

13. SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Human resource development is instrumental in increasing productivity which in turn gives rise to faster economic development. Adequate provision of basic minimum services such as education, health and nutrition is both necessary and sufficient condition for attaining higher economic growth with social justice and equitable distribution of income. The Government has been keen on mitigation of poverty and creation of gainful employment through adoption of a three-pronged development strategy - (i) pursuit of higher economic growth directly, (ii) implementation of both self-employment and wage employment programmes and (iii) high priority to Government expenditure on social services.

1. Public Expenditure:

Since human resources being the key to economic development, the Government has been scaling up the quantum of public expenditure on social services through time. Total expenditure on social services stood at Rs.797404 lakhs in 2002-03 compared to Rs.779221 lakhs in 2000-01. Among the social services education accounted for a larger chunk of 51.98 per cent and health and nutrition constituted 21.51 per cent in 2002-03. Time growth rate has been worked out to find out the growth in augmentation of resources for various components of social sector during 1993-2003. Total expenditure on social sector increased by 10.45 per cent during this reference period. Expenditure on education has been rising at 12.12 % annually. Health care registered a growth rate of 7.9 per cent

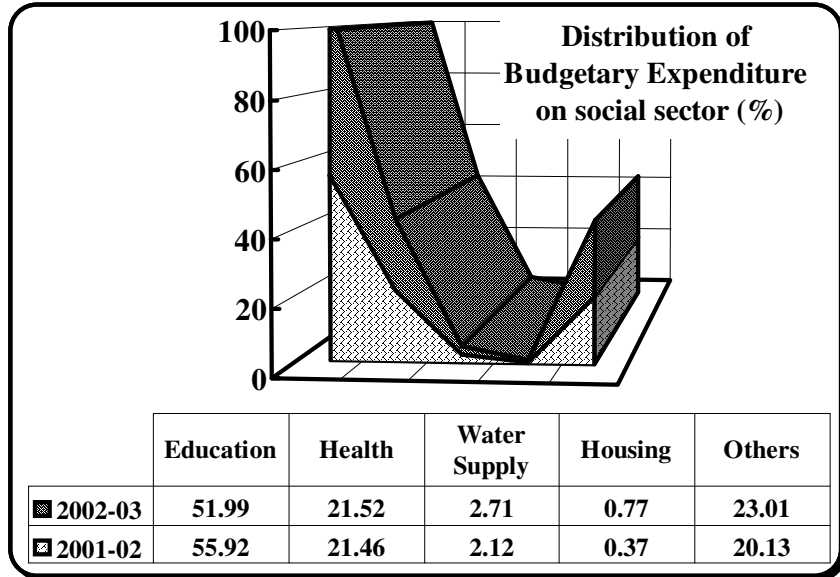
Table - 1 : Public Expenditure on Social Sector (Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Education	Health	Water	Housing	Others	Total Social Sector	Total Budgetary Expenditure	GSDP
1993-94	174092.10	83163.18	32767.82	2436.93	66147.46	358607.49	875801.31	5754903
1994-95	192034.15	97518.33	28737.08	3469.32	63003.57	384762.45	963495.05	6866610
1995-96	218059.16	105503.34	24405.23	3837.51	81483.55	433288.79	1091056.65	7820457
1996-97	251686.81	115104.77	32410.52	3091.37	109841.39	512134.86	1306488.32	8924057
1997-98	288957.31	130531.95	21799.19	2751.90	117305.08	561345.43	1495085.49	10355148
1998-99	385302.95	158655.32	26332.65	7439.82	132403.31	710134.05	1769740.08	11827464
1999-00	434871.82	166536.52	26108.15	2266.99	134599.59	764383.07	2072783.12	12649989
2000-01	439599.87	170852.57	18069.85	2639.11	148059.44	779220.84	2175244.26	14115020
2001-02	429286.88	164743.42	16292.43	2844.60	154538.32	767705.65	2155697.25	14858546
2002-03	414532.71	171551.03	21630.10	6173.06	183517.63	797404.53	2568769.74	15372871
TGR (%)								
1993-03	12.12	8.79	-5.69	3.18	12.33	10.45	13.11	11.78
1993-99	16.49	12.72	-4.57	14.27	17.46	14.43	15.41	15.25
1998-03	1.34	1.47	-8.29	-1.45	8.23	2.39	8.16	7.09

Source: Budget Documents of various years.

The share of expenditure on education stood at 2.7 per cent against the norm of 6 per cent, as recommended by the Kothari Commission. With respect to health, the share

stood at 1.12 per cent against 5.0 per cent, according to the norms set by World Health Organisation. It emphasises that the share of expenditure on education and health needs to be hiked considering the recommendations made by the above two organisations.



2. Population Profiles:

The States population which was at 30.12 million in 1951 increased to 41.2 million in 1971 and further to 62.41 million in 2001. The decennial growth rate was decreasing from 14.66 per cent in 1951 to 11.7 per cent in 2001 with the exception of 1971 Population Census (22.3%). The percentage of population of 0 - 6 age group was of the order of 11 per cent in 2001 - 11.5 per cent for rural population and 10.3 per cent for urban areas. It was 11.2 per cent for males and 10.7 per cent for females. This measure mirrors a partial picture of "dependency ratio". That the absolute size of population has been increasing does emphasise that the State is obligated to provide additional food, clothing and shelter, furnishing of social and economic services and earmarking of sizeable scarce resources. The degree of urbanisation rose from 26.69 per cent in 1961 to 34.20 per cent in 1991 and further to 44.00 per cent in 2001. Positive features notwithstanding, growing urbanisation is one of the causative factors for higher magnitudes of unemployment and poverty and degradation of environment and ecology. It also compels the State to provide increased quantum of basic minimum needs and other social and economic infrastructure.

3. Poverty:

Poverty is the cause and consequence of economic backwardness. Since the Government is very keen on making "vicious circle" of poverty into "virtuous cycle" of economic well being, the Government both at the Centre and in the State have been implementing both self-employment and wage employment poverty alleviation schemes over a long period of time. The implementation of these poverty alleviation schemes have paid much dividends in terms of diminishing poverty ratio in the State as well as at the all-India level.

Table – 2 : Diminishing Poverty Ratio

Year	Tamil Nadu			All India		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
1973-74	57.43	49.40	54.94	56.44	49.01	54.88
1993-94	32.48	39.77	35.03	37.27	32.36	35.97
1999-2000	20.55	22.11	21.12	37.09	23.62	26.10

Source: Union Planning Commission.

It may be noted that the poverty quotient is found to be on a higher side in urban Tamil Nadu as compared to rural areas. This has one policy implication that the focus of implementation on poverty alleviation schemes in urban areas deserves the thrust that needs.

4. Human Development Index and Gender Development Index:

The substance of man or quality of life could not be assessed by the yardstick of real percapita income alone. This measure needs to be supplemented by the quality dimension of economic development. In the above back-drop the United Nations Development Programme had worked out Human Development Index for different countries by adopting three parameters viz., Real percapita Income, Life Expectancy at Birth and Education. Following this approach, the Union Planning Commission and the State Planning Commission have compiled Human Development Index for States and districts respectively. According to the compilation of Human Development Index done by the Union Planning Commission, the Index for Tamil Nadu has improved from 0.343 in 1981 to 0.531 in 2001. The relative standing of the State improved from 7th position to 3rd position. Based on the Human Development Index worked out by the State Planning Commission, the Human Development Index for Tamil Nadu stood at 0.657 in 2001. Chennai occupied a top slot with 0.757 whereas Dharmapuri occupied the bottom rung of the Human Development Index with 0.584. In terms of Gender Development Index the State got a value of 0.654 in 2001. The Gender Development Index was at 0.766 in Chennai whereas it was 0.582 in Dharmapuri.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set for 2015 are a set of eight goals, 18 targets and 48 performance indicators relating to poverty reduction. These were endorsed by all 189 United Nations member States in the 2000 Millennium Declaration. The Human Development Report 2002 of the United Nations Development Programme has set out Millennium Development Goals 2015 as elucidated in Box No.1. (Page-142)

5. Literacy Rate and Education:

Availability and quantum of human resource is influenced by level of literacy and educational attainments. The State has been showing tremendous progress in attaining a higher rate of literacy over the years. It was 46.80 per cent in 1981. It rose to 73.47 per cent in 2001. Despite this, there are vast disparities among regions and genders. Table below highlights the percentage increase in literacy rate in terms of regions and genders.

Table - 3 : Rising Rural-Urban Literacy Rates

Year	Male	Female	Combined
1981 - Rural	51.20	25.80	38.60
Urban	72.50	54.00	63.50
Total	58.30	35.00	46.80
1991 - Rural	67.18	41.84	54.59
Urban	86.06	69.61	77.99
Total	73.75	51.33	62.66
2001 - Rural	77.47	55.84	66.66
Urban	88.40	75.64	82.07
Total	82.33	64.55	73.47

Source: Population Census of India, 1995, 1981, 1991 and 2001.

Box - 1
Millennium Development Goals to be Achieved by 2015

Goals for development and Poverty eradication set at the United Nations General Assembly in 2000.

- *Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger*
 - *Halve the proportion of people living less than \$ 1 a day*
 - *Halve the proportion of people suffering from hunger*
- *Achieve universal primary education*
 - *Ensure that children everywhere - boys and girls alike - completed a full course of primary education*
- *Promote gender equality and empower women*
 - *Eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005 and in all levels of education by 2015.*
- *Reduce child mortality*
 - *Reduce infant and under-five mortality rates by two-thirds*
- *Improve maternal health*
 - *Reduce maternal mortality ratios by three quarters*
- *Combat HIV / AIDS, Malaria and other diseases*
 - *Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV / AIDS*
 - *Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases*
- *Ensure environment sustainability*
 - *Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.*
 - *Halve the proportion of people without sustainable safe drinking water*
 - *Achieve, by 2000, a significant improvement in the lives of atleast 100 million slum dwellers.*
- *Develop a global partnership for development.*

Notwithstanding the increasing trend in literacy attainment in Tamil Nadu, one grey area noticed is that the literacy rate for the SC / ST population is relatively lower as seen through the prism of Population Censuses.

5.1. Primary Education:

The primary education assumes much significance because this is a crucial stage for the children: 80 per cent of the brain and cognitive development occurs in the early formative stage. Failure to mainstream the children will be a colossal waste in terms of prospective earnings. Keeping this in view, the Government has been according top priority for universalisation of primary education. In this connection the Centrally-sponsored Sarvasiksha Abhiyan scheme is being implemented in the State covering all the districts. This scheme focuses on identification and enrolment of children in the school-going age, capacity-building, infrastructure development and offering of quality education.

The enrolment at the primary stage of education stood at 99 per cent in 2002-03. This enrolment rate is really a great accomplishment. This high rate of enrolment rate could be made through offering of a number of concessions and encouragements. The impetus and stimulation take the form of offering free education, extension of free bus passes, text books, slates, free accommodation in hostels, etc. For mainstreaming SC / ST students and ensuring more retention rate, the Government is extending additional incentives to these sections of the population.

Table – 4 : Enrolment by Age Group

Year	Numbers enrolled by age (6-11 years) in lakhs			Enrolled as % to total estimated school age population
	Boys	Girls	Total	
2000-01	29.18 (51.11)	27.91 (48.89)	57.09 (100.0)	98.41
2001-02	28.99 (51.09)	27.75 (48.91)	56.74 (100.0)	98.66
2002-03	32.51 (52.67)	30.41 (48.33)	62.92 (100.0)	98.93

Source: Policy Note on Education, 2003-04.

In step with the increasing enrolment rate of pupil, the Government is also strengthening the teaching inputs significantly.

Table – 5 : Schools, Teachers and Enrolment of Children in Primary Schools

Year	No. of Schools	No. of Teachers	No. of Children enrolled (In lakhs)		
			Boys	Girls	Total
2000-01	31142	121311	29.18	27.91	57.09
2001-02	31488	121483	28.99	27.75	56.74
2002-03	31678	120524	20.94	19.89	40.83

Source: Policy Note on Education, 2003-04.

5.2. Drop-out Rate:

Drop-out is economic-based. It results in low perspective earning profiles of the drop-out students. Because of extension of various educational concessions, the drop out rates has been on a steady decline over the years in the State. The implementation of Sarvasiksha Abhiyan has made tangible impact in the incidence of drop out.

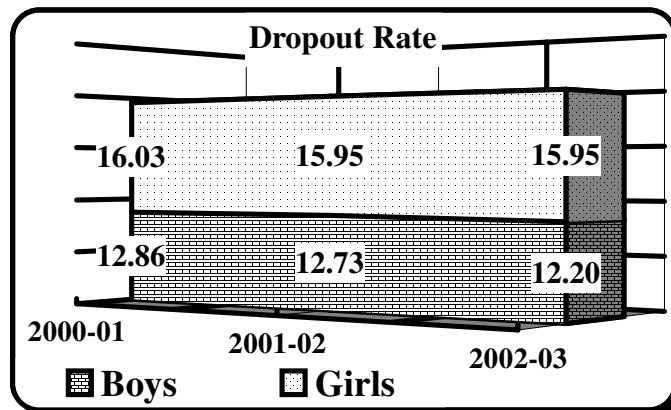


Table – 6 : Drop out Rate in Primary Schools

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2000-01	12.86	16.03	14.40
2001-02	12.73	15.95	14.31
2002-03	12.20	15.50	13.85

Source: Policy Note on Education, 2003-04.

5.3. Pupil-Teacher Ratio:

For exercising effective control over the students, the teacher-pupil ratio at the primary level of education is ideally set at 1:40. It is notable that the State has ensured that the teacher-pupil ratio is found even at a low 1:36 against the norm of 1:40 fixed by the Government.

Under Sarvasiksha Abhiyan, the infrastructural gaps found in most of the schools are being adequately bridged. Infrastructural facilities are being strengthened in those classes which are lacking in them. The Government is conscious of eradicating the system of single teacher schools.

5.4. Arivoli Iyakkam:

Arivoli Iyakkam has two phases (i) Total literacy campaign and (ii) Post literacy campaign. The total literacy campaign are area-specific, time-bound, volunteer-based and outcome-oriented. For bringing the school drop outs and illiterates under educational mainstream, the Arivoli Iyakkam has been in implementation since early 1990s. The scheme was first introduced in three districts viz., Sivagangai, Virudhunagar and Pudukkottai on a pilot basis. Encouraged by the good results obtained in these districts, the total literacy campaign was extended to other districts in a phased manner. The second phase of the campaign has been in operation in all the districts.

6. Secondary Education:

The secondary education is getting attention it deserves. Over the years the number of students and teachers has been on the increase. The science education is being imparted in an effective manner in all the Government schools on a par with management schools. The Computer Literacy Programme is being implemented in all the Government schools. The evaluation study conducted by this Department reveals that this scheme has produced beneficial impact on improvement in the proficiency of students in computer education.

Table - 7 : Schools, Teachers and Enrolment of Children in Higher Secondary Schools

Year	No. of Schools	No. of Teachers	No. of Children enrolled (in lakhs)
2000-01	3439	97969	33.79
2001-02	3608	102368	34.49
2002-03	4109	122845	43.67

Source: Policy Note on Education, 2003-04.

7. Collegiate Education:

Positive progressive changes have taken place in the higher education scenario in Tamil Nadu during the recent years. Tamil Nadu enjoys the privilege of being one of the most advanced States in the field of higher education due to the various advanced scientific and technological changes introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu enjoys number one position in our country as far as granting of autonomous status is concerned. As against 131 autonomous colleges in the entire country, 44 are existing in Tamil Nadu alone, which accounts for 33.58 per cent. The provision of autonomy is to provide an opportunity to the educational institutions to be more innovative and creative and thereby raise the academic standards. As per the policy decision taken by Government, all the Government Arts and Science colleges and Colleges of Education (67 in number) have been converted into the Constituent Colleges of the Universities to which they are affiliated with a view to provide quality higher education in the Government colleges. By becoming Constituent Colleges, they can get substantial financial assistance from the Government of India, through agencies like University Grants Commission, Department of Science and Technology, etc. which will enable them to provide good infrastructure facilities, laboratory and library facilities in the colleges and upgrade their teaching modes, etc. This will result in the upgradation of knowledge and teaching skills of these colleges in order to meet the challenges of globalization.

8. University Education:

There are 13 Universities functioning under the aegis of Higher Education Department in Tamil Nadu. The University Education in Tamil Nadu laid emphasis on consolidation and optimal utilization of the existing infrastructure through institutional networking, restricting expansion to meet the demand of unserved areas through the traditional University system as well as through Open University System.

`Choice-based credit system' of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, `Crystal Growth' of Alagappa University, `Bio-Technology' of Madurai Kamaraj University, `Remote-sensing' of Anna University and `Institute of Management' of Bharathidasan University are some of the highlights of University Education Scenario in Tamil Nadu.

9. Technical Education:

Kerala is occupying top slot in literacy attainment at primary education whereas Tamil Nadu excels in provision of technical education. Over the years the State has built up a chain of sound technical institutions. Concurrence given to starting of self-financing Engineering College by the Government since 1984 has led to mushrooming growth of institutions. It may be mentioned that some of the institutions are starved of adequate intake of students. Therefore, capacity built up is being under-utilised. The process of accreditation is hastened by the National Assessment of Accreditation Council (NAAC). This process has made tangible impact in enhancing the quality of technical education imparted by the institutions and availability of required infrastructure facilities. The Anna University has a distinction of getting accreditation for all the courses being offered by it.

In order to meet the rising requirements of technical education, the State is creating adequate number of technical institutions and intake of students through time. In 2002-03, number of Engineering Colleges inclusive of 5 Deemed Universities numbered 239 with a student strength of 72235. The number of Polytechnic Colleges was at 203 having a student strength of 50309 in 2002-03. With effect from 31.12.2001, all the Engineering Colleges save Deemed Universities had been brought under a single umbrella of Anna University to exercise effective control and ensure uniformity among the technical institutions.

10. Health and Nutrition:

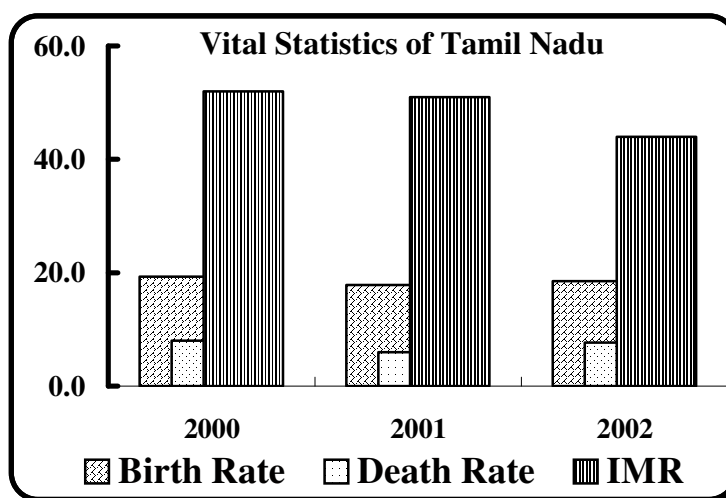
Health and nutritional status of the population contributes to improvement in overall labour productivity. The Health policy desires that the under-served and under-privileged sections of the population have to have easy access to and utilisation of health services. A sound health infrastructure and manpower at primary, secondary and tertiary care in Government, voluntary and private sectors has been built up over the years. It may be mentioned that a breakthrough in technology advances and improvement in access to health-care technologies have led to a significant improvement in health indices of the population and perceptible decline in mortality and morbidity.

10.1. Major Health Indicators:

Improvement in penetration of technology and health status of the population can be gauged with reference to birth rate, death rate, infant mortality rate and life expectancy at birth.

Birth Rate:

Birth rate had declined from 31.4 in 1971 to 18.5 in 2002. The respective rate for all India are 36.9 and 25.0. Despite decreasing trend having been noticed there are differences in rural-urban areas. An inverse relationship between per capita real income and fertility has been established by various empirical studies. Costs of bringing up children are considered as *dis-utilities*. Food, clothing, shelter, education, entertainment cost and opportunity cost of spending time to teach, entertain and supervise children all are dis-utilities of bringing up children. These dis-utilities are more relevant in urban areas than in rural areas. Tamil Nadu outshined all India in terms of birth rate



Death Rate:

Death Rate has been declining from 14.4 in 1971 to 7.7 in 2002. The State outperformed with respect to death rate.

Table - 8 : Death Rate

Year	Tamil Nadu			All India		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
1971	16.5	9.3	14.4	16.4	9.7	14.9
1981	13.5	7.9	11.8	13.7	7.8	12.5
1991	9.5	7.6	8.8	10.6	7.1	9.8
2002	8.6	5.9	7.7	8.7	6.1	8.1

Source: Census of India (SRS)

Infant Mortality Rate:

The State has shown outstanding performance in IMR. It declined from 113 in 1971 to 44 in 2002. Tamil Nadu has shown better performance in this regard compared to all- India.

Table – 9 : Infant Mortality Rate

Year	Tamil Nadu			All India		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
1971	127	77	113	138	82	129
1981	104	55	91	119	62	110
1991	65	42	57	87	53	80
2002	50	32	44	69	40	64

Source: Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

Life Expectancy at Birth:

This is a good measure to what extent the fruits of economic development reached all strata of the population. The life expectancy at birth has been showing a steady increase over the years both in Tamil Nadu and in all-India.

Table- 10 : Life Expectancy at Birth

Year	Tamil Nadu		All India	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1951-61	41.09	39.24	41.89	40.55
1961-71	47.50	46.50	46.40	44.70
1971-81	52.50	51.90	51.40	50.20
1981-91	57.40	58.50	55.90	55.90
2000-06	67.00	69.75	63.87	66.91

CMIE, India's Social Sectors

10.2. Health Infrastructure:

The State has achieved the target of establishing one Primary Health Centre for a population of 30,000 in the plain areas and 20,000 in the hilly tracks. There are 1413 primary health centres, 8682 health sub-centres, 26 district headquarters hospital, 160 Taluk headquarters hospital and 79 non-taluk hospital, 12 dispensaries and 11 mobile units. It is worth noting that there is asymmetry in the distribution of health infrastructure between the rural and urban areas. The concentration of health care institutions is more pronounced in urban areas compared to rural areas. In order to facilitate improvement in medical education there are 11 medical colleges, 1 dental college, 2 physiotherapy colleges and 1 nursing college. The students strength in MBBS courses came to 1305. There are 23 specialties in P.G. course and 17 specialties in P.G. Diploma. The total intake capacity is 892 under the specialty courses.

10.3. Family Welfare:

The State is exhibiting superb performance in containing the rising population. The State had already achieved a replacement level of fertility viz., "Total Fertility Rate" 1.95. It indicates that the State is marching towards the goal of "population stabilisation". This could be possible by implementation of National Family Welfare Programme since 1956. The Community-Needs Assessment Approach is being implemented under the Family Welfare Programme in the State.

In what follows demographic indicators 2002 are furnished:

Birth rate	- 18.5 per 1000 population
Death Rate	- 7.7 per 1000 population
IMR	- 44 per 1000 live births
Maternity Mortality Ratio	- 1.4 per 1000 live births
Natural Growth Rate	- 1.08 per cent

The State has set health goals and targets to be achieved by 2007 that is at the end of 10th Five Year Plan.

➤ Infant Mortality Rate	30 per 1000 live births
➤ Birth Rate	15 per 1000 live births
➤ Maternal Mortality Ratio	< 1 per 1000 live births
➤ Total Fertility Rate	1.7
➤ Couple Protection Rate	65 per cent
➤ Reduction of Higher Order Births	10 per cent
➤ Male participation on contraception	10 per cent

Every year about 72 lakh children are being covered under mass immunisation programmes with a view to eradicating polio in three phases. The State is also implementing Reproductive and Child Health Programme since 1997-98. This project has two components viz., a sub-project component covering Madurai and Theni districts and State level component to strengthen the infrastructural needs of the remaining districts of Tamil Nadu. This project has made tangible impact on the target groups through realisation of objectives of the project.

11. Nutrition:

Vitamin 'A' deficiency and protein deficiency are causative factors for mal-nutrition and under-nutrition. Since nutrition contributes to increased labour productivity and improved human capital, the State has been implementing a number of nutrition schemes viz., TINIP, ICDS, Chief Minister's Mid-Day Meal Scheme and Pradhan Mandiri Gramodaya Yojana. The TINIP being implemented in a phased manner in the State in order to mount an attack on mal-nutrition.

The ICDS scheme has been in implementation since 1974 with the broad objective of improving the nutritional and health status of children in the age group of 0-6 years,

reduction in incidence of mortality, morbidity, mal-nutrition, school drop out, etc. To begin with, these projects were initiated at Chennai; Thalai, Nilakottai on a pilot project. Encouraged by a spectacular impact made on nutritional status, it was extended to additional 113 projects (67 projects in rural areas 44 projects in urban areas and 2 projects in tribal areas) covering 10420 centres. The package of services rendered include growth monitoring, supplementary nutrition, immunisation, health care, referral cases, health-education and non-formal pre-school education.

Besides, the State is implementing the Chief Minister's Nutritious Meal Programme both rural and urban areas since 1982. The beneficiaries under this project are children aged 6 to 24 months and 2 to 5 years. The total beneficiaries numbered 8.75 lakhs. In addition to children, mothers and old aged pensioners are eligible to avail of the benefits. In 2002-03 about 16.58 lakh persons were benefited. Thus the total take up of Government benefits stood at 16.58 lakhs.

Table - 11 : Child Welfare Centres (2002-03)

Sl. No.	Scheme	Number of Centres	Number of Beneficiaries			
			Children		Mothers and Old Age Pensioners	Total
			6 - 24 months	2 - 5 years		
1.	ICDS	10420 (AWC)	145379	294671	104586 (Mothers)	544636
2.	WB ICDS III	19500 (CNCs and CWCs)	237041	550206	56465 (OAP) 236869 (Mothers)	1080581
3.	PTMGR NMP (Urban)	718 (CWC)	--	30096	3105 (OAP)	33201
	Total	30638	382420	874973	401025	1658418

Source: Policy Note on Social Welfare.

In addition, School Nutritious Meal Centres have been functioning both in rural and urban areas. Totally 64.92 lakh pupil got benefited. Data on number of beneficiaries and number of centres are furnished below:

Table - 12 : School Nutritious Meal Centres (2002-03)

Sl.No.	Scheme	No. of Centres	No. of Beneficiaries
1.	PTMGR NMP (Rural)	38925	6015252
2.	PTMGR NMP (Urban)	2087	476410
	Total	41012	6491662

Source: Policy Note on Social Welfare 2002-03

The Policy for A *Malnutrition Free Tamil Nadu* has been prepared as an update of the existing Tamil Nadu Nutrition Policy, 1995. The updated Policy outlines the broad framework to achieve the specific goals of Malnutrition Free Tamil Nadu and incorporates the life cycle and rights-based approach as a strategy to interrupt

intergenerational transfer of malnutrition. Government of Tamil Nadu announced its intention to make Tamil Nadu a "Malnutrition Free" State by 2002 (G.O. Ms.No.55 dated 8-4-2002). To reduce human malnutrition of all types including sub-clinical deficiencies to the levels of the best performing countries in the World, the State has set out Goals and Objectives as highlighted in Box below:

Box -2
Malnutrition Free Tamil Nadu - Goals

Indicator	2000	2007	2012	2020	2020	
1. Low Birth Weight %	23	20	15	10		
2. Underweight among 0-3 years	36.7	30	20	15		
3. Stunting among 0-3 years	29.4	25	20	15		
4. Anaemia in Adolescent Girls	50-60	40	30	20		
5. Anaemia in 0-3 year Children	69	50	30	20		
6. Anaemia in Pregnant women	60	50	40	30		
7. Average weight (kg) 17-18 yrs boys	48.3			59.9 -1SD	68.9 Median	82.9 +1SD
8. Average weight (kg) 17-18 yrs girls	43.1			49.4 -1SD	56.6 Median	69.0 +1SD
9. Average height (cm) 17-18 yrs boys	162.0			170.2 -1SD	176.8 Median	183.4 +1SD
10. Average height (cm) 17-18 yrs girls	153.2			157.7 -1SD	163.7 Median	169.7 +1SD
11. Body Mass Index (BMI)						
% women with BMI < 18.5	38.2%					<10%
% men with BMI < 18.5	35.5%					<10%
% women with BMI > 25	8.9%					<8.9%
% men with BMI > 25	7.0%					<7.0%
12. Breast Feeding						
a. Mothers who initiated breastfeeding in the 1 st hour of birth						90%
b. Mothers who initiated breastfeeding within one day of birth						100%
c. Median duration of exclusive breastfeeding						2 years
d. Appropriate complementary feeding are						70%

Source : For Year 2000 data: NFHS II for items 1-6; NNMB 2002 for items 7-11.

Figures for 2020 are based on International norms.

Public Distribution System (PDS):

The PDS constitutes an important aspect of public policy. It aims at making available essential foodgrains to the poor at affordable prices besides stabilising the open market prices of foodgrains. It serves as a safety net insulating the poor from the ill-effects of inflationary spiral and enhancing the nutritional status of the poor. The PDS system is being operated through a wide net work of Fair Price Shops numbering 228060 of which 23319 are full time and the remaining are part time. This net work is catering to the food requirements of 1.61 crore cardholders in the State. The items of mass consumption such as rice, wheat and kerosene are being distributed through this system.

Keeping in view the financial constraints the Government retained the issue price at Rs.3.50 per kg. for the first 10 kgs and scaled up the issue price of the quantity, only to which the cardholder is entitled to, at Rs.6 per kg with effect from 1.10.2002. In consonance with the policy of Government of India, a total of 7.16 lakh poorest of the poor families had been identified under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana enabling them to draw foodgrains at a relatively highly subsidised rate. Under this scheme the cardholders are eligible to draw 35 kgs of rice every month irrespective of the number of persons in a family. The universal public distribution system was in vogue. Recently, the Government has issued Honour Cards (H Card) to those who are above poverty line.

The quantum of rice flowing from the Central Pool stood at 4.9 lakh metric tonnes, the Government has to bear the burden of subsidy due to the implementation of the PDS. The quantum of subsidy amount increased from Rs.219.31 crores in 1990-91 to Rs.1540 crores in 2000-01. However, it declined to Rs.1240 crores in 2002-03.