



**SPECIAL PROGRAMME
IMPLEMENTATION DEPARTMENT**

**POLICY NOTE
2012-13**

Demand No.53

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Special Programme Implementation**

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Government of Tamil Nadu
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Special Programme Implementation Department

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1. Introduction:

With a view to achieve inclusive and integrated development of various sections of society, this Government is implementing a legion of pioneering social security schemes. To ensure that this goal set by Government is attained, several special schemes such as distribution of rice under the public distribution system at free of cost to all families eligible to get rice, providing milch cows to the poor and sheep/goats to the poorest of the poor at free of cost, marriage assistance along with 4 grams of 22 carat gold coin at free of cost for making "Thirumangalyam", supply of home appliances like fans, mixies and grinders to women

beneficiaries and laptop computers to students at free of cost, special incentives to school students, supply of footwear to students etc., are being implemented. Apart from this, the Government have also come up with several other policy announcements, programmes and schemes to fast track the all round development of the state.

Keeping track of all this is a gargantuan task. Having this purpose in focus and to keep track of the multi-pronged special schemes aimed at all-round socio economic development, this Government, under the very dynamic and visionary leadership of **the Hon'ble Chief Minister**, created a new department, "Special Programme Implementation Department" on 16.05.2011, vide G.O.Ms.No.423, Public (Special-A) Department with an avowed objective for monitoring and coordinating the implementation of various flagship programmes/ schemes of the Government. Thus the aim of

this department is to facilitate and ensure effective and speedy implementation through diligent monitoring of the special schemes with a view to ensure that the benefits reach the needy and targeted population. In this process, the department of Special Programme Implementation involves all stakeholders in the developmental schemes besides the respective line departments.

2. Functions and Activities of the Department:

2.1 The major functions and activities of the department are as follows: -

- To monitor the effective and efficient implementation of various special programmes/schemes of the Government in coordination with the concerned line departments.

- To carry out field inspections, conduct review meetings and to have consultations at District level on regular and periodic manner so as to weed out deficiencies by sensitizing the officials implementing the schemes at the cutting edge level.

- To provide necessary feedback to the Government in the administrative departments on the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the schemes by organizing frequent inspections by the officers of this department and also suggest corrective course of action, wherever necessary. This department also coordinates with other departments and advises them, based on the feedback, in evolving appropriate and need based policy and guidelines in order to achieve the desired results in respect of various schemes and programmes. Further fine

tuning of these schemes also is made a possibility by this constant and continuous monitoring being undertaken by this department.

2.2 As the main focus of the department is monitoring the implementation of various programmes and schemes, evolving and putting in place a vigilant and effective inspection and monitoring mechanism was considered essential. Further in order to carryout monitoring and field level inspection of the scheme components, officers with exposure and wide experience in various departments such as Economics and Statistics, Rural Development, Revenue Department etc., have been brought in to strengthen the monitoring wing of the Department.

3. Monitoring:

3.1. It is a fact that any well-meaning scheme also needs evaluation, constant encouragement and monitoring to sustain its initial tempo and attain its targeted goal. Hence, monitoring assures the examination of the progress of the scheme at regular intervals, with a view to ensure its successful implementation and also flags the field level issues and gets the concerns addressed. Furthermore, concurrent monitoring of the projects/schemes paves the way for systematic collection and analysis of information as a project progresses.

3.2. Monitoring the various Programmes of the Government by this Department:

The Government has announced several schemes for socio-economic development of the State and to fulfill long felt needs of the people through various departments of the Government. Since this department has been

entrusted with the role of monitoring the progress of these schemes, this department has developed on-line system for accessing the periodical progress details using appropriate Information Technology tools.

3.3. Mechanisms evolved for Effective Monitoring:

To ensure an efficient and complete monitoring system, this department has evolved the following mechanisms:

i) Monitoring of the Announcements made by the Government:

This Government has made various development oriented announcements in the Governor's Address, Budget Speech, special announcements by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the floor of the Assembly under Rule 110 and various announcements of Hon'ble Ministers for welfare of the people which are being implemented by different departments. This

department is monitoring the progress of these announcements through in-house interactive software developed and hosted in the intranet system of the Secretariat to enable the concerned departments to update the progress on-line. To enable this process, Nodal Officers have been appointed by all the departments for coordinating with their Head of departments and updating the status online. The periodical progresses furnished by the departments are compiled and status of announcements is categorized according to the stage reported. Based on the reports of the departments, the consolidated compendiums are prepared and are being utilized for high level review meetings and reference purpose. This system has ensured the effective follow-up on the announcements of the Government and there is no letup in any particular area.

ii) Monitoring the Implementation of Flagship Schemes (on Weekly Basis):

The Government is implementing various flagship programmes/ schemes for the socio-economic up-liftment of the people of the State. This department is also entrusted with the task of concurrent monitoring of this plethora of schemes implemented by various departments. Accordingly, this department is interacting with concerned departments to obtain updated quantitative progress of these schemes on a weekly basis. Reports are being collected and compiled by a dedicated troop of officers of this department. These progress reports serve as a basis for review meetings.

iii) High Level Monitoring Committee:

The Government have in their orders, issued in G.O.(Ms.)No.1, Special Programme Implementation Department, dated 02.01.2012, constituted a High Level Monitoring Committee for reviewing and monitoring the special

programmes/ schemes/ projects as detailed below: -

Constitution of High Level Monitoring Committee

Sl. No.	Designation of the Officer	Position
1.	The Chief Secretary to Government	Chairman
2.	The Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department	Member
3.	The Secretary to Government, Special Programme Implementation Department	Member Secretary
4.	The Secretary to Government of the concerned line Departments	Member

The High Level Monitoring Committee with plenary powers serves as an important forum to take stock of the flagship programmes and schemes and also address issues to speed up the schemes. During the meetings the status, nuances, challenges and issues, if any in implementing the particular schemes which are taken up for review are undertaken and the

decisions and recommendations are thrashed out across the table which is then followed up systematically to its logical conclusion.

iv) Nodal Officers in Districts:

At district level, the District Collectors have nominated senior officers such as the District Revenue Officer and the Project Director, District Rural Development Agency as Nodal Officers for monitoring the implementation of special programmes/schemes. These Nodal Officers coordinate with the concerned officers and act as a focal point at the district level for timely feedback and action. They also help in conduct of the field inspections by the officers of this department.

v) Field Inspections:

Through this department, the Government receives regular feedback about the progress and effectiveness of various schemes as the officers of the Department file reports based on

the field inspections in the Districts. Even if there is a whiff of any skewed movement in implementation of the scheme, this system of monitoring facilitates the Government in taking mid-course correction in implementation of a scheme.

vi) Regional Review Meetings:

Regional review meetings with the District Collectors were also conducted in Chennai, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Coimbatore to review the implementation of the flagship programmes of Government. In such regional review meetings, senior officers from the Departments concerned participate and benefit from the wide ranging discussions on the modalities of implementing these schemes.

4. Schemes Implemented by the Department:

Apart from monitoring the special programmes of the Government, this department has also been entrusted with the

responsibility of implementing two flagship schemes of the Government viz.,

- i. Distribution of laptop computers at free of cost to students and
- ii. Distribution of electric fans, mixies and grinders at free of cost to women beneficiaries.

4.1. Distribution of Laptop Computers at Free of Cost to Students:

The Government has a social mission to build strong, capable and skilled youth with well-honed skills to enable them to stand on their own legs. The State of Tamil Nadu has already emerged as a favoured destination, both for the national and transnational IT companies. This has opened fresh avenues of job opportunities for the youth in the State. In today's knowledge world, the laptop computer is an essential educational tool for the student community. Further, the students from the

lower rungs of the socio-economic structure also need to be equipped with a strong knowledge base to participate with full force in the emerging and vibrant global market. To bridge the gap in the level of IT knowledge and to provide a level playing field so as to develop skills and improve human resources in consonance with the forward marching global economy, the Government is implementing the innovative scheme of providing laptop Computers to the students. Through this, the State Government has paved the way to reach all the three significant education policy concerns-access, participation and attainments. Under this scheme, the students studying in 12th standard in Government and Government Aided schools and the students in Government and Government Aided Arts & Science colleges, Engineering colleges and Polytechnic colleges are being provided with laptop computers. It has been planned that these students would be covered under the scheme as follows:

Year-wise Distribution of Laptop Computers to Students

Year	Schools	Arts & Science Colleges	Engineering Colleges	Polytechnic Colleges
2011-12	12 th Standard	1 st & 3 rd year	2 nd & 4 th year	1 st & 3 rd year
2012-13	12 th Standard	3 rd year	2 nd & 4 th year	1 st & 3 rd year
2013-14 onwards	12 th Standard	----	----	1 st year

The total requirement of laptop computers for the year 2011-12 being the first year was 9,07,790 and Rs.912 crore was provided for this in the budget. Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) has been entrusted with the task of procuring computers under this scheme. The distribution of the laptop computers was launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on September 15th, 2011 on the occasion of Perarignar Anna's birthday. The distribution of the laptop computers is being carried out through the respective departments of School Education, Collegiate Education and Technical

Education Directorates. To ensure proper working of the laptop computers, Service and Repair Centres have been set up at taluk levels. The free laptop computers will have, as part of their software package, a windows starter edition package and the LINUX – based “Bharat Operating System Solution” (BOSS) etc.

For the inauguration of the scheme, M/s.ELCOT procured 6,875 number of laptop computers through a short tender. For the procurement of remaining 9,00,915 laptop computers, an International Competitive Bid was floated by ELCOT in October, 2011. Though contracts were finalized and awarded to six vendors, last year’s floods in Thailand, one of the leading centre of manufacturing hard disk, came in the way of the vendors adhering to the original delivery schedule. Now, all these hurdles have been overcome and the delivery schedule has been revised and the suppliers have agreed to complete the supply of the

laptop computers before the end of December, 2012. The laptop computers supplied up to April, 2012 have been distributed to the students in final year in Arts and Science Colleges, Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics following which the laptop computers are being distributed to the 12th standard school students of 2011-12 in a phased manner.

This scheme has brought smiles on the visages of the students studying in Government and Government Aided Educational Institution like Schools, Arts and Science Colleges, Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics since most of the students are getting an opportunity for hands on training on a computer for the first time through this scheme.

Under this scheme, during the year 2012-13, it has been proposed to procure and distribute 7.84 lakh laptop computers and a sum

of Rs.1500 crore has been earmarked for this in the current year's budget.

4.2. Distribution of Electric Fans, Mixies and Grinders at Free of Cost to Women Beneficiaries:

To make women more effective participants in the economy, it is imperative to provide them some relief and comfort from the strenuous domestic activities. To achieve this objective and to alleviate the women from their daily grind of work and to provide them relief and a sense of freedom from the strenuous domestic activities, this Government decided to distribute a package of electric fan, mixie and grinder at free of cost as a 'well thought out welfare scheme'. Nearly 1.85 crore women beneficiaries from the households holding family cards which are eligible for drawing rice as on 30.06.2011 will get this benefit. This scheme is aimed at improving the standard of living of the poor women, apart from providing equal opportunities

by making available these modern domestic appliances to them.

During 2011-12, it was planned that 25 lakh households would be covered under this scheme and all the remaining eligible beneficiaries will be distributed these appliances in a phased manner.

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCSC) has been entrusted with the task of procuring the electric fans, mixies and grinders under this scheme. The distribution of the electric fans, mixies and grinders was also launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on September 15th, 2011. The distribution is being done by the Revenue Department under the overall control of the District Collectors in the Districts and the Commissioner, Corporation of Chennai in Chennai. To ensure proper working of the appliances, the TNCSC has arranged with

the suppliers to setup Service and Maintenance Centres at Taluk level.

As it is considered that electric fan may not be of much use in hilly areas, it has already been ordered that in the scheme for distribution of fans, mixies and grinders to women beneficiaries, in the Nilgiris District and Kodaikanal hilly areas of Dindigul District, induction stoves shall be distributed in lieu of fans and 34,000 induction stoves are being procured by the TNCSC and are being distributed in these two hilly areas.

The scheme for distribution of fan, mixie and grinder to women beneficiaries will be continued this fiscal also and 35 lakh beneficiaries will be covered in 2012-13. For this purpose, a sum of Rs.2000 crore has been allotted in this year's budget.

The benefits are being distributed only to a woman from the eligible households. In case, a

household having family card which is eligible for drawing rice does not have any woman member, it will be given to the head of the family. While distributing the benefits, rural areas will be covered first followed by Town Panchayats, Municipalities and Municipal Corporations. To facilitate speedy and efficient implementation of this scheme, the Government has sanctioned additional staff to Revenue Department in every district.

5. Conclusion:

There has been a tremendous impact and transformation in the lives of the poor people in Tamil Nadu through the effective implementation of a number of well-conceived schemes. It is a factum that in a welfare state, the programmes of this Government touch upon the lives of the masses from the cradle to all the stages of the life, from ensuring healthy mothers

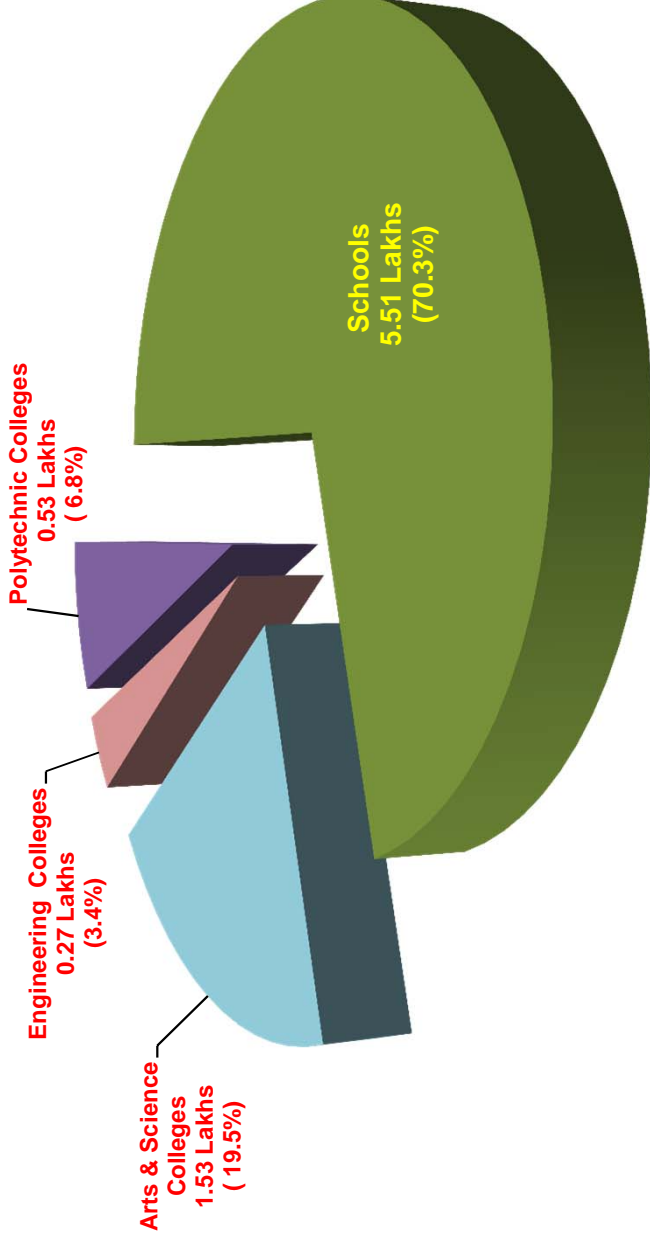
delivering healthy babies; to empowering the students to enhance their employability; reducing the drudgery of women; increasing the income of the poor by providing livelihood opportunities; providing environment friendly homes for the rural poor; benevolently helping the widows and the other vulnerable sections of the society and providing health insurance for all the needy etc. Realizing the high responsibility of ensuring that the last mile is reached in the implementation of the innovative well-meaning special schemes of this Government, under the visionary and inspiring leadership of **Hon'ble Chief Minister**, this department marches on by assisting the Government in achieving the desired goals with renewed vigour.

**K.T. RAJENTHRA BHALAJI,
Minister for Information &
Special Programme
Implementation.**

Distribution of Laptop Computers to Students

2012-13

(Number of Students in Lakhs)

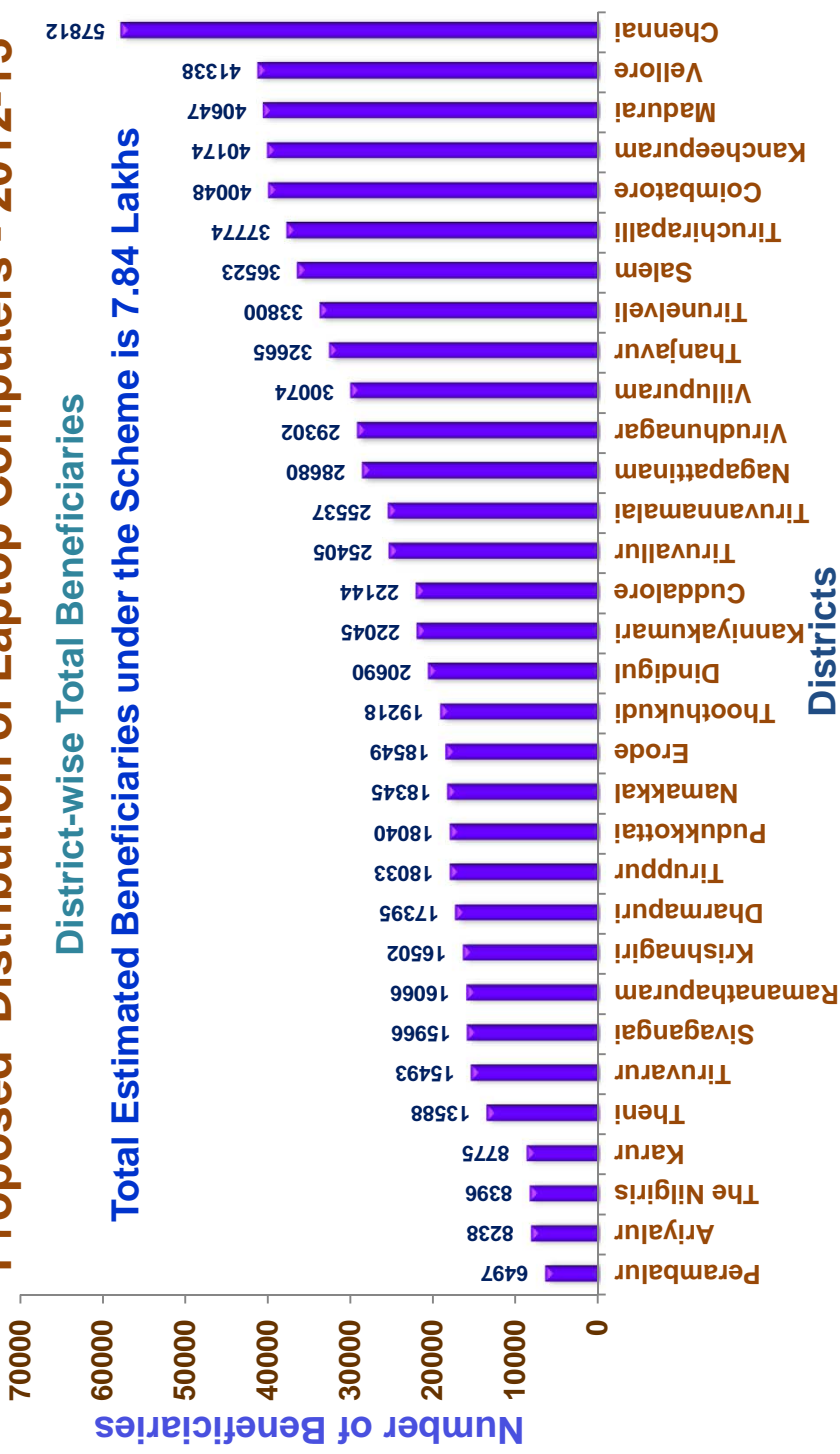


Total Estimated Beneficiaries in 2012-13 is 7.84 lakhs

Proposed Distribution of Laptop Computers - 2012-13

District-wise Total Beneficiaries

Total Estimated Beneficiaries under the Scheme is 7.84 Lakhs



Distribution of Fans, Mixies & Grinders

District-wise Total Beneficiaries

Total Estimated Beneficiaries under the Scheme is 1.85 crores

