



TOURISM AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT

ART AND CULTURE MUSEUMS ARCHAEOLOGY

Demand No. 29

POLICY NOTE

2012-2013

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Minister for School Education,
Sports and Youth Welfare

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Government of Tamil Nadu
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POLICY NOTE

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INTRODUCTION

Art and Culture Department, Museums Department and Archaeology Department function under the control of Culture Wing of the Tourism and Culture Department.

2. ART AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT

Prior to 1991, there was no separate Directorate for Art and Culture. All the Government Institutions of Art and Culture functioned under the administrative control of various departments - Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram functioned under the control of Public

Department; Tamil Nadu Oviya Nunkalai Kuzhu and Tamil Nadu Jawahar Siruvar Manram functioned under the control of Tamil Development and Culture Department; Government Music Training Centres functioned under the control of Education Department; Government College of Architecture and Sculpture and Fine Arts Colleges functioned under the control of Directorate of Technical Education. In order to integrate the various activities and schemes for the development of Art, a separate department was required and the Directorate of Art and Culture was started in December 1991. Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram, Tamil Nadu Oviya Nunkalai Kuzhu, Tamil Nadu Jawahar Siruvar Manram, Government Music Training Centres at Chennai and Madurai, Government Fine Arts Colleges at Chennai and Kumbakonam and Government College of Architecture and Sculpture at Mamallapuram were brought under the direct control of the Directorate of Art and Culture.

2.1 Under the control of Commissioner of Art and Culture, 6 Regional Cultural Centres, 4 Government Music Colleges, 17 District Government Music Schools, 2 Government Colleges of Fine Arts, One Government College of Architecture and Sculpture, 36 Jawahar Bal Bhavans, District Art Society in each District headed by the District Collectors and Tamil Nadu Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu are functioning. The Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram in Chennai is functioning to encourage the artistes promoting Traditional Arts. The Tamil Nadu Folk Artistes Welfare Board is functioning separately for the economic upliftment of Folk Artistes.

REGIONAL CULTURAL CENTRES

2.2 The six Regional Cultural Centres are engaged in creating awareness among the people about the rich cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu, revitalising the art and cultural traditions, including the street theatre by proper co-ordination with the

District Art Societies and other cultural organisations.

2.3 The Regional Cultural Centres with the Assistant Directors of Art and Culture Department as Head of office are functioning in Kancheepuram, Thanjavur, Salem, Madurai, Tirunelveli and Tiruchirappalli. The Regional Cultural Centres are effectively implementing the schemes of the Government at the District level in co-ordination with the District Art Societies, the District Music Schools and the Jawahar Siruvar Manrams. They also liaise with Eyal Isai Nataka Manram, Tamil Nadu Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu and South Zone Cultural Centre by organizing and conducting several art festivals like Vaigunda Ekadesi Vizha, Tamil Isai Vizha, Karthigai Oli Vizha, Paavai Vizha, Saaral Vizha, Sirkazhi Moovar Vizha, Kattabomman Birthday Celebration, Aruvi Thiruvizha, Kumari Thiruvizha, Sadhaya Vizha,

Azhither Vizha, Kodai Vizha, Mangani Vizha and Matha Nallinakka Vizha.

2.4 In the year 2011-2012, a sum of Rs. 4.50 lakhs has been sanctioned for purchase of Video Camera and Digital Camera for the use of 6 Regional Centres. LCD Projector, TV, DVD for the use of six Regional Cultural Centres were purchased at a cost of Rs. 4.50 lakhs. Further, a sum of Rs. 6.40 lakhs has been sanctioned to conduct local art festivals in all Districts by the Regional Cultural Centres. Besides this, a sum of Rs. 10.00 lakhs also has been sanctioned to conduct special cultural programmes in all the Districts by the Regional Cultural Centres.

2.5 It has been proposed to conduct Art Festivals in all Districts, at a cost of Rs.8.00 lakhs, Youth Cultural Contest at a cost of Rs. 1.50 lakhs and Artist Camp in Painting and Sculpture at a cost of Rs.1.00 lakh at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Trichy and Tirunelveli, during the year 2012-2013.

DISTRICT ART SOCIETIES

2.6 District Art Societies were formed in order to improve the ancient art forms of Tamil Nadu and to disseminate the various arts throughout Tamil Nadu by promotion and preservation of arts and to find out artistic talents at District level and provide opportunities for their exposition.

2.7 The Government is implementing the scheme of giving the following Awards to 5 eminent artistes in each District according to their age and eminence from the year 2002-2003:-

Below 18 years of age	-	'Kalai Ilamani' Award
Between 19-35 years of age	-	'Kalai Valarmani' Award
Between 36 – 50 years of age	-	'Kalai Sudarmani' Award
Between 51 – 60 years of age	-	'Kalai Nanmani' Award
For those above 60 years of age	-	'Kalai Mudumani' Award

2.8 The Government is implementing the scheme of issuing identification cards to the artistes in all the Districts from the year 2002-2003. The Identification Cards issued to artistes through the District Art Societies are very much useful to the artistes in getting priority in cultural programmes organized by the Government and also in availing travel fare concession.

FOLK ARTISTES WELFARE BOARD

2.9 The folk arts are highly regarded for exhibiting the cultural richness of Tamil Nadu and the principles of cultured way of living. The Tamil Nadu Folk Artistes Welfare Board was created with a view to providing social security and welfare schemes to the folk artistes and to preserving the dying folk art forms of Tamil Nadu, thereby promoting their cause and providing financial assistance. So far, 27,640 folk artistes have become members of the Board and a sum of Rs.91,00,967/- has been sanctioned towards

providing various welfare schemes to the folk artistes.

MUSIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

2.10 The Tamil Isai stands foremost in projecting the ancient Tamil culture. The Government Music Colleges and the Government Music Schools were started with a view to promoting Tamil Isai among younger generation, encouraging the young talented artistes, making them eminent artistes and propagating Tamil Isai to every nook and corner of the State.

Government Music College, Chennai

2.11 The Government Music College at Chennai conducts Three-Year Diploma Courses in Vocal, Violin, Veena, Mridangam, Flute, Ghatam, Kancheera, Morsingh, Nathaswaram, Thavil, Folk Arts, Bharathanatyam, Two-Year Post-Diploma Courses in Vocal Music (Muthukalai Isai

Kalaimani), Two-Year Diploma Course in Nattuvangam and One-Year Diploma Course in Music Teachers Training.

2.12 The Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.368.08 lakhs towards construction of an Auditorium in the premises of the Government Music College, Chennai. The work is under progress.

2.13 In the year 2011-2012, Intercom facilities were provided at a cost of Rs. 0.60 lakh, water purifier machine was purchased at a cost of Rs. 0.50 lakh and musical instruments and folk arts instruments were purchased at a cost of Rs. 3.00 lakhs for the Government Music College, Chennai.

2.14 The Tagore Auditorium at the Government Music College, Chennai is renovated as Multi-Cultural Art House Cinema Theatre with the financial assistance of National Film

Development Corporation. The work is under progress. This will become a landmark in Chennai.

Government Music College, Madurai

2.15 In the Government Music College at Madurai, three-Year Diploma Courses in Vocal, Veena, Violin, Mridangam, Flute, Nathaswaram, Bharathanatyam, Folk Arts and One-Year Diploma Course in Music Teachers Training are offered.

2.16 In the year 2011-2012, water purifier machine was purchased at a cost of Rs. 0.50 lakh, musical and folk arts instruments were purchased at a cost of Rs. 2.00 lakhs and furniture were purchased at a cost of Rs. 1.00 lakh for the Government Music College, Madurai.

Government Music College, Coimbatore

2.17 The Government Music College at Coimbatore offers Three-Year Diploma Courses in

Vocal, Violin, Veena, Bharathanatyam and One-Year Diploma Course in Music Teachers Training.

2.18 In order to implement the announcement made on the Floor of the Assembly in the year 2011-2012 that buildings for the Government Music College at Coimbatore would be constructed at a cost of Rs. 90.91 lakhs, the Corporation of Coimbatore has passed a resolution allotting 50 cents of its land to this college. Further, the Government is taking necessary steps for the transfer of this land from the Corporation of Coimbatore to the Art and Culture Department. A sum of Rs.90.91 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Government for construction of the buildings.

Government Music College, Tiruvaiyaru

2.19 In the Government Music College at Tiruvaiyaru, Three-Year Diploma Courses in Vocal, Violin, Veena, Mridangam, Bharathanatyam,

Nathaswaram, Thavil and Three-Year Degree Course and Two-Year Post Graduate Degree Course in Vocal Music are offered.

2.20 In order to implement the announcement made on the Floor of the Assembly in the year 2011-2012, the Government has accorded administrative sanction and financial sanction for a sum of Rs. 61.60 lakhs for the construction of an additional building for the Government Music College at Tiruvaiyaru. The Public Works Department is taking action for constructing the first floor of the building at the Government Music College, Tiruvaiyaru.

Evening Music College Centres

2.21 Evening Music College Centres are functioning at Chennai and Madurai. Two-Year Certificate Courses are offered in Vocal, Veena and Violin in Chennai Thiyagarayanagar Centre; Vocal, Veena, Violin and Mridangam in Chennai Music

College Campus Centre; Vocal, Veena, Violin, Mridangam and Bharathanatyam are offered in Madurai Centre.

Government District Music Schools

2.22 With a view to promoting the music education in Tamil Nadu, Government Music Schools were started in Tirunelveli, Trichy, Salem, Pudukkottai, Tiruvarur, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Perambalur, Thoothukudi, Karur, Kancheepuram, Thiruvannamalai, Sivagangai, Krishnagiri, Erode, Ramanathapuram and Sirkazhi. Three-Year Certificate Courses in Vocal, Bharathanatyam, Nathaswaram, Thavil, Thevaram, Violin and Mridangam are offered in these Music Schools.

2.23 Based on the announcement made on the Floor of the Assembly in the year 2011-2012, the students of Government Music schools are provided with a monthly stipend of Rs. 200/-.

2.24 In the year 2011-2012, furniture were purchased at a cost of Rs. 4.25 lakhs, musical instruments were purchased at a cost of Rs. 5.95 lakhs and refresher courses were conducted at a cost of Rs. 3.00 lakhs for the Head Masters and Teachers of the Government Music Schools from 24.2.2012 to 26.2.2012 at the Government Music College, Chennai.

2.25 In the year 2012-2013, furniture will be purchased at a cost of Rs. 5.10 lakhs, musical instruments will be purchased at a cost of Rs. 5.10 lakhs and a sum of Rs. 3.20 lakhs will be provided towards advertisement charges for admission of students in the District Government Music Schools and for creating awareness programmes. Further, fax machine and telephone connection will be provided to the District Government Music Schools at a cost of Rs. 2.55 lakhs.

FINE ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Government College of Fine Arts, Chennai

2.26 The traditional paintings and sculptures exhibit our rich cultural heritage to the younger generation. The paintings reflect the aesthetic thoughts and serve as cultural source of Tamil Nadu. Eminent artistes constitute the alumni of the Government College of Fine Arts, Chennai. In this College, Four-Year Degree Courses in Industrial Design in Ceramic, Industrial Design in Textile, Visual Communication Design, Painting, Sculpture, Print Making and Two-Year Post-Graduate Degree Courses in Painting, Visual Communication Design, Industrial Design in Ceramic, Industrial Design in Textile and Sculpture are offered. Syllabi of this College are approved by the University of Madras. Pug mill machine was purchased at a cost of Rs. 1.75 lakhs for the benefit of students of Sculpture section in the Government College of Fine Arts, Chennai and Xerox machine was purchased at a cost of Rs. 0.50 lakh.

Government College of Fine Arts, Kumbakonam

2.27 In this College, Four-Year Degree Courses in Painting, Visual Communication Design, Sculpture and Two-Year Post-Graduate Degree Courses in Painting and Sculpture are conducted. Syllabi of this College are approved by the Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli.

2.28 In the year 2011-2012, Computers and accessories were purchased at a cost of Rs. 4.00 lakhs and Display Boards and Portrait stands were purchased at a cost of Rs. 2.80 lakhs for the Government College of Fine Arts, Chennai and Kumbakonam.

Government College of Architecture and Sculpture, Mamallapuram

2.29 Mamallapuram occupies a prominent place in exhibiting the history of traditional Tamil

culture and Tamil architecture. The Government College of Architecture and Sculpture is functioning at Mamallapuram, a place where the stones depict the rich cultural heritage. This College conducts Four-Year Degree courses in B.Tech in Traditional Architecture, B.F.A in Traditional Sculpture and B.F.A in Traditional Drawing and Painting.

2.30 In the year 2011-2012, Computers and accessories were purchased at a cost of Rs. 2.30 lakhs. In the year 2012-2013, Computers and accessories will be purchased at a cost of Rs. 2.00 lakhs and Machineries and Equipment will be purchased at a cost of Rs. 3.00 lakhs. Special coaching will be given to the students by the concerned department eminent artists at a cost of Rs.0.40 lakh for the benefit of students of Government College of Architecture and Sculpture, Mamallapuram.

Kalaikaveri College of Fine Arts, Tiruchirappalli

2.31 Kalai Kaveri College of Fine Arts in Tiruchirappalli is an aided College. The administration of this College is under the control of Department of Art and Culture and grants to this College are released through the Directorate of Collegiate Education. This College conducts Five-Year Integrated Degree Courses, Three-Year Degree Courses and Two-Year Post-Graduate Degree Courses in Bharathanatyam, Vocal Music, Violin, Veena and Mridangam.

TAMIL NADU EYAL ISAI NATAKA MANRAM

2.32 Tamil Nadu Sangeet Nataka Sangam was established by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the year 1955 to achieve the objectives of the Central Sangeet Natak Akademi at State level and foster traditional Tamil Arts. It was formally registered under Societies Act 21 / 1860 on

27.11.1956. It was renamed as Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram in the year 1973. This Manram is implementing several schemes from the grants sanctioned by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the benefit of artistes.

Cultural Activities of the Eyal Isai Nataka Manram

2.33 The main activities of the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram include exchange of cultural troupes between the States, sanctioning of monthly financial assistance to the indigent artistes and sanctioning of family maintenance grant to the families of deceased famous artistes; encouraging talented, budding artistes by providing opportunities for their performances through various cultural organizations of Tamil Nadu, conferring "Kalaimamani Awards" to the artistes for their yeomen service to the enrichment of performing arts, conferment of All India Level Awards for the artistes in the name of "Mahakavi Bharathiyar",

"Great Singer Tmt.M.S.Subbulakshmi" and "Great Dancer Tmt.Balasaraswathi", extending grants to professional drama troupes for production and staging of Tamil dramas depicting our ancient culture and heritage; sanctioning grants for publication of rare books in the field of art and culture; releasing of grants to voluntary cultural organizations towards the commemorative festival of savants; conducting various cultural festivals for the benefit of the artistes; documentation of rare forms of traditional arts to enable the future generation to know about them; recording and preserving of music programmes of the senior artistes and encouraging research on our folk arts and traditional classical fine arts.

Conferment of Kalaimamani Award

2.34 With a view to felicitating the famous artistes who are serving in a commendable manner in the field of performing arts, the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram is conferring "Kalaimamani

Awards”. So far, 1594 artistes have been honoured in the Kalaimamani Award functions organized by Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram. Details are as follows:-

S.No.	Field	No. of awardees
1.	Eyal	79
2.	Isai	483
3.	Natyam	151
4.	Natakam	244
5.	Cinema	375
6.	Isai Natakam	82
7.	Folk Arts	111
8.	Other Arts	45
9.	Television	24
	Total	1594

Financial Assistance to Indigent Artistes

2.35 A sum of Rs.1,000/- per month is being given as financial assistance to the aged

famous artistes and men of letters who are now in indigent circumstances. At present 10,563 artistes receive financial assistance under this scheme. During the year 2011-12, Government has sanctioned Rs.40.00 lakhs to benefit an additional 500 indigent artistes.

Family Maintenance Grant to the Families of Deceased Famous Artistes

2.36 The bereaved families of the deceased artistes are given family maintenance grant by the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram. So far, 383 bereaved families of the deceased artistes were given the grant.

Inter-State Cultural Exchange Programme

2.37 With a view to promoting the sense of National Integration and creating opportunities for the outsiders to know about the arts and cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu, a scheme known as Inter-State Cultural Exchange Programme is

implemented by the Manram with the co-ordination of Sangeet Natak Akademi. Under this scheme, 81 cultural troupes from other States have visited Tamil Nadu and 84 cultural troupes of Tamil Nadu have also visited other States.

Encouragement of Talented Young Artistes

2.38 In order to provide an avenue to the budding artistes in Bharathanatyam, Classical Vocal and Instrumental Music, the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram extends grants in the range of Rs.2,000/- to Rs.5,000/- based on the programmes of reputed Voluntary Cultural Organizations of Tamil Nadu to perform programmes. Till date, 1913 young artistes were given grant under this scheme.

Grant to Folk Artistes / Troupes for Purchase of Musical instruments and Costumes

2.39 The Manram extends grants to folk artistes and troupes for purchase of costumes and

musical instruments. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.750/- is given to each folk artiste and Rs.2,500/- to each troupe. So far, 1437 folk artistes / troupes were given grant.

Grant for the Production of New Dramas

2.40 Under this scheme, grant to Drama troupes for the production and staging of new Tamil Plays based on Tamil art and culture is given. So far, new 42 dramas were staged using the grants released by the Manram.

Grant for the Production of New Dance Dramas

2.41 Under this scheme, grant is given for the production and staging of new Tamil dance-dramas based on Tamil literature and culture. So far 20 Dance-Dramas have been staged by availing this grant.

Grant for the Publication of Rare Books on Arts

2.42 Financial assistance is sanctioned to publish books on art. Under this scheme, 104 books have been published so far.

Cultural Programmes of Manram

2.43 The Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram is organizing different Cultural programmes and conducting folk arts programmes to make the younger generation appreciate the values of ancient art forms and to give programme opportunities to the folk artistes.

2.44 The Manram has conducted cultural functions like Villisai Programme, One Man show and released Short film on the eve of memory of Kalaivanar N.S. Krishnan on 30.8.2011 at Bharathiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore. Further, the Manram arranged Eyal Isai Nataka Nattiya Vizha wherein cultural programmes were conducted at

the Government Music College, Chennai for 13 days from 28.10.2011 to 9.11.2011. 300 artists participated and rendered 28 cultural programmes.

2.45 Under the scheme of cultural exchange in other States, the Manram in co-ordination with Then Indiya Munnetra Kazhagam, New Delhi conducted 3 Folk Arts programmes on 30.12.2011 and 31.12.2011 at New Delhi on the eve of New Year celebration.

2.46 The folk artistes troupe from Tamil Nadu performed cultural programmes on the eve of Pongal celebration from 15.1.2012 to 17.1.2012 in co-ordination with Bharathy Tamil Sangam, Kolkatta.

2.47 The Tamil Nadu Eyal, Isai, Nataka Manram in co-ordination with India International Rural Cultural Centre, New Delhi conducted Manipuri Dance programme on 7.1.2012 and Kathak Dance programme on 8.1.2012 at the

Tagore Auditorium in the premises of the Government Music College, Chennai.

2.48 The Manram has conducted cultural festivals on 30.1.2012, 3.2.2012 and 5.2.2012 in the National Karvela Festival at Bhubaneswar in Odissa, in which Bharathanatyam, Kuchipudi dance and Folk Art programmes were performed. Rs.75,000/- was sanctioned for this programme.

2.49 In the year 2011-2012, a sum of Rs. 6.50 lakhs was sanctioned to the Manram for the conduct of Tamil Music festival programmes and the programmes were conducted by the Manram.

Conferment of All India Level Awards for the Artistes in the field of Literature, Music and Dance

2.50 With a view to felicitating the artistes in the disciplines of literature, music and dance who

have contributed at the National level, three awards each carrying one lakh have been instituted and given in the name of "**Maha Kavi Bharathiyar**", "**Great Singer Tmt. M.S.Subbulakshmi**" and "**Great Dancer Tmt. Balasaraswathy**" respectively.

2.51 Audio-Video Library (Digital Library) has been constructed at a cost of Rs.5.00 lakhs in the premises of Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram to keep the cassettes of films and music.

2.52 In the current financial year 2012-2013, a sum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs will be provided to the Manram for conduct of Eyal, Isai, Nataka Nattiya Vizha; a sum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs will be provided for creation of a garden around the campus, fountain in front of the Manram and upgradation works for the Auditorium in the Manram premises and a sum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs will be provided for purchase of furniture to the Manram.

TAMIL NADU OVIA NUNKALAI KUZHU

2.53 With a view to promote, propagate fine arts and to encourage the artistes involved in the field of fine arts such as Painting, Sculpture and Graphics, the Tamil Nadu Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu was established in the year 1975. This Kuzhu was merged with the Department of Art and Culture in the year 2008.

Scheme of conferring Kalaichemmal Awards

2.54 "Kalaichemmal Awards" are conferred to the eminent artists of Tamil Nadu in recognition of their meritorious service in the fields of Paintings and Sculpture in Traditional and Contemporary Arts. A cash award of Rs.20,000/- each and a citation plaque are given to them. 11 eminent artists of Painting and Sculpture in traditional field and 42 artists of Painting and Sculpture in contemporary field have been conferred with this title.

Scheme of conducting State Level Exhibition of Traditional Art and giving Awards

2.55 State Level Exhibition of Traditional Art is conducted by the Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu and the painters and sculptors of these arts are encouraged by giving awards to them. For outstanding creations, an Exhibition Award of Rs.15,000/-each is given to five “Senior Artists” above 30 years of age and Rs.5,000/- each to 10 “Junior Artists” who are below thirty years of age.

Scheme of conducting Exhibition of Contemporary Art and giving Awards

2.56 To develop the contemporary arts of Painting and Sculpture and to encourage the creators of these arts, State Level Exhibition is conducted by the Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu and awards are given to the Painter and Sculptor whose works are adjudged as outstanding in these exhibitions. For outstanding creations, an Exhibition Award of

Rs.15,000/- each is given to five participating “Senior Artists” who have completed 30 years of age and Rs.5,000/-each is given to 10 participating “Junior Artists” who are below 30 years of age.

Scheme of financial assistance to artists for conducting one-man show or group show

2.57 To encourage the talented upcoming artists in Tamil Nadu in the field of Paintings, Sculpture and to encourage them, Rs.7,500/- is given as financial assistance per exhibition arranged by an individual artist and Rs.15,000/- is given as financial assistance per exhibition arranged by a group of artists.

Scheme of awarding scholarships to young artists

2.58 For encouraging the students of Government Colleges of Fine Arts at Chennai and Kumbakonam, a scholarship of Rs.5,000/- each is given to outstanding final year Post-Graduate

Students and Rs.3,000/- each to outstanding final year Degree students. Till now, 568 Degree students and 78 Post-Graduate students have been given scholarships.

Art Galleries in Districts

2.59 Three Art Galleries of Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu with creative pieces of eminent artistes of Tamil Nadu are functioning at Udthagamandalam, Madurai and Chennai. It has been proposed to conduct exhibition of famous artists at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli during 2012-2013 at a cost of Rs.1.00 lakh.

TAMIL NADU JAWAHAR SIRUVAR MANRAM, CHENNAI

2.60 Tamil Nadu Jawahar Siruvar Manram was established in 1979 at Chennai with the aim of inculcating art training to children in order to bring out the hidden artistic talents and to give art education along with general education and

aesthetic fervor in the minds of children between five and sixteen years of age.

2.61 Jawahar Siruvar Manrams are of three types - District Jawahar Siruvar Manrams, Jawahar Siruvar Manram Extension Centers and Jawahar Siruvar Manram Rural Centers. There are 36 Jawahar Siruvar Manrams functioning in various Districts of Tamil Nadu as indicated below:-

District Jawahar Siruvar Manrams	-	24 Places
Jawahar Siruvar Manram Extension Centers	-	10 Places
Jawahar Siruvar Manram Rural Centers	-	2 Places
Total		36 Places

District Jawahar Siruvar Manrams

2.62 District Jawahar Siruvar Manrams are functioning at Chennai, Pudukkottai, Madurai, Udhamandalam, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Cuddalore, Nagercoil, Thanjavur, Kancheepuram,

Sivagangai, Tirunelveli, Salem, Ramanathapuram, Dindigul, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Theni, Vellore, Tiruvallur, Erode, Tiruvarur, Virudhunagar and Villupuram.

Jawahar Siruvar Manram Extension Centres

2.63 Jawahar Siruvar Manram Extension Centres are functioning at Perambalur, Thanjavur, Kulithalai, Karur, Chennai (Dr. M.G.R Deaf and Dumb School, Ramapuram), Madurai, Thoothukudi, Nagapattinam, Tiruvannamalai and Namakkal.

Jawahar Siruvar Manram Rural Centres

2.64 Two rural centres are effectively functioning in Ponpudupatti, Pudukkottai District and Ellis Nagar at Madurai for imparting artistic talents to children.

Part-time training in Jawahar Siruvar Manrams

2.65 Part-time training in 20 disciplines such as Bharathanatyam, Folk Dance, Crafts, Vocal, Drama, Gymnastics, Mridangam, Tabela, Karathe, Computer, Key Board, Veena, Drums, Bands, Tailoring, Drawing and Painting, Screen Printing, Flute, Yoga and Silambattam is given in Jawahar Siruvar Manrams. As many as 9000 children are trained in all the Jawahar Siruvar Manrams in our State. Part-time training details are as follows:-

Chennai	Weekly six days training in the evening in 15 disciplines
District Jawahar Siruvar Manram / Extension Centres	Weekly three days training in the evening in 4 disciplines
Rural Jawahar Siruvar Manrams	Weekly three days training in the evening in 2 disciplines

2.66 For the benefit of the children residing in Chennai and to spread the Jawahar Siruvar Manram activities, five centres were started in residential areas. Details of Training given in 5 centres are as follows:-

Mylapore-Chennai	Weekly six days training in the evening in 15 disciplines
Krishnamoorthy Nagar, Vysarpadi-Chennai	Weekly two days (Saturday and Sunday) training in the evening in 5 disciplines
Selaiyur, Tambaram-Chennai	Weekly two days (Saturday and Sunday) training in the evening in 6 disciplines
Puzhuthivakkam-Chennai	Weekly two days (Saturday and Sunday) training in the evening in 6 disciplines
West Tambaram-Chennai	Weekly two days (Saturday and Sunday) training in the evening in 2 disciplines

Participation of Jawahar Bal Bhavan in National Level Schemes

2.67 84 children from Tamil Nadu Bal Bhavan participated in the National Children Assembly held at National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi from 14.11.2011 to 20.11.2011. Further, 72 children from Tamil Nadu Bal Bhavan participated in the South Zone Bal Shree Selection held at National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi from 1.2.2012 to 4.2.2012.

Exchange of Cultural Programme

2.68 90 children from Chennai, Kancheepuram, Thanjavur, Karur, Dindigul, Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari Bal Bhavans participated in the '**Bal Utsav**' organized by the Karnataka State Bal Bhavan at Mangalore from 22.1.2012 to 25.1.2012 and performed the Dances of Tamil Nadu namely Bharathanatyam, Karagam, Kavadi,

Dummy Horse, Silambattam, Kolattam, Mohiniattam and Villisai.

2.69 20 Children from Chennai, Tiruvallur, Tindivanam and Thanjavur participated in the South Zonal Martial Art Festival held at Bangalore on 28.1.2012 and 29.1.2012 organised by the Karnataka Sahasa Kala Academy.

Summer / Winter Camps

2.70 A State Level Summer Camp was conducted at Javvadu Hills in Tiruvannamalai District from 19.5.2011 to 27.5.2011 and a State Level Winter Camp was organized at Srirangam in Tiruchirappalli District from 24.12.2011 to 31.12.2011. Totally, 200 children were trained in the field of Bharathanatyam, Folk dances, Vocal, Drawing, Craft, Silambattam and Yoga in the camps.

State Level Craft Workshop

2.71 10-day State Level Craft Workshop was organized for 100 children at Tiruchirappalli and children were trained in Batik, Collage, Doll making, Terakotta and Candle making.

District Level and State Level Cultural Competitions

2.72 To encourage the cultural talents of children, cultural competitions were organised in all Districts in which children in the field of dance, vocal and drawing in the age group of 5-8, 9-12, 13-16 have participated. Prizes and certificates were distributed to the District level winners. A State Level Cultural Competition was organized at Srirangam, Tiruchirappalli District. For the prize winners of District level, an amount of Rs. 10,000/- was distributed to the first prize winners, Rs.7,500/- were distributed to the second prize winners and Rs.5,000/- were distributed to the third prize

winner and medals and certificates were also distributed to them on 6.1.2012.

Free Bharathanatya Arangetram

2.73 Free Bharathanatya Arangetram was arranged by the Government for three children from economically weaker section in Salem District on 29.1.2012.

State Government Honour to National Bal Shree Awardees

2.74 The Government of Tamil Nadu has sanctioned an amount Rs. 10,000/- to honour National Bal Shree Award Winner, Selvi Ramyalakshmi, Coimbatore.

Activities of Jawahar Siruvar Manram

2.75 In the year 2011-2012, training materials such as musical instruments, sports materials and Silambam sticks were purchased at a

cost of Rs. 3.00 lakhs for the District Jawahar Bal Bhavans, other than Chennai.

2.76 During 2012–2013, Cultural exchange programmes shall be organized with Bal Bhavans in other States and cultural development schemes will be conducted in all the District Bal Bhavans.

2.77 Important Developments in Art & Culture Department during 2011-2012

- A sum of Rs. 61.60 lakhs has been sanctioned for the construction of first floor in existing class room building of the Government Music College, Tiruvaiyaru and a sum of Rs.99.90 lakhs has been sanctioned for the construction of Regional Cultural Centre at Tirunelveli.
- A sum of Rs. 39.65 lakhs has been sanctioned for the purchase of furniture and equipment for Government Music Colleges,

Government Fine Arts Colleges and Government College of Architecture and Sculpture, Mamallapuram.

- A sum of Rs.33.40 lakhs has been sanctioned for conducting Cultural Festivals in all Districts in Tamil Nadu and for the purchase of equipment for the documentation of Cultural programmes.
- A sum of Rs. 40.00 lakhs has been sanctioned for giving financial assistance of Rs.1,000/- per month for the additional 500 indigent Artists during the year 2011-2012.
- A sum of Rs. 19.92 lakhs has been sanctioned for the payment of stipend of Rs.200/- per month for the students of Government Music Schools.
- 100 students have been selected by Tamil Nadu Jawahar Siruvar Manram from all the Districts and winter camp was conducted

from 25.1.2012 to 31.1.2012 in Srirangam, Tiruchirappalli District at the cost of Rs. 3.60 lakhs.

- Cultural Competitions have been conducted in Srirangam, Tiruchirappalli District by Tamil Nadu Jawahar Siruvar Manram. 192 students in the age group of 9-12 and 13-16 have participated in these competitions. First prize of Rs. 10,000/- to 6 students, second prize of Rs.7,500/- to 6 students and third prize of Rs.5,000/- to 6 students were given. Totally, a sum of Rs. 1.35 lakhs has been distributed as prize amount.
- Financial assistance was given to four individual Artists at the rate of Rs.7,500/- per Artist and to two groups at the rate of Rs.15,000/- per group for conducting exhibition in order to popularise the art talent of Tamil Nadu Artists and Sculptors. This

assistance has been granted through Tamil Nadu Oviya Nunkalai Kuzhu.

- 1547 New Artistes have enrolled themselves as members in the Tamil Nadu Folk Artistes Welfare Board from May 2011 onwards. Welfare assistance for a sum of Rs.16,81,650/- has been granted to 982 members of the Board.
- Honorary Director for Tamil Nadu Government Music Colleges and Honorary Director for Tamil Nadu Music Schools have been appointed.
- State Level Craft Workshop has been conducted by the Tamil Nadu Jawahar Siruvar Manram at Tiruchirappalli during the Quarterly Exam holidays and 100 students participated in this scheme.
- Bharathanatya Arangetram has been conducted at free of cost for the financially

backward children trained by Salem Jawahar Siruvar Manram on 29.1.2012.

- Folk Arts performance, mono act play and Short Film were staged on 30.8.2011 at Bharathiya Vidhya Bhavan, Mylapore in connection with celebration of Memory of Kalaivanar N.S.Krishnan.
- Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram has conducted 28 cultural functions during the period from 28.10.2011 to 9.11.2011 for 13 days in connection with Eyal Isai Nataka Natya Vizha.
- The Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram in co-ordination with India International Rural Centre, New Delhi conducted Manipuri Dance programme and Kathak Dance programme at the Government Music College, Chennai on 7.1.2012 and 8.1.2012 respectively.

- The Cultural Troupes representing Bharathanatyam, Kuchupudi Dance and Folk Artistes Troupes were sent by Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram to participate in the “National Karvela Festival” held at Bhubaneswar in Odissa during the period from 30.1.2012 to 5.2.2012.

- The Regional Cultural Centres on behalf of Art and Culture Department have conducted various cultural performances during the programmes held at Salem District - Yercaud Summer Festival from 27.5.2011 to 29.5.2011, Vellore District - Yelagiri Summer Festival on 9.7.2011 and 10.7.2011, Tirunelveli District-Kutralam Saral Festival from 24.7.2011 to 31.7.2011, Dharmapuri District- Hogenakkal Adi Peruku Festival on 2.8.2011 and 3.8.2011, Tiruchirappalli District - Srirangam Vaigunda Ekadesi Festival from 2.1.2012 to 4.1.2012.

- A sum of Rs.1.00 lakh has been sanctioned as grant to Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram for encouraging new talented artistes during the year 2011-2012.
- A sum of Rs.8.95 lakhs has been sanctioned for the renovation of Ladies Hostel in the Government Music College, Chennai.

New Schemes

2.78 The following new schemes will be implemented under Part II Schemes during the year 2012-2013:-

S.No	Description of the Scheme	Amount (Rupees in lakhs)
	A. Directorate of Art and Culture	
1	Purchase of furniture for Directorate (Furniture for Conference hall)	3.00
2	Tamil Panorama	6.00
	B. Regional Cultural Centers	
3	Celebrating Art Festivals in all Districts	8.00

4	Youth Cultural Contest	1.50
	C . Government College of Fine Arts	
5	Purchase of Computers for the benefit of Students of the College	4.00
6	Purchase of Machinery and Equipment for the practice of the students	5.00
7	Purchase of furniture for the benefit of the students	5.00
8	Special coaching to the Fine Arts Collegestudents by the concerned department eminent artists	0.80
	D. Government College of Architecture and Sculpture, Mamallapuram	
9	Purchase of Computers and accessories	2.00
10	Purchase of Machineries and Equipment	3.00
11	Special coaching to the Mamallapuram College of Architecture and Sculpture students by the concerned department eminent artists	0.40
	E. Government Music Colleges	
12	Repairing the old musical instruments	2.00
13	Cement flooring in front of the Main Building at Government Music College, Chennai and create a fountain in front of the Tagore Auditorium	2.00

14	Providing Computer Lab to Government Music College, Tiruvaiyaru and Purchase Audio-Visual equipment	5.00
15	Special coaching to the Government Music college students by the concerned department eminent artists	0.80
	F. District Government Music Schools	
16	Purchase of furniture for District Government Music Schools	5.10
17	Purchase of musical instruments for District Government Music Schools.	5.10
18	Advertisement Charges for District Government Music School Students' admission and Create Awareness Programmes	3.20
19	Purchase of Fax Machines and New Telephone connection to District Government Music schools	2.55
	G. Tamil Nadu Jawahar Siruvar Manram	
20	Purchase of Exclusive Dress Materials, Ornaments, Art Training Materials	3.60
21	Implementation of art development schemes through Jawahar Siruvar Manrams	3.60
22	Inter State Cultural Exchange programmes through Jawahar Siruvar Manrams	2.00

	H. Tamil Nadu Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu	
23	Conduct of Artists Camp (Painting and Sculpture) at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Trichy and Tirunelveli	1.00
	I. Tamil Nadu Folk Artistes Welfare Board	
24	To propagate 100 Art Forms among the younger generation by conducting art trainings and to create awareness	3.20
25	Giving musical instruments, dress materials and ornaments at free of cost to Folk Artistes	6.00
	J. Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram	
26	Conducting Eyal Isai Nataka-Natya Vizha	5.00
27	Create a Garden and fountain in front of the office of Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram and upgradation works to the Auditorium	5.00
28	Purchase of furniture for the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram	5.00
	Grand Total	98.85

Conclusion

The Department of Art and Culture is taking action to promote the traditional arts and create awareness among the public. Further, the Department of Art and Culture is carrying out the task of preserving and promoting the ancient cultural traditions and developing the cultural art forms of Tamil Nadu.

3. DEPARTMENT OF MUSEUMS

According to the statement of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), Museum has been defined as a 'non-profit, permanent institution in the service of the society and its development. It is kept open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment'.

3.1 The Museums Department is functioning under the control of Commissioner of Museums. He is assisted by Assistant Directors, Curators and Other Staff. The District Museums are functioning under the control of Curators

supported by Technical Assistants and Gallery Guards.

Government Museum, Chennai

3.2 The Government Museum, Chennai started in 1851, is one of the oldest and biggest museums in India. It is located on an extent of 16.25 acres of land in the heart of the city. There are 47 galleries located in six individual buildings, dealing with the subjects - Archaeology, Anthropology, Art, Numismatics, Botany, Zoology and Geology. There are also Children's Wing, Chemical Conservation Wing, Design and Display Wing and Education Wing. Besides the objects exhibited in the galleries, a large collection of objects is kept in reserve collection and they are displayed on rotation basis, besides being utilized for research purposes. The world famous Bronze collections, Amaravati limestone sculptures, Robert Bruce Foote collections, Adichanallur megalithic collections, Coinage of India and

Skeleton of whale are some of the noteworthy collections of the Government Museum, Chennai and they attract a large number of visitors to the Museum.

District Museums

3.3 Museums are also functioning in the districts at the following places - Pudukkottai, Salem, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Vellore, Erode, Cuddalore, Uthagamandalam, Coimbatore, Kanyakumari, Krishnagiri, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai, Tiruvarur, Palani, Nagappattinam, Kancheepuram, Ramanathapuram, Karur and Virudhunagar Districts. The State Government is taking steps to strengthen the infrastructure in the 20 District Museums.

Important Functions of the Museums

3.4 The following are the important functions of the Museums:-

- Collection and Preservation of objects
- Scientific storage and aesthetic display of objects for visitors
- Documenting the collections, including cataloguing, publishing of printed catalogues, books, journals, etc.
- Undertaking research activities individually or in association with other Institutions, Universities and facilitate the research scholars and students by providing access to the collections and information.
- Conducting periodical exhibitions, lectures and programmes as part of the educational activities
- Conservation and restoration of objects through chemical and non-chemical conservation.

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

Museum on Wheels

3.5 Action is taken to establish 'Museum on Wheels' in the Government Museum at Chennai.

The State Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.30.00 lakhs to establish the Museum on Wheels.

3D Theatre in Children's Museum

3.6 Action is taken to establish a 3D Theatre in the Children's Museum with the help of funds from the Government of India. Orders have been placed with ELCOT for the establishment of a 3D Theatre in the Government Museum, Chennai. The floor plan and other relevant materials have been sent to ELCOT for the execution of work. Meanwhile, the building is renovated to make it fit for the establishment of a 3D Theatre in the Children's Museum, Chennai.

Virtual Museum

3.7 The Government Museum, Chennai has already hosted a mini virtual tour on its official website www.chennaiuseum.org. Now, it has

been planned to develop a full-fledged Virtual Museum for the Government Museum, Chennai with 360° viewing facility from certain important points. It will facilitate the public to visit the Government Museum in a pre-planned manner after viewing the Galleries in the Virtual Museum. The work is in progress and the Virtual tour will be launched shortly.

Modernization of Pudukkottai District Museum

3.8 Pudukkottai Museum is the biggest district Museum under the control of the Department of Museums. A wide variety of important exhibits and objects, covering both arts and science are exhibited in an aesthetic manner in the Pudukkottai District Museum. Under the Part II Scheme 2011-12, modernization work, including improvement of galleries and visitor facilities have been taken up at a cost of Rs.14.14 lakhs.

The works are in progress and the new facilities will be made available to the public shortly.

Interpretation Board for the Fruit Bats at the Government Museum, Chennai

3.9 The Campus of the Government Museum, Chennai is also famous for its rare flora and fauna. In a biodiversity hot spot at the south western corner of the campus, a wide variety of flora and fauna are found existing. The Fruit Bats or Indian Flying Foxes which are mammals found in a cluster of about 2000 in more than 25 trees attract a large number of visitors. An Interpretation Board has been installed at this place carrying details of the bats based on the recent study conducted by the WWF for spreading awareness on bats.

Introduction of Visual Display at the Government Museum, Chennai

3.10 Under Part II Schemes and the Discretionary Funds, it has been proposed to

introduce more visual displays in the Government Museum at Chennai. New LED illuminated display boards are fixed at the entrance of the Main Building, Bronze Gallery and in the Zoological Galleries for providing necessary information in an attractive manner.

Establishment of Textile Blocks Gallery

3.11 It is proposed to create a new gallery on Textile Blocks in the Botany Section of the Government Museum, Chennai. A large number of textile printing blocks are available as reserve collection in the museum. Along with other available materials, the Textile Blocks Gallery will be established at a cost of Rs.6.50 lakhs.

Lighting facility for the Whale Skeleton at the Government Museum, Chennai

3.12 The 60-feet whale skeleton, one of the attractive exhibits of the Government Museum, Chennai, has been provided with new metal halide

light fittings to enhance its attraction among the visitors with its improved illumination.

Modernization of Galleries and strengthening the infrastructure in the Chennai Museum Campus

3.13 Government of India has sanctioned a sum of Rs.8.50 crores towards modernization of the Galleries with the state-of-the-art technology and provision of infrastructural facilities and basic amenities. Works to the extent of Rs.3.93 crores have been completed and balance works are under progress. Completion of these works will provide a major face lift to the Museum.

Establishment of 'Walk through Sculpture Garden' at the Government Museum, Chennai

3.14 There is a good collection of stone sculptures in the Government Museum, Chennai. A 'Walk through Sculpture Garden' was created, adjacent to the main building of the Government

Museum, Chennai. Visitors get the opportunity of touching and feeling these sculptures in the open space and the sculptures are provided with attractive individual labels. The work was executed with the funds released by the Government of India. This innovative Walk through Sculpture Garden also provides opportunities for the Visually Challenged persons to touch and feel stone sculptures in a barrier free environment.

Construction of Heritage Compound Wall

3.15 The old, damaged portion of the compound wall of the Government Museum, Chennai is renovated by constructing with the materials, resembling the heritage structure of its buildings. The compound wall is constructed with wire cut bricks and designed red sand stone materials. This work is taken up at a cost of Rs. 99.20 lakhs and is nearing completion. This will enhance the heritage look of the campus.

Revival of Activity Centre

3.16 There is an Activity Centre at the South West Corner of the Government Museum campus at Chennai . The Activity Centre has been revived recently with the funds released by the Government of India at a cost of Rs.11.00 lakhs. The Activity Centre is used for conducting Lectures, Screening of Educational films, conducting Exhibitions etc., especially for the children.

Repairs to Internal Roads in the Government Museum Campus, Chennai

3.17 The museum galleries are located in six individual buildings in different places in the museum campus. The internal roads have been re-laid recently at a cost of Rs.19.00 lakhs.

Renovation of Children's Museum Building

3.18 The Children's Museum is a part of the Government Museum at Chennai and the

renovation of the building is carried out with the funds released by the Government of India at a cost of Rs. 38.50 lakhs. Replacing the cement floors with granite, replacing the false roofing and providing new lighting facilities are some of the works carried out in the Children's Museum building under this Scheme.

Storage cum display of remaining Amaravati Sculptures at the Government Museum, Chennai

3.19 Amaravati sculptures are one of the prestigious collections of the Government Museum, Chennai. In addition to the sculptures exhibited in the newly established gallery, there is a good collection of sculptures available as reserve collections. Now, steps are taken to display the reserve collection of Amaravati sculptures as visual storage. Government of India have sanctioned an amount of Rs.13.00 lakhs for this purpose and the works are in progress.

Provision of Generators for the Museum Galleries

3.20 The Government Museum, Chennai is one of the biggest museums in India. 47 galleries are located in six individual buildings. As many as 10 lakh people visit the Museum every year. On an average, foreign and domestic visitors numbering about 1000 visit the museum galleries daily. Government of India has released funds to the extent of Rs.1.00 crore for purchase of 5 Generator sets to provide uninterrupted power supply in all the galleries of the Museum.

Exhibit of the Week - Special Exhibition

3.21 'Exhibit of the Week' is the new initiative of the Department of Museums and it is being implemented at the Government Museum, Chennai from June 2011 onwards. A variety of interesting and important exhibits are available in each section of the Museum. To create awareness about the objects and exhibits of the Museums

among the public, the Exhibit of the Week - Special Exhibition is held. One object is selected, researched upon and it is displayed at the entrance of the main building of the museum and a pamphlet is released on the objects, both in English and Tamil for the use of the public. This display is available for one week. This popular programme has received admiration and accolade from the Media as well as the general public.

National Mission for Monuments and Antiquities Project

3.22 Ministry of Culture, Government of India has initiated the project - National Mission for Monuments and Antiquities through which the Antiquities wealth of India will be computerized and digitized. Under this project, currently, the documentation of the collections in the Government Museum, Chennai is underway. Anthropology, Archaeology, Arts and Numismatics sections in the museum have taken up the project collectively.

The progress of documentation work is furnished below: -

Section	No. of Objects to be documented	No. of objects documented so far
Archaeology	15884	12259
Anthropology	20000	9859
Numismatics	56000	13716
Arts	1000	1000

National Manuscripts Mission

3.23 In India, over thousands of years, manuscripts have been written in various languages and each in itself embodies her history. Today, thousands of manuscripts lie neglected in institutions and homes around the country and hence, they are in urgent need of conservation. They are found on materials such as birch, palm leaf, handmade paper and cloth that require

specialized care in handling and storage and in conservation for posterity.

3.24 The Government Museum Manuscripts Conservation Centre (GM-MCC) established in 2004 has been conducting several Preventive Conservation Workshops, Seminars and Special Exhibitions throughout Tamil Nadu to achieve the Mission's objectives. At present, there are fourteen Manuscripts Conservation Partner Centres under GM-MCC and they seek the guidance and services of Chennai Museum. There are innumerable manuscripts kept in various repositories of Tamil Nadu and their conservation needs are attended to by Government Museum Manuscripts Conservation Centre.

Seminars and Workshops

3.25 A National Workshop on "Preventive Conservation of Manuscripts" was organized by the Government Museum Manuscripts Conservation

Centre in collaboration with National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi from 9.9.2011 to 13.9.2011 at Chennai. There were 35 participants from various Manuscript Resource Centres, Libraries, Museums and Colleges located all over the country. Various preventive measures like controlling the environment, monitoring the pests, disaster management etc., were discussed by the participants. Renowned conservators in India were the Resource Persons in the Workshop. The Workshop insisted on the importance of making conservation a national habit and hobby.

3.26 A National Seminar on “Siddha Manuscripts, its relevance to education, industry and research” was organized jointly with National Manuscripts Mission, New Delhi from 10.2.2012 to 12.2.2012 at Chennai. Abstracts of 31 papers received from Siddha Doctors, Professors and Research Scholars in the field of Siddha and Manuscriptology were released on the inaugural day by the Director of National Manuscripts

Mission, New Delhi. The seminar proved to be a forum for rediscovering and harvesting the wisdom of our forefathers in the field of Siddha Medicine System and to apply them with relevance today.

Modernization of Geology Galleries

3.27 The Geology gallery of the Government Museum, Chennai will be modernized with the funds released by the Government of India at a cost of Rs. 28.00 lakhs. New showcases, life-size fibre glass models, working models on Geology subject will be installed in the gallery by utilizing this fund.

Tree Census in the Museum Campus

3.28 A wide variety of flora is available in the campus of the Government Museum, Chennai. To highlight the flora of the campus, a 'Tree Census' camp has been held with the help of the students of the Women's Christian College and the Presidency College, Chennai in the month of

February, 2012. After the analysis of the materials collected by the census, interpretation boards will be installed at the appropriate places.

3.29 Important Developments in Museums Department during 2011-12

- Eight Gallery Guard posts were filled up in Chennai and District Museums.
- Audio Guide System was introduced in the Children's Museum.
- 37th Refresher Course on 'Care of Museum Objects' was conducted for one month.
- Museum's 'News Letter' and Guide Book on 'Preservation of Antiquities' were released.
- A book on the Foreign Coins (Chinese, Roman, Venetian) in the collection of Government Museum, Chennai was released.

- A Photo Exhibition on Art and Coins of Vijayanagar Empire was organized at District Museum, Kancheepuram in the month of July 2011.
- A Photo Exhibition on Copper Plates was organized at District Museum, Virudhunagar in the month of July 2011.
- A Special Exhibition on Tribal Objects was organized at District Museum, Tiruvarur in the month of July, 2011.
- A Photo Exhibition on ‘Snakes’ was organized at District Museum, Salem in the month of July, 2011.
- Photo Exhibition on ‘Wildlife Crimes’ was organized at District Museum, Sivagangai in the month of July, 2011.
- Discretionary Fund has been sanctioned every year from the collection of Museums,

for the proper maintenance of Chennai Government Museum Campus and Galleries. Discretionary Fund has been enhanced from Rs.10.00 lakhs to Rs.20.00 lakhs from the year 2011-2012 onwards.

- Re-organisation of the Wood Carving Gallery has been completed at a cost of Rs.2.83 lakhs.
- Renovation of the Rock & Cave Art Gallery has been completed at a cost of Rs.35.00 lakhs.
- A 'Special Exhibition on Cultural Imprints of Madras' was conducted on 22.8.2011 in connection with the 'Madras Day'.
- During August 2011, a 'Workshop on Plant Preservation and Modelling Technique' was conducted for the students of Presidency Girls Higher Secondary School, Chennai.

- A ‘Special Exhibition on Human Origins, Genome & The People of India’ was held between 30.9.2011 and 5.10.2011.

New Schemes

3.30 The following new schemes will be implemented under Part II schemes during the year 2012-2013:-

S.No	Scheme	Amount (Rupees in Lakhs)
1.	Improving 2 District Museums under the control of the Department of Museums at the rate of Rs.5.00 lakhs per Museum	10.00
2.	Providing drinking water facility in the Government Museum, Chennai	5.00
3.	Improvement of the entrance of the Main Building – Government Museum, Chennai	6.00
4.	Re-printing of Museum Publications	6.00

5.	One set of Coat/suit of Men Curators and one set Coat/Blazer for Women Curators, New Uniform (Safari suits) to Gallery Guards and supply of 2 White coats to Lab personnel in the Museums.	5.86
6.	Organisation of the Special Exhibition – Object of the Week in the Museum	1.00
7.	Training to Gallery Guards in 3 days in batches of 10 persons in Public Relations and visitors ethics in Chennai, Administrative staff for 3 days at Anna Institute of Management, Chennai. One day awareness creative Seminar / Workshop for college students including Engineering and Professional Colleges in Culture and related matters (target 1000 students per year)	8.30
8.	Exposure visit to other Museums in Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata by staff members	1.00

9.	Conduct of <i>Panpattu Palagani</i> (Windows of Culture) for 50 weeks in each year in association with Art and Culture Department for the benefit of students (Audio, Special lighting, Brochure, Media Management etc., to be arranged by Museum)	5.00
10	Outsourcing Graduate Computer Assistants, on contract basis to assist the Curators in Government Museum, Chennai	8.00
	Total	56.16

Conclusion

Museums conduct a wide variety of educational activities for the benefit of students and public. In addition to the educational activities, the museums preserve the past for the benefit of the future generation. Modern technological

advancements have facilitated the dissemination of knowledge to the public and students in an efficient manner by way of audio guides, virtual tours, modern illumination, effective signages and informative labelling. Museums have emerged as para-educational institutions wherein our heritage (natural, art, historical, architectural, cultural heritage) in toto are preserved through collection, documentation, exhibition and thereby general public benefit by acquiring a vast pool of information.

4. ARCHAEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

4.1 The Archaeology Department established by the Government of Tamil Nadu, is functioning from the year **1961** onwards. This Department is functioning under the control of Commissioner of Archaeology, assisted by Deputy Director, Deputy Superintending Archaeologist, Assistant Director (Regional), Assistant Superintending Epigraphist, Curator, Epigraphist, Archaeological Officer, Pre-historic Archaeologist and Exploration cum Excavation Archaeologist.

4.2 The Archaeology Department started its functioning with the prime objectives of “Conservation and Preservation” of ancient monuments in Tamil Nadu and conducting

systematic excavations at archaeological potential sites. Subsequently, its activities have been expanded to cover copying and deciphering of stone inscriptions, documenting and publishing them. The antiquities unearthed from excavation are exhibited for the benefit of scholars and general public in the fourteen archaeological site museums which are under the control of this department and the antiquities preserved are periodically chemically treated and preserved. A library exclusively for scholars is also functioning at the Commissionerate at Chennai.

CONSERVATION SECTION

4.3 85 ancient and historical monuments including religious and secular buildings have been declared as protected monuments so far. Administrative sanction has been accorded to take up work for the conservation and provision of infrastructure facilities in 31 ritual Temples in Tamil Nadu at an estimated cost of

Rs.10.00 Crores(Rupees Ten Crores only) for the period during 2011-2012 to 2013-2014 under the State Specific Needs Grant recommended by the Thirteenth Finance Commission as detailed below:-

Year Wise Details	Conservation Works		Infrastructure Works		Total
	Total no. of Monuments	Rupees in Lakhs	Total no. of Monuments	Rupees in Lakhs	
2011-12	5	18.35	-	-	18.35
2012-13	16	301.90	13	293.00	594.90
2013-14	10	264.75	8	122.00	386.75
Total	31	585.00	21	415.00	1000.00

4.4 A sum of **Rs. 18.35 Lakhs** has been sanctioned under the XIII Finance Commission grants, for the conservation of the following five temple monuments during the year 2011-2012 and the preliminary works are in progress:-

Name of the Temple	Conservation Estimate (Rs. in Lakhs)
Chokkeeswarar Koil at Kancheepuram	7.20
Sivan Koil at Kooram	2.34
Valeeswarar Temple at Thakkolam	3.40
Murugan Koil & Inscription at Varichiyur	3.95
Udayagiriswarar Koil at Varichiyur	1.46
Total	18.35

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND REMAINS (Amendment and Validation) ACT 2010 – AMASR (A &V) 2010

4.5 The Government of Tamil Nadu has appointed the Principal Secretary and Commissioner of Archaeology as the “*Competent Authority*” under the AMASR (Ancient Monuments Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment & Validation) Act 2010 (10/2010)) as Coordinator for

Tamil Nadu to protect the nationally important protected monuments of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). In this connection, the Supreme Court of India has instructed that no construction activities should be taken upto within 100 Meters from the protected monuments. According to this Act, 100 Meters is defined as “Prohibited Area” and 101 – 300 Meters is defined as “Regulated Area”. The applications received from public are processed for issuing N.O.C according to AMASR Act.

EXCAVATION IN HISTORICALLY IMPORTANT SITES

4.6 One of the major activities of the Archaeology Department is to carry out archaeological excavations in historically important sites in the State. So far, the Archaeology Department has conducted excavations at **35** sites, of which **33** excavation reports have been brought in the form of books. The excavation work at Talaichankadu, Tharangambadi Taluk of Nagapattinam District at a cost of Rs.2.00 lakhs

was completed and the preparation of excavation report is in progress. Similarly, during the year 2011-2012, excavation at Alambarai, Cheyyur Taluk of Kancheepuram District has been taken up at a cost of Rs.2.50 lakhs and the work is in progress.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE MUSEUMS

4.7 The excavated artefacts are preserved and exhibited to enable the scholars, researchers and the public to view at the following **14** archaeological site museums in Tamil Nadu :-

1	Danish Fort Site Museum	Tharangambadi, Nagapattinam District.
2	Under Sea Archaeological Site Museum	Poombuhar, Nagapattinam District
3	Kangaikonda Cholapuram Site Museum	Ariyalur District
4	Ramalingam Vilasam Site Museum	Ramanathapuram District
5	Arcot Site Museum	Vellore District

6	Pre-Historic Site Museum	Poondi, Tiruvallur District
7	Thirumalai Naicker Mahal Site Museum	Madurai District
8	Rajarajan Site Museum	Thanjavur
9	Marattah Site Museum	Thanjavur
10	Karur Site Museum	Karur District
11	Coimbatore Site Museum	Coimbatore District
12	Courtallam Site Museum	Tirunelveli District
13	Tirukovilur Site Museum	Villupuram District
14	Dharmapuri Site Museum	Dharmapuri District

EPIGRAPHY

4.8 Another primary function of the Archaeology Department is to copy, decipher, edit and publish the inscriptions. There are **25,000** inscriptions in Tamil Nadu, which are spread over in **25** Districts of Tamil Nadu. Out of this, impressions of **23,940** inscriptions have been copied so far.

Thanks to the Intensive Campaign launched during 2004-2005 and to the campaigns in the subsequent years also. The department is able to achieve copying of the impressions of **15,000** inscriptions so far and out of this, **14,000** inscriptions were deciphered by the Epigraphists of this department. **5,996** inscriptions were published in **41** volumes and **5,000** estampages have been digitalized.

Presently, the Department is conducting campaigns in the Districts of Tiruvannamalai, Salem, Sivagangai and Tirunelveli.

4.9. An Institute of Epigraphy has been functioning at Chennai head office since 1974. It conducts one year Post-Graduate Diploma Course in Epigraphy and Archaeology. A sum of **Rs.2,000/-** is paid as stipend to each student every month. **200** students have received Post-Graduate Diploma so far.

PUBLICATION

4.10 An exclusive Press belonging to the Department is functioning to bring out books in Tamil and English on Epigraphy, Monuments, Excavation Reports, District Archaeological Guide books, Museum Guide books and Temple Monographs. **252** books have been published so far. A quarterly journal “Kalvettu” is also published. So far **85** issues have been published.

PHOTOGRAPHY

4.11 Temples, Sculptures, Murals and Antiquities that are located in various Districts of this State are documented through photographs. The process of excavation stages and the antiquities that are recovered from trenches are also documented with adequate photographs.

CHEMICAL CONSERVATION

4.12 The Chemical Conservation is essential to preserve the antiquities. Chemical conservation section was established in Chennai and Madurai to chemically conserve the antiquities brought to light from excavations. Later on, its facilities were extended to carry out chemical conservation works in 14 site museums and to co-ordinate with structural conservation section in the maintenance and conservation of 85 monuments. Many chemical conservation works are being carried out with funds provided under Maintenance Works and grant from Finance Commission.

REGISTRATION OF ANTIQUITES

4.13 The Government of India have enacted 'The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act 1972' in order to curb the smuggling of Art Treasures from India. To enforce this Act effectively, two Registering Offices - one at

Chennai and another at Tiruchirappalli are functioning. The Government of India meets out the entire expenditure of this scheme. This scheme is being implemented in Tamil Nadu from the year 1974. Till date **43,174** antiquities have been registered and certificates were issued in Tamil Nadu and **2,653** objects are identified as non-antiquities. This section also helps the Idol Wing of Bureau of Economic Offences in identifying the stolen idols. It is a matter of pride that Tamil Nadu stands first in the country in issuing registration certificates.

GOVERNMENT ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

4.14 The Prestigious “Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Centre” is functioning in the campus of University of Madras under the control of this Archaeology Department. An excellent resource centre for undertaking research leading to Ph.D was started in 1869. More

than **72,748** rare manuscripts and **25,373** reference books in various languages like Tamil, Sanskrit, Marathi, Urdu, Arabic and Persian are being preserved. Also, it has a large collection of manuscripts dealing with subjects like Mathematics, Astronomy, Siddha, Ayurveda, Unani, Vedas, Agama, Architecture, Music, Fine Arts and History.

4.15 It has been proposed to improve the infrastructure at Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Centre in the premises of the University of Madras at a cost of **Rs. 119.32 Lakhs.**

MANUSCRIPT RESOURCE CENTRE – MRC

4.16 “The National Mission for Manuscripts” (NMM) in New Delhi is engaged in the process of collecting all the manuscripts available in India and it has recognized the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library in Chennai under the control of the Department of Archaeology as

“Manuscripts Resource Centre” (MRC) for collecting the manuscripts in the State of Tamil Nadu and listing the manuscripts for conversion into disc form. These works are in progress.

4.17 The National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi has allocated a sum of **Rs. 15.00 lakhs** for this purpose to the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, of which a sum of **Rs.11.61 lakhs** has been released in three installments.

4.18 Till Date **5,800** manuscripts have been digitalized in the form of Electronic Data and the same has been sent to National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi. As and when the works are completed, all details of the manuscripts will be available facilitating visualization of the details about ancient Tamil culture, Astronomy, etc.

Heritage Protection Measures

4.19 It has been proposed to bring out a Legislation for the enactment of **"Tamil Nadu**

Heritage Commission Act" in order to protect and preserve the rich Heritage and Cultural properties of Tamil Nadu.

4.20 It has also been proposed to bring out a Legislation for the enactment of "**The Mamallapuram World Heritage Area Management Authority Act**" in order to conserve the cultural heritage of Mamallapuram and to constitute Mamallapuram World Heritage Area Management Authority.

4.21 Important Developments in the Archaeology Department during 2011-2012

- A sum of Rs.15.50 Lakhs has been sanctioned for the installation of Lightning Conductors, in Thirumalai Naicker Palace at Madurai and Danish Fort in Tranquebar.

- A sum of Rs.3.00 Lakhs has been sanctioned for the purchase of Six Digital Cameras with the accessories for Engineering Section of Archaeology Department.
- A sum of Rs. 1.60 Lakhs has been sanctioned for providing intercom to four heritage buildings in Thanjavur palace complex in orientation with PA system provided with CCTV Cameras.
- A sum of Rs.2.60 Lakhs has been sanctioned for the purchase of Fire Extinguishers for Chennai Head Quarters, Thirumalai Naicker Mahal, Madurai and Rajarajan Museum, Thanjavur.
- A sum of Rs.2.50 Lakhs has been sanctioned for the excavation work at Historical site, Alambarai Fort, Alambarai, Cheyyur Taluk, Kancheepuram District.

- A sum of Rs.1.35 Lakhs has been sanctioned for the publication of Two Books on Epigraphy - Kancheepuram District Inscriptions Vol-III and Tiruppur District Inscriptions.
- A sum of Rs.28.00 Lakhs has been sanctioned for the upgradation of departmental website by creating Virtual Tours and GIS system.
- A sum of Rs.18.35 Lakhs has been sanctioned for the conservation work in 5 ritual Temples in Tamil Nadu under the State Specific Needs Grant recommended by the Thirteenth Finance Commission.
- Discretionary Fund has been sanctioned every year from the collection of Archaeology Department for the proper maintenance of protected monuments, to upkeep and improve the Archaeological Site

Museums and to carry out educational activities of the department. A sum of Rs. 10.00 Lakhs has been sanctioned as the Discretionary Fund from the year 2011-2012 onwards.

- Department of Archaeology had copied 132 inscriptions in 3 Districts (Sivagangai, Tiruvannamalai and Tirunelveli).
- Under Registration of Antiquities scheme, 86 art objects have been registered and certificates have been issued.
- 3,320 pages of Tamil Palm leaf Manuscripts were digitalized and documented in Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Centre.
- The film shooting in the protected monuments coming under the control of Archaeology Department has been permanently prohibited by the orders issued

in the G.O.Ms.No.114, Tourism and Culture
(MA-2) Department, dated 9.8.2011.

New Schemes

4.22 The following schemes will be implemented under Part II Schemes during the year 2012-2013:-

S.No	Scheme Details	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1)	<u>Modernization of Department Publications</u> i) Converting Rare Negatives and Slides into digitized photo prints (ii) Digital Publication of Printed Books (iii) Publication of books.	21.00
2)	<u>Publication of Epigraphy Book and Two Monographs</u> (i) Tamil Nadu Inscriptions Vol. IV (ii) Monograph a) Pullamangai Monograph b) Tirumukkudal Monograph	1.80

3)	Purchase of Chemicals and Binding Materials for the preservation of Manuscripts in Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Centre	1.70
4)	Purchase of Chemicals to Madurai Laboratory for the preservation of Art Objects	0.50
5)	<u>Upgradation of Library</u> Purchase of Furniture for the Library.	1.50
6)	<u>Conservation work at other than Protected Monuments</u> Construction of Marine Archaeological Museum Building at Poombuhar in Sirkazhi Taluk of Nagapattinam District.	35.00
Total		61.50

CONCLUSION

Archaeology enables to reconstruct the history, culture and heritage of a region through authentic evidences which are brought to light in the course of exploration and excavation. With the implementation of modern technology like remote sensing techniques, the hidden ancient structures and probable archaeological potential sites are exposed for the better understanding of the history and environmental changes. In the light of preserving our rich cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu, the Department of Archaeology implements various schemes and throws light on the socio-cultural conditions of ancient Tamils through material remains left by our ancestors.

N.R.SIVAPATHI,
Minister for School Education,
Sports and Youth Welfare.