

DEMAND NO.48
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
POLICY NOTE – 2009-2010

1. Introduction

During the year 2008-09, the public bus transportation system in Tamil Nadu has continued with excellent progress and improvement in the services it provides and operates. Growing population and developing economy will require sustained growth in public transport system, especially bus-based transport. The State Transport Undertakings in Tamil Nadu are well placed to take full advantage of this growth. Public bus transport must ensure safety and security of operations as well as comfort of the passengers. This will ensure that passengers return time and time again to travel using public transport instead of using their private vehicles. After all, an important aspect of public transportation is to make its operation more attractive to passengers and thereby achieve at least a share of 70% of all modes of transportation put together. Towards this end, the State Transport Undertakings in Tamil Nadu have already started implementing various schemes like, traffic management systems, travellers' information system, electronic fare collection, fleet management, emergency and rescue response etc. All these put together will make the State Transport Undertakings in Tamil Nadu providers of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). All over the world the current trend for the public transportation system is to make the system more responsive and responsible to the passengers. Accordingly, the Corner Stones of State Transport Undertakings of Tamil Nadu will be safety, security, passenger comfort, clean and energy – efficient operations. Proper maintenance of the fleet will be ensured. With the active support and assistance from the Government, the State Transport Undertakings will achieve these objectives.

2. State Transport Undertakings

The transport operations were under the direct control of the Government till 1971, when they were brought under various Transport Corporations registered under the Companies Act, 1956.

Thereafter, the Government appointed two Committees of Experts called the Pattabiraman Committee in 1976 and the Thillainayagam Committee in 1990 to study, in

depth, the existing operations of the State Transport Undertakings and to suggest measures to improve them. The recommendations of these Expert Committees have been implemented wherever possible.

2.1 Amalgamation of State Transport Undertakings

As a step towards streamlining the operations of State Transport Undertakings leading to reduction in the administrative overhead expenses and avoidance of wasteful competition in the operation of services among the Corporations, the Government amalgamated 21 Transport Corporations into 7 Transport Corporations. The present arrangement of Transport Corporations in the State is compact and efficient.

2.2 As on 31-03-2009, the State Transport Undertakings are offering the following services:

Chennai Metro – City services	:	3000
Town Services (in Districts)	:	6257
Mofussil services	:	7487
Express services		
Inside State	:	530
Outside State	:	356
Ghat services		<u>516</u>
Total services	:	18146
Spare buses	:	<u>1958</u>
Total Fleet Strength	:	20104

Achievement in Operation

The State Transport Undertakings have operated 299.61 crores kilometers during 2008-09 with an increase of 20.7 crore kilometres over the previous year 2007-08. Single day highest collection by all STUs together made on 26.10.2008 is Rs 18.71 crores. The fleet strength of all State Transport Undertakings on 31-5-2006 was 17104. The fleet strength has increased to 20104 as on 31-03-2009 inspite of replacement of 6680 overaged buses by all State Transport Undertakings thereby making the fleet younger. The

average age of fleet is now 4.49 years. Thus the overall fleet strength has grown by 3000 buses, the percentage of growth being 17.50 in the last 3 years. The fleet strength of all State Transport Undertakings of Tamilnadu is the highest in the country.

2.3 Performance

The State Transport Undertakings have been consistently bagging national awards in achieving the best physical parameters. The Union Planning Commission while reviewing the performance of Tamil Nadu State Transport Undertakings has commented that Tamil Nadu State Transport Undertakings is one of the best amongst the various State Road Transport Undertakings in the country. Especially, the best performance is in fleet utilisation, Kilometres efficiency, Occupancy Ratio, Fuel efficiency. It must be added that this performance has been achieved under difficult circumstances.

Sl. No.	Item	2008-09
1	Total Kilometres operated per day (in lakh Kms)	82.09
2	Total Passengers carried per day (in lakhs)	196.96
3	Fleet utilisation	94.05 %
4	Kilometre efficiency(excluding specials)	99.04 %
5	Kilometre efficiency (including specials)	104.2 %
6	Occupancy ratio a) City & Town b) Mofussil c) Express d) Ghat Overall	70.69 % 95.13% 83.99% 101.02% 84.16 %
7	Breakdown per 10,000 Km	0.03
8	Accidents per 1,00,000 Km	0.29

	Total accidents Fatal accidents No. of persons dead	8602 1582 1789
9	Fuel performance (KMPL) a) City & Town b) Mofussil c) Express d) Ghat Average	4.94 5.36 4.86 4.09 5.13
10	Engine oil per 10,000 Km (in litres)	4.07
11	Km run per condemned tyre (in lakh kms)	1.61
12	Retreading Factor	3.4
13	Men per bus including workshop (for scheduled services)	6.71

During the year 2008-2009, 352 new routes have been introduced in response to the public demand and 860 routes have been extended to new places.

2.4 Performance of Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Ltd., Chennai.

During the last 3 years 2250 new vehicles have been introduced by Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Ltd., Chennai. Introduction of new buses and new services are well received by Public and there is marked improvement in quality of bus services in Chennai Metro Area. There are increased demands for such transport services from Chennai City Public.

In view of this, number of travellers using Public Transport has increased to 47.76 lakhs per day. This implies that there has been shift of passengers from private mode of transport to public mode of transport. Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Ltd., Chennai is also trying to link its services to MRTS and in future to Chennai Metro Rail.

2.5. Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (UMTA)

The Government has taken the earliest steps in October, 2007 to constitute Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (UMTA) for Chennai as per the National Urban Transport Policy. This Authority will be a co-ordinating agency for various projects and schemes being undertaken by departments like, State Highways, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Corporation of Chennai, Mass Rapid Transit System of Southern Railway

(MRTS), Chennai Metro Rail Limited, Public Works and Metropolitan Transport Corporation. The basic purpose of UMTA is to achieve integration of all modes of transport in the City of Chennai like, Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Ltd., MRTS and, in future, Chennai Metro Rail and provide trouble free travel to the passengers across the entire network. It is proposed to give statutory support to UMTA so that the Authority is able to discharge its functions and responsibilities in the most effective manner.

3. Financial Position of the State Transport Undertakings

Despite good performance in the physical parameters, which have been appreciated by the Union Planning Commission, time and again, the financial conditions of the State Transport Undertakings have come under considerable pressure in the absence of revision of fare. Due to the increase in the establishment and operational costs and the fare per kilometre remaining unrevised for last seven years which being the lowest in the country, the overall expenditure of the STUs has increased. The loss for the year 2008-09 is Rs.710.14 crores (pre-audit) , against Rs.379.57 crores in 2007-08

3.1 Consumption of High Speed Diesel Oil and Lubricants

There is considerable improvement in consumption of HSD and the KMPL of HSD oil consumed has improved from 5.03 during 2007-08 to 5.13 during 2008-09. The approximate savings on account of improvement in KMPL is around Rs.42.00 Crores in 2008-09. Similarly engine oil consumption per 10000 kms has come down from 4.70 litres to 4.07 litres in 2008-09.

3.2 Increase in Diesel cost

The Government of India periodically revises the price of the Petroleum products depending upon global prices. Diesel cost for an State Transport Undertaking accounts for 48 percent. The expenditure on consumption of diesel for the State Transport Undertakings was Rs.1865 crores in the year 2007-08 and Rs.2129.20 crores in the year 2008-09.

3.3 Outstanding Liabilities

Because of continuous loss, the State Transport Undertakings are facing the following outstanding liabilities as on 31-03-2009.

Particulars	Rs. in crores
HSD Oil and Lubricants	39.05

Suppliers of spare parts, tyres	39.36
Accident Compensation to be remitted to courts	158.15
Statutory dues like PF, Gratuity Recoveries from employees	1032.30
Staff credit society	53.69
Others	15.26
Total	1337.81

4. Replacement and augmentation of Fleet

During the year 2008-09 the Government has provided financial assistance of Rs.352.00 crores to State Transport Undertakings for purchase of new buses. 3182 new buses have been brought in to service during 2008-09. Of these 2541 have been deployed as replacement and 641 as augmentation. In the current year, 3500 new buses will be purchased with financial assistance from the State Government and from Government of India under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission. A part of the procurement will be funded by Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation limited.

4.1 Stimulus Package

Government of India under the second Stimulus Package of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission Scheme announced on 2.1.2009 have decided to provide funds for purchase of City buses for urban Transport System as a one time measure upto 30.06.2009. Under the Scheme, Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore Cities are eligible for Central Grants, which is 35% in case of Chennai and 50% in case of Madurai and Coimbatore of the total cost of the projects. Balance amount has to be borne by State Government and Term Loan support from Government of Tamil Nadu. It is proposed to use the funds for purchase of 1600 new buses mostly towards replacement in these Cities. Because of this, in the above cities, new design, low floor deluxe and pollution free buses can be operated.

5. Comparison with fare structure prevailing in other States

The fare per Kilometre in Tamilnadu is the lowest in the country. The existing fare structure for Mofussil services in Tamilnadu with comparative figures of neighbouring States is given below.

(In Paise per K.M.)

State	Fare Effective from	Mofussil (Ordly)	Deluxe	Super Deluxe	Ultra Deluxe	Air-conditioned
Tamil Nadu	6.12.2001	28	32	38	52	85
Andhra Pradesh	8.2.2006	38	49	57	62	80
Kerala	17.2.09	52	58	62	80	85
Karnataka	05.02.09	34	66	73	84	100

The fare in Tamilnadu has not been revised since December 2001 in the interest of the travelling public, though the costs of Diesel and Establishment have increased substantially.

6. Road safety and prevention of accidents

The accident compensation commitment has gone up drastically from Rs.16.03 crores in the year 1991-92 to Rs.102.34 crores in the year 2008-2009. Hence, the Government accorded importance to accident prevention measures to reduce road accidents involving State Transport Undertaking buses. This Government's focus is on road safety, reduction and avoidance of accidents. As the role of the drivers is very important in avoiding accidents, regular refresher trainings, Yoga classes, safety clinics, brain storming sessions in driver training schools, safety driving award schemes, special increment to the drivers who perform duty without any accident for 10 years etc. are being undertaken by the State Transport Undertakings to ensure safe driving by the drivers of State Transport Undertakings. In the Budget for 2008-09, it has been proposed to award medals and cash prizes to the drivers of State Transport Undertakings who have accident-free record and a sum of Rs.1.20 crores has been released to all State Transport Undertakings during the year. The Institute of Road Transport selects young and energetic youths who have completed SSLC, for an intensive 12 week training on driving heavy transport vehicles. They are also trained in attending to repairs in heavy vehicles providing first aid etc. They are given priority in appointment in State Transport Undertakings. The Government have also ordered that a pass in SSLC / 10th Std. instead of 8th Std. should be the Minimum Educational Qualification for appointment of drivers in State Transport Undertakings. In certain State Transport Undertakings, system of 2 drivers has been introduced for driving the long distance vehicles during night journeys to reduce driver's fatigue. The Government have issued an order on suspension/cancellation of Driving Licenses for traffic violations. The State Transport Undertakings are uniformly taking tough stand on accidents by dismissing erring drivers.

6.1 Revival of 17 Training Centres

The number of Heavy Vehicle Driver Training Centres has been increased from 5 to 17. So far 45064 persons have been trained. To improve the quality of driver training, Institute of Road Transport is procuring four State – of – the – art Simulators, to be installed at Chennai, Trichy, Udumalpet and Madurai at a total cost of Rs. 5.20 crores. Tamilnadu is the first state in the country to have provided this facility to the drivers for training. The proposal for establishment of Model Driver Training Academy at Chromepet (Chennai) has been approved by the Ministry of Shipping, Transport and Highways, Government of India, New Delhi.

7. Amenities to the travelling public

In certain important bus stands and bus stops in Chennai City and other important cities, glow sign advertisement Boards have been provided for better security of passengers. To facilitate inter-transfer service, provision for parking the two wheelers of the commuters at the bus stands has been made. As the operations of Metropolitan and long distance buses have been shifted to the new Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus at Koyambedu, the Metropolitan Transport Corporation has introduced many buses in new routes to enable the commuters to reach the Koyambedu Bus Stand. Besides, the Operational jurisdiction of Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited has been extended by 10 more kilometres.i.e., upto 50 kms. and Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited, is operating services to places like Maraimalai Nagar, Chengalpattu, Padappai, Thiruporur, Sriperumpudur and Sunguvarchatram. These extended services have been well received by the public. They have fulfilled a long-felt need. Introduction of Volvo Air-conditioned Services in Chennai City has been received well by the Public, who want more of such services. Because of introduction of such high quality bus services in Chennai city, people have started switching from two / three wheelers mode of transport to the Metropolitan Transport Corporation buses.

7.1 The Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited, has proposed to implement Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM) under which a sum of Rs.1300 Crores will be spent for improvement of passenger transport in Chennai city in a span of 7 years.

7.2 Construction of New depots / Terminals, improvement of infrastructure in existing depots/ terminals, modernisation of passenger information system by installing Digital

Boards in Bus terminals to display the arrival and departure timings of bus service, monitoring bus movement by “Global Positioning System” (GPS) are proposed under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission. Already, Vehicle Tracking and Control System (VTCS) has been in operation for last two years in Metropolitan Transport Corporation and State Express Transport Corporation (Chennai – Trichy route) whereby the bus movements are monitored on real time basis and arrival of buses at bus stops is displayed in the digital boards put up at bus stops. This pilot project was funded by the Government of India. It is proposed to extend this facility based on GPS technology to at least 1000 Metropolitan Transport Corporation buses in Chennai City. The Pilot Project was completed in September 2008 and now Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Ltd is executing the Vehicle Tracking Control System. It has been proposed to bring all the bus services plying in the major corridors of Anna Salai, EVR Periyar Salai and Kamarajar Salai under this project in phased manner in the current year. Using the same GPS technology, Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Ltd has introduced in 10 buses the “Bus Stop Announcement” System for announcing the name of the on coming bus stop inside the bus., which will also be extended to other buses in phased manner.

7.3. Similarly, State Express Transport Corporation has introduced On-line Ticket Reservation System (OTRS) since last two years for the benefit of passengers. Under this scheme, a passenger can book tickets from “anywhere to anywhere”. There are 54 reservation counters spread over the State where this facility has been provided. The OTRS facility has been extended to other State Transport Undertakings. In the next step, internet booking of bus Tickets (e-ticketing) will be made available to the public of Tamil Nadu. State Transport Corporations have introduced Electronic hand -held Bus Ticketing machine, for the convenience of both the conductors and passengers.

8. Travel concessions

The Government have given travel concessions for travel in State Transport Corporation buses to the following categories of persons:

1. Members of Parliament, Members of Legislature, Ex-Members of Parliament, Legislative Assembly and Council.
2. Students
3. Accredited Journalists
4. Freedom Fighters drawing Central/State Pension and Widows and Legal-heirs of Freedom Fighters drawing Central Pension/State Pension.
5. Cancer Patients Physically handicapped, Deaf, Blind, Mentally Retarded and Epileptic patients.

6. Drama Artists

8.1 Concession to Students

With a view to benefitting all students and to give a real meaning to the concept of Education for all, all students studying from Standard I to Standard XII in all schools including private recognized schools and Students studying in Government Polytechnic and Government Arts & Science Colleges are provided with Free Travel Bus Passes to travel from residence to school / Polytechnic / Colleges and back. The free bus passes will be valid on all days including holidays. Similarly, the students studying in all other colleges including private colleges will be given 50% concessional travel bus passes to travel from residence to Colleges, Private Polytechnics, ITIs and Arts and Science Colleges and back. These passes will be valid on all days including holidays. Exchange tokens upto 60 in number are issued to the College students travelling in Metropolitan Transport Corporation buses to travel to the Library and back to their residence.

During the year 2008-2009, 29.21 lakhs students have been benefited. The reimbursement by the Government to the Transport Corporations came to Rs.300 crores during the year 2008-09 out of the claim of Rs.348 crores. The entire face value of the ticket is reimbursed by the Government in respect of passes issued by the Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited, in Chennai city, and in respect of Mofussil Transport Corporations the ticket cost is shared between the Government and the Corporation in the ratio of 56:44.

8.2 Concessions to commuters

For the benefit of general passengers, Monthly Season Tickets are issued collecting the Limited Stop Service (LSS) fare equivalent to 40 trips from the origin to destination for travel up and down on all days in a month in the Metro and Town services.

8.3 Travel As You Please Tickets

Passengers can travel anywhere in Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem, Trichy and Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation areas by purchasing tickets at the following rates subject to the conditions printed in the ticket. Recently Metropolitan Transport Corporation

(Chennai) Limited has introduced sale of "Travel As You Please" Daily tickets in the buses itself through conductors.

- 1) One day ticket : Rs. 30/-
- 2) Weekly ticket : Rs.160/-
- 3) Monthly ticket : Rs.600/-

8.4 Concession for group reservation

10% discount on fare is given in the buses of State Express Transport Corporation when reservation is done for 8 or more members as a group.

8.5 Concession for Senior Citizens

10% discount on fare is given in the buses of State Express Transport Corporation when reservation is done by Senior Citizen who has completed 60 years of age.

9. Labour Welfare Measures

The State Transport Undertakings are implementing the following welfare measures for the welfare of the workers and their families.

1. Wages with Allowances
2. Service Weightage
3. Leave benefits
4. Steering Allowance
5. Education Assistance
6. Subsidised canteen facilities
7. Uniform
8. Marriage Loan
9. Reimbursement of legal fees
10. Free Travel passes to the children of the employee
11. Family Benefit Fund
12. Voluntary Retirement Scheme
13. Holiday Home
14. Tamilnadu Government Employees New Employees Health Insurance Scheme.
15. Preferential Admission to Medical College, Engineering College and Polytechnics run by the Institute of Road Transport for the children of employees

16. The Pension Scheme for Transport employees
17. Employees' Post-Retirement Benefit Fund Scheme
18. Funeral expenses.

10. Lok Adalat

In order to reduce the expenditure on account of accident claim compensation and to settle the claim early, the State Transport Undertakings have been instructed to settle the claims through Lok Adalat and reach mutual settlement of accident claims and thus save huge amount to the State Transport Undertakings. During the year 2008-2009 the Corporations have settled 692 cases through Lok Adalat and saved a sum of Rs.539.35 lakhs.

11. Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation Limited

Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation Limited commenced its business in March 1975 to cater to the financial requirements of State Transport Undertakings towards the purchase of chassis, body building, setting up of workshops and as well as to meet the working capital requirements by mobilizing funds through public deposits. Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation Limited has been registered as a Non-banking Finance Company with the Reserve Bank of India and classified as a Hire Purchase Finance Company.

Financial Performance

Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation Limited has a track record of earning profit every year since its inception from 1975. The profit earned from 2002-03 is given below.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Profit before waiver of interest	Waiver of interest to STUs	Profit after waiver of interest but before tax	Income tax	Profit after tax
2002-2003	2576.62	1781.00	795.62	255.82	539.80

2003-2004	2897.42	2400.00	497.42	200.72	296.70
2004-2005	1796.16	1200.00	596.16	136.33	459.83
2005-2006	2439.58	1904.00	535.58	181.61	353.97
2006-2007	2584.48	2011.00	573.49	195.11	378.38
2007-2008	2395.59	1803.00	592.59	197.54	395.05
2008-2009	1183.53	600.00	583.53	198.34	385.19

As per the Budget Estimate for 2008-2009 the estimated profit is Rs.5.83 crores after providing for interest waiver of Rs. 6.00 crores to loss making STUs. The deposits with Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation Limited as on 31-03-2009 are Rs.943.11 crores. Financial assistance to State Transport Undertakings extended by Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation since its inception upto 2008-09 is Rs.7757.56 Crores. In order to encourage prompt repayment of loans by the State Transport Undertakings, Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation Limited has instituted "Best Customer" Award, which is given every year. For 2008-09, Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Villupuram) Limited, Metropolitan Transport Corporation Ltd and Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Kumbakonam) Limited, have been adjudged as 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively. Of course, the repayment rate of Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation loan by the State Transport Undertakings has been steadily falling over the years due to the bad financial health of State Transport Undertakings.

12. Pallavan Transport Consultancy Services Limited

Pallavan Transport Consultancy Services Limited was incorporated in April 1984 as a wholly owned company of Government of Tamil Nadu with an Authorized Capital of Rs.5.00 lakhs and Paid-up Capital of Rs.2.00 lakhs. Subsequently in May 2000 the Paid-up Share Capital was increased to Rs.10.00 lakhs with the Authorized Share Capital of Rs.50.00 lakhs. The activities of the company are supervised by eight Board Directors appointed by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The day-to-day affairs of the company are looked after by a full time professional Managing Director. The total Staff strength of the Organization is eleven (11) only.

Pallavan Transport Consultancy Services Limited offers Consultancy services in the areas of Software Development, Management, Information Technology and Traffic and Transportation by a core team of qualified and experienced consultants in the respective fields. The core team is supported by engaging personnel from Institute of Road Transport, Highways and retired Government executives with experience and the Professor / Faculty of Anna University in the relevant areas on job to job basis as and when required. Pallavan Transport Consultancy Services Limited is participating in tenders as consortium by associating with reputed Consultancy Organizations with rich experience in the relevant fields

12.1 On going Projects in Pallavan Transport Consultancy Services Ltd

Scaling up the GPS based Vehicle Tracking and Control System in Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Ltd to a total volume of 600 buses and enlarging the Scope of GPS to all Transport Corporation buses in Tamilnadu.

Setting up of Modernised and Computerised check posts at Pethikuppam (incoming and outgoing) and Hosur (incoming) which is a full automation of check post activities.

Implementation of the project of Installation of TV sets by adopting modern, internet technology in Tamilnadu State Transport Corporation buses under 'BOOM' concept.

Monitoring the Scaling up of the project of Online Ticket Reservation System (OTRS) for Tamil nadu State Transport Corporations, and introducing e-ticketing.

Development of LIS and EDMs for Tamil Nadu Archives Department.

Maintenance and upkeep of the software and database created for Motor Vehicles and Maintenance Department.

12.2 Future Projects of Pallavan Transport Consultancy Services Ltd

Implementation of e-auction for online disposal of condemned, old buses of Tamilnadu State Transport Corporations.

Development of Personnel Information System for Tamil Nadu Health Transport Department, Scanning and Microfilming of old and rare archival records for Tamil Nadu Archives Department.

13. Institute of Road Transport

The Institute of Road Transport is a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, in the year 1976. This Institute has entered its Thirty fourth year and continues to expand its services. The Institute undertakes applied research on issues pertaining to Road Transport, performs quality monitoring by conducting tests on random sample of spare parts procured by the State Transport Undertakings in Tamil Nadu, besides imparting training activities to the employees of State Transport Undertakings besides general public.

The Automobile Research Oriented Engineering College known as Institute of Road and Transport Technology was started in 1984 at Erode under the aegis of Institute of Road Transport. So far 5239 B.E. Graduates, 54 M.E. (Structural), 18 M.E. (Thermal) and 435 M.C.A. Post Graduates have completed the course from this Engineering College. The College has been accredited by A.I.C.T.E for the Bachelor's degree courses in Civil, Mechanical and Automobile Engineering. The Perundurai Medical College and Hospital was started in the year 1986 as per the scheme formulated by the Government. This College has produced 949 Doctors from inception. Further, the Institute of Road Transport also started three Polytechnic Colleges one each at Chrompet (Chennai), Bargur and Tirunelveli in 1992-93. It has been proposed to open a branch of Institute of Road Transport in Udumulpet in the lands owned by the Institute.

Both in Engineering and Medical Colleges, 65% of the seats are being filled up by the Government and the balance 35% seats are being allotted to the wards of employees of State Transport Undertakings on merit since inception and on communal rotation basis from the academic year 2006-2007. In Polytechnic Colleges, 50% of seats are being filled up under open quota as per the orders of the Director of Technical Education. The balance 50% seats are being allotted to the wards of the employees of State Transport Undertakings on merit basis. The total number of seats, seats filled under Government quota and under Management quota

in the Colleges run by the Institute are as detailed below:

S. No.	Description	Total No. of Seats	Government quota	Management quota
1.	Perundurai Medical College	60	39	21
2.	Engineering College			
	a) Bachelor Degree	360	234	126
	b) Master Degree M.E. (Structural) and M.E.(Thermal)	18	9	9
	MCA	60	30	30
3.	Polytechnic Colleges	520	260	260

The recurring expenditure of the educational institutions is met out of the interest earned on interest free loan (IFL) contributed by the employees of the State Transport Undertakings and the capital expenditure of these Educational Institutions is met out of special contributions received from the State Transport Undertakings.

The Institute of Road Transport is at present running Heavy Vehicle Driver Training Schools at 17 centres such as Institute of Road Transport - Gummidipoondi, Institute of Road Transport.- Trichy, State Express Transport Corporation - Madurai and Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation Limited Madurai Nagercoil, Dindigul, Tirunelveli, Pudukottai, Virudhunagar, Salem, Dharmapuri, Erode, Pollachi, Villupuram, Vellore, Karaikkudi and Kumbakonam in association with the State Transport Undertakings. Totally 45064 candidates have undergone Heavy Vehicle Driver Training Course up to 2008-2009. The Institute of Road Transport is also running Light Vehicle Driver Training Centres at Taramani, Chennai and Trichy for imparting training in light motor vehicle and in two-wheeler. The Institute of Road Transport is also acting as a Nodal Agency for purchase of major items like chassis, printing of tickets, bus body construction, tyres, R.T materials, Lubricants, Electronic ticketing machine etc., to cater to the needs of State Transport Undertakings in Tamil Nadu.

14. Motor Vehicles Maintenance Department

Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Maintenance Department, comprising 20 Government Automobile Workshops situated in various District Headquarters all over the State and 3 Regional Deputy Directorate at Trichy, Salem and Madurai is functioning for the past 57 years as a Service Department with the Director as the Head of Department. This Department is looking after the maintenance needs of nearly 14,000 Government Vehicles. A Secretariat Service Station is functioning to carry out minor and petty repairs of V.I.P Vehicles and Vehicles of Secretaries to Governments. There are 10 fuel Dispensing Bunks functioning under the control of this Department.

The work of Networking 20 Government Automobile Workshops with the Directorate has been taken up as a part of computerisation programme. The software for this purpose has been developed by M/s. Pallavan Transport Consultancy Services Limited and same is fully implemented. Motor Vehicle Maintenance Department has already been computerised and computers have been provided with broadband and internet facilities. In view of the above the vehicle position and stock position in the unit workshops are being monitored from the Directorate.

The main objective of this Department is to provide quality service to the Government Vehicles in an economical and efficient manner. In order to release the vehicles quickly after carrying out repairs, as a first step at Government Central Automobile Workshop, Chennai, necessary action is being taken to provide Generator set facility at a cost of Rs.17.40 lakhs.

Government have enhanced the purchase powers to the unit officers of Motor Vehicle Maintenance Department for purchasing spare parts and essential materials to attend to repairs. In view of this the down-time of the vehicles has been reduced radically and the vehicles reported for repair are released in short period.

15. Modernisation and Expansion of Chennai Airport

In the recent past Chennai has grown as a Hub for foreign direct investment in sectors like Manufacturing, Automobiles, Electronic Hardware, Information Technology, Services, etc. Such investment is still growing. Apart from this, a large number of foreign investors like Ford, Hyundai, Nissan – Renault, BMW, Saint Gobain, Motorola, Nokia and Foxconn etc., have made Chennai their production base. Tamil Nadu is also an important destination for foreign tourists. In recent years, the Chennai airport has recorded significant growth in both passenger traffic and cargo movement. Keeping all these in mind the Government decided to go for Modernisation and Expansion of Chennai Airport in co-ordination with the

Government of India. The Airports Authority of India, which is undertaking the modernization programme has proposed to spend about Rs.1808 crores on this. The modernization of Chennai Airport will be completed by 2010. Already 126 acres of lands was acquired by the State Government at a cost of Rs. 127.06 crores and handed over to Airports Authority of India. The works on expansion are going on. The State Government is also taking necessary action for establishing a Greenfield airport at Sriperumpudur.

Non Metro Airports

The State Government is taking necessary action to acquire 610 acres of lands for the expansion and modernisation of Madurai airport at a cost of Rs. 68.99 crores. In addition, the State Government is taking necessary action to acquire lands for expansion and modernisation of Non Metro Airports at Coimbatore, Trichy, Tuticorin and Salem as per the Master Plans submitted by Airports Authority of India.

Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Aeronautical Science and Training of Pilots Academy.

The Governmnet have decided to set up Shri Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Aeronautical Science and Training of Pilots Academy at Vellore as part of expansion of Vellore Airport. This would be taken up by the TIDCO in collaboration with Airports Authority of India.

16. Madras Flying Club

The Madras Flying Club was started in the year 1930 and over the years the Club has become a Centre of education for training boys and girls in flying and Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and a large number of Pilots and Engineers trained by this Club has been employed in Aviation Industry.

The Tamil Nadu Government is sanctioning Rs.3.80 lakhs per year for the Madras Flying Club as Fixed Subsidy and a sum of Rs.3.72 lakhs as Fuel Subsidy to meet the Establishment charges and other running expenditure of the Club.

K.N. NEHRU

MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

DEMAND NO.48**TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT****BUDGET ESTIMATE 2009-2010**

(Rupees in thousands)

Sl No.	Head of Department	Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
1	Secretariat	3068780	1250001	1250000	5568781
2	Motor Vehicles Maintenance Department	411175	1576	--	412751
	Total	3479955	1251577	1250000	5981532

DEMAND NO.48**TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT**

BUDGET ESTIMATE 2009-2010

(Rupees in thousands)

SI No.	Head of Department	Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
1	Secretariat Non-Plan	3068780	--	--	3068780
	State Plan	--	125,00,01	125,00,00	250,00,01
2	Motor Vehicles Maintenance Department Non-Plan	365519	--	--	365519
	State Plan	45656	1576	--	47232
	Total	3479955	1251577	1250000	5981532

New Schemes Under Part II for the year 2009-2010**Motor Vehicles Maintenance Department**

(Rupees in lakhs)

SI. No.	Name of the Scheme	Cost of the Scheme
1.	Provision of Generator facility in Government Central Automobile Workshop at Chennai of Motor Vehicles Maintenance Department	17.40
2.	Providing Mini Generators for the five fuel filling stations under the control of Motor Vehicles Maintenance Department	16.25
	Provision of New Road and	

3.	other civil works at Government Automobile Workshop at Nagercoil, Villupuram and Tirunelveli	15.75
	Total	49.40