	1567	1237.50	263	75	402.76	5943.17
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35266</b>	<b>4175</b>	<b>5519.66</b>	<b>1921</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>2029.85</b>	<b>47491.02</b>

Source: Website.

For the infrastructure development of *small and medium towns in the urban agglomerate*, 437 works at a cost of Rs.644.97 crores were sanctioned and taken up in a split of four phases. Out of this 365 works have been completed so far.

*Swarna Jayanthi Shahari Rozgar Yojana*, a shared scheme by the Centre and State for urban poverty alleviation aims at providing self-employment and wage employment to the urban poor through skill development training. During 2008-09, a sum of Rs.53.49 crores had been allotted and 17,300 persons were given skill development training. A total number of 19200 members under the scheme of Development of Women and Children in Urban Areas (DWACUA) and 3400 beneficiaries under 'Urban Self Employment Programme' got benefited by this scheme. In the case of Town Panchayats, a sum of Rs.14.25 crore had been sanctioned for the year 2008-09.

#### Urban Water Supply and Sanitation:

The State agencies of the urban water supplies and sanitation sector states that about 91 per cent of the urban population of the nation has got access to water supply and 63 per cent to sewerage and sanitation facilities as on 31.03.2004. For the present population of Tamil Nadu, the need for drinking water is assessed as 51.40 tmc, of which the need of urban sector is 33.40 tmc and that of rural sector is 18 tmc.

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, based on the availability of drinking water facility to the urban sector, the quality and quantity of water supply facility is graded as good, average and below average. As per the latest update, 22 per cent of the corporations are provided with the standard norm of 110 lpcd of water supply, 30 per cent of the Municipalities are provided with 90 lpcd and 58 per cent of the Town Panchayats with 70 lpcd of water. Table presented below indicates a comparative picture of the quality of water supply provided to the ULBs during 2007-08 and 2008-09.

**Table - 8: Performance of Drinking Water Supply to the ULBs**

Sl. No.	Civic Status	Good		Average		Below average		Total	
		2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Corporations	1	2	6	7	-	-	7	9
2.	Municipalities	37	45	99	87	14	16	150	148
3.	Town Panchayats	350	324	193	219	18	18	561	561
	<b>Total</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>718</b>

Source: Policy Note of Municipal Administration and Water Supply.

Under the rural sector, of the total 92689 habitations, 89 per cent of the habitations (82554) were fully covered under water supply schemes till 2008-09. The rest of the habitations are partially covered. During 2008-09, 10255 habitations were covered under the water supply scheme.

To expand the availability of pure drinking water, two desalination plants of 100 mld were identified. Minjur plant at North Chennai has been completed at a cost of Rs.93 crore. Another plant at Nemmeli, east coast road at an estimate of Rs.908.28 crore is under implementation.

The State Government had launched 'a new water purification system,' 'Jalmani' on the children's day during the financial year 2008-09 to provide good quality water to the school children. Initially 2074 schools at a cost of Rs.4.15 crores had been covered. The remaining 32583 schools would be covered in three consecutive years.

The Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) aims to provide international standards of water supply and sewerage system to the citizens of Chennai covering 16 Municipalities, 20 Town Panchayats, 214 Village Panchayats and one cantonment spread over 1189 sq.km. area.

Several initiatives had been taken by the Government in replacing the manual cleaning of sewerage systems by machines so as to make it hygiene to the sewerage workers. Proposals had been made for the construction of sewerage treatment plants at Perungudi and Nesapakkam.

### **Solid Waste Management:**

It is estimated that about 1,15,000 mt. of solid waste is generated everyday in the country. Of this, 1200 metric tonnes per day is generated by cities like Ahmadabad and Pune, a maximum of 5000-5500 metric tonnes per day by cities like Delhi and Mumbai. In case of Chennai, around 11,000 mt. of solid waste is generated by the Municipalities and 4000 mt. by Town Panchayats per day. The collection efficiency ranges between 70 to 90 per cent in major metro cities and below 50 per cent in smaller cities.

During the financial year 2008-09, an amount of Rs.41.15 crore was released under the 12<sup>th</sup> Central Finance Commission. It was utilized for the purchase of vehicles and for the improvement of compost yard, etc.

### **Urban housing :**

Housing and the related basic amenities are the essential requirements of the society. In order to provide quality housing to all the section of the society, the Government of Tamil Nadu had developed a multipronged strategy. Through this strategy, the housing needs of economically weaker sections, slum tenements and loan requirements of the society are met by the TNHB, TNSCB, Co-operative housing federation etc.

**Tamil Nadu Housing Board (TNHB)** has been responsible for the rapid expansion of urbanization in Tamil Nadu. During the year 2008-09, it has constructed 365 dwelling units at a cost of Rs.42 crore. From the inception (1961), upto 31.03.2009,

it has constructed around 3,95,746 dwelling units at a cost of Rs.2805 crore. It has also sold 2300 plots and 929 houses and flats besides 78 commercial and public purpose sites at a cost of Rs.106.54 crores. **Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board (TNSCB)** which looks after the needs of the slum families has constructed 97,313 tenements as on March 2009. During the year 2008-09, an amount of Rs.751.94 crore had been sanctioned for the construction of 23,420 tenements. Out of this 5,396 tenements were completed and the remaining 18,024 tenements are at various stages of progress. Under the scheme of JNNURM, through the submission programme of BSUP, it was proposed to construct 35,270 tenements at a cost of Rs.1,208.55 crore. The above integrated township scheme was funded by the GOI, GOTN and the beneficiaries in the ratio of 50:40:10 respectively. Around 11,406 tenements under progress are expected to be completed by 2009-10.

The **Tamil Nadu Co-operation Housing Federation Ltd., (TNCHF)** provides shelters to the urban and rural public through 1,034 primary co-operative housing societies at affordable prices. During the year 2008-09, in order to reduce the financial burden of the economically weaker section, the government had reduced the outstanding loan component to the extent of Rs.683 crore for 4,40,400 members. The **housing needs of the government servants** are met through the advance provided by the government as 'House Building Advance'. From the year 2008-09 onwards, the VI pay commission revised the ceiling on building advance from Rs.6 lakh in case of government employees to Rs.15 lakh and from Rs. 7 lakh in case of 'All India Service Officer' to Rs.25 lakh. Through the provision of numerous housing schemes especially to the weaker sections, the government is effectively developing the rural and urban sector.

#### **Urban Development - 11<sup>th</sup> Plan Objectives:**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan of the nation aims at achieving 100 per cent population coverage for urban water supply, urban sewerage and sanitation, solid waste management and drainage in order to provide safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities. Approximately 37 million persons would be added to the country's total urban population during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan through deregulation and development of the land market.

#### **11<sup>th</sup> Plan Objectives of the State:**

Keeping in view, the national objectives, the State of Tamil Nadu has targeted towards achieving the following objectives

- 100 per cent electrification of households both in rural and urban areas;
- Clean drinking water to all by 2012;
- Pucca infrastructure of one electrified school building, one library with adequate books, a sports centre with facilities, connectivity to main road, one drinking water service, street lights and internal connectivity to all the Village Panchayats by 2012 and
- Underground sewerage system to all urban local bodies.

The centre has allocated a sum of Rs.15,711.22 crores for the expansion of the above economic opportunities of the State as follows:

➤ Water supply and sanitation	- Rs.7555.35 crore
➤ Housing (including police housing)	- Rs.2045.24 crore
➤ Urban development	- Rs.6100.63 crore
	-----
	Rs.15711.22 crore
	-----

One of the major strategies set up by the government towards achieving water supply networks is the provision of higher priority for the conversion of sea water into drinking water through the establishment of desalination plants.

### **Resources of the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan outlay:**

The total investment required for the 11<sup>th</sup> five year period at 2006-07 prices was estimated at Rs.49,330 crore of which the State sector investment is Rs.85,344 crore as follows.

- i. Rs.17,498.78 crore of State's own funds.
- ii. Rs.15,873.19 crore as central assistance.
- iii. State borrowings to the tune of Rs.55708.50 crore.
- iv. Negative contribution of Public Sector Enterprises to the tune of Rs.5336.47 crore.
- v. Contribution of local bodies to the tune of Rs.1600.00 crore (Urban Local Bodies Rs.1050 crore and Rural Local Bodies Rs.550 crore).

The share of central sector investment has increased from 18 per cent during the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan period to 20 per cent during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan. Similarly the share of private sector also had increased from 66 per cent to 67 per cent. Major developmental projects such as Hydrology projects, Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation. Water Bodies Restoration and Management projects, Tamil Nadu Road Sector Projects, Tamil Nadu Afforestation Projects, Tsunami Emergency Assistance Project, etc. have been provided financial assistance by some of the external agencies, viz., World Bank, Japan Bank for International Co-operation, DANIDA and Asian Development Bank for the past two decades. While some projects have been completed in the early 2008, some are about to be completed by the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.

### **Major Projects under active consideration by the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan of the State:**

Projects such as post Tsunami Sustainable Livelihood Programmes for the coastal communities of Tamil Nadu, Hogenakkal water supply and sanitation project, etc. are under active consideration by the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan. Proposals had been forwarded for the projects such as creation of Urban Infrastructure Fund, extension of Chennai Metro Rail Project and Outer Ring Road Project.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan could prove a watershed in achieving sustainable development of the urban framework, enhancing the economic efficiency of the cities and envisaging about 10 percent of economic growth rate. The key challenge for the success of urban development is the capacity gap in the ULBs. This gap should be reduced by the timely implementation of projects and monitoring & evaluation of projects. Government should encourage to conduct training and research studies on computer Aided Design of water supply and sewerage systems, re use and recycle of waste water, etc.

### Developments under JNNURM:

Under the scheme of JNNURM, Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore Corporations having population of more than one million were declared as “Mission Cities”. Essential projects such as water supply underground sewerage scheme and solid waste management, etc. were sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.623.91 crore and Rs.587.38 crore for Madurai & Coimbatore respectively during 2008-09.

For the implementation of water supply improvement schemes to Town Panchayats during 2008-09, JNNURM had sanctioned a sum of Rs.0.82 crore to Harveypatty Town Panchayat and Rs.12.35 crore to Porur Town Panchayat. To cover the entire city network of Chennai and the urban areas adjacent to Chennai under water supply and sewerage schemes 28 projects at a cost of Rs.2032 crore were proposed for approval by the CMWSSB through JNNURM.

The Central sanctioning and Monitoring Committee under JNNURM had sanctioned an amount of Rs.82.77 crore during April 2007 for the construction of eight Road Over Bridges and Road Under Bridges.

**Table -9 : Road Over Bridges**

Sl. No.	Location	Date of Completion
1.	Road over Bridge at Perambur	February 2010
2.	Road under Bridge at Jones road level crossing	October 2009
3.	Road under Bridge at Monegar Choultry road level crossing	October 2009
4.	Road over bridge at Rangarajapuram level crossing	October 2009
5.	High level bridge at Alandur road	October 2009
6.	Road over Bridge at Kathivakkam high road – Cochrane Basin road level crossing	March 2010
7.	Road under Bridge at Villivakkam level crossing	April 2010
8.	Road under bridge at Karrukkupet	Design and drawing are under preparation

During the year 2007 and 2008, the Chennai Corporation was involved in the construction of the following grade separators and their date of completion is given below.

**Table - 10: Road Under Bridges**

Sl. No.	Location of the grade separator	Date of Completion
1.	North Usman road – Mahalingapuram road junction	March 2008
2.	Usman road – Duraisamy road junction	August 2008
3.	GN road – Thirumailai road junction	December 2008
4.	Turn bulls road – Cenatoph road junction	December 2009
5.	Mint junction	Land alleviation being performed
6.	Rail over bridge at Ganesapuram subway	Land acquisition yet to be completed.

Tamil Nadu Urban Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (TUIFDCO) acts as a nodal agency for JNNURM. The funding pattern of the programme is as given below:

**Table - 11 : Funding Pattern by TUIFDCO**

City	Grant (%)		Loan from financial institutions / own
	Centre	State	
Chennai	35.00	15.00	50.00
Madurai & Coimbatore	50.00	20.00	30.00

The Madurai Corporation has won three awards under the JNNURM for implementation of reforms, improvement in water supply services and improvements in waste water management and drainage for the year 2007-08.

*Urban Infrastructure development scheme for small and medium towns (UIDSSMT)* an 80 per cent centrally sponsored scheme for the provision of civic amenities to all the cities / towns not covered under JNNURM. Under this scheme during the year 2008-09 around 22 projects for 21 towns were sanctioned with an outlay of R.450.68 crores for water supply and Rs.503.95 crore for underground sewerage schemes. The ongoing JNNURM and UIDSSMT the most prestigious programmes of GOI are envisaged for implementation over seven years period starting from 2005 to 2012.

**Tsunami Emergency Assistance project (TEAP) and Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction project (ETRP):**

During the year 2008-09, with a view to rehabilitate the livelihood of tsunami affected coastal population, Asian Development Bank granted a sum of Rs.63.67 crore for 19 town panchayats in 5 coastal districts of Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam and Kanyakumari. Under ETRP, World Bank funded a sum of Rs.19.34 crore for 18 town panchayats of 6 coastal districts viz., Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Kanyakumari and Thoothukudi.

TWAD board has got assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) under TEAP for providing 36 water supply schemes and 5 recharge structures to the affected habitations at a cost of Rs.84.37 crores. Out of this 33 water supply schemes and 4 recharge structures had been completed at a cost of Rs.73.81 crore.

**Special Projects Implemented during 2008-09:  
Anaithu Peruratchi Anna Marumalarchi Thittam:**

Anna Marumalarchi Thittam, a special scheme for the upgradation of economically weaker cities and towns came into force by the state government from the year 2007-08 onwards. Under this scheme, 30 economically weaker municipalities were selected and granted a sum of Rs.11.25 crore during the year 2008-09. In case of town panchayats, 140 town panchayats were selected each year with an yearly allocation of Rs.70 crore for the four year period starting from 2007-08 to 2010-11. Out of the total project estimate of 1438 works, 1289 works had been completed during 2008-09.

**Adyar Poonga:**

A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in the name of 'Adyar Poonga' was formed on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2008 to raise public awareness on environmental issues. The total area covered under this scheme is 358 acres. A draft Ecological Restoration plan was prepared in the year 2007 and the letter of award for implementations was issued during April 2008. An amount of Rs.10 crore had been spent on the preliminary works till the financial year 2008-09.

**Hogenakkal Water Supply and Fluorosis Mitigation:**

The water quality reports of Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts revealed high fluoride and other contaminants in the ground water, which was adversely leading to diseases such as dental fluorosis, blue baby syndrome, skeletal fluorosis etc. To provide safe drinking water to the people of these districts, Government of Tamil Nadu implemented the project of Hogenakkal Water supply and fluorosis mitigation with financial assistance from the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA). This project was planned in the beginning of 2008 and is scheduled to be completed by December 2012. The total cost of the project was estimated as Rs.1334 crore and the administrative sanction had been made for Rs.959.20 crore.

**MRTS in Chennai:**

The phase-I and phase-II of the MRTS development projects had been completed and are in operation. Further to utilize the full potential of the system, a new plan to complete the rail loop of 5 kms from Chennai beach to St. Thomas mount in the Chennai beach – Tambaram sub-urban line was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.496 crore. This project was commenced in April 2008 and is expected to be completed by December 2012.

**Outer Ring Road:**

Phase-I of the Outer Ring Road project from GST road near Vandalur to CTH road near Nemilichery for a distance of about 30 kms had been planned. This project would facilitate 6 lane traffic at a cost of Rs.864.22 crore. It is expected to be completed by April 2012 with the execution period of 21/2 years.