

## **2.26. Art & Culture**

Tamil Nadu is a land of ancient temples and their related architectural features and sculptures. The State still maintains the classical tradition in paintings, dance and music. These fine arts play an important role in the life of people.

The State has been taking various steps to propagate our ancient traditional arts, protect, spread and create awareness about them among the people. The State also plays a role in patronizing and popularizing various forms of art and artists. The native art forms of Tamil Nadu are also disseminated through various institutions including the colleges of music, fine arts and sculpture, the Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nadaka Mandram, Tamil Nadu Ovia Nunkalai kuzhu and Tamil Nadu Jawahar Bala Bhavan.

### **Objectives**

The objectives with respect to the Art and Culture sector during the Plan period are to encourage the study of traditional fine arts such as classical music, sculpture etc., popularise and encourage traditional performing arts, execute excavation of important historical sites with specific focus on restoration and conservation of monuments, strengthen the preservation and management of records in the Archives by upgrading the infrastructure facilities and modernise and upgrade the museums to make them more accessible and attractive to the public.

### **Programmes**

#### ***Promotion of Arts and Crafts***

The schemes for promotion of Art and Culture such as development schemes for the Music Training Centres, grants to Jawahar Siruvar Mandram, Assistance to Centre for Tamil Culture for Folk arts, development of the Colleges of Arts and Crafts, renovation of Monuments and excavation of Archaeological sites, improvements to archives, conservation of monuments, Publication of books, Administrative Infrastructure of Tamil Nadu Archives and

Modernisation of Galleries, Infrastructure development works in Museums will be taken up during the Plan period.

It is proposed to implement the schemes such as Publication of inscriptions, Epigraphical and other books and modernisation at a cost of Rs.40.00 lakh. A sum of Rs.1.00 crore is proposed for the renovation of College of Fine Arts, Chennai which is an institution which has produced some of the finest talent in the country. Art festivals in villages, Artist camps, Art competitions at district and state levels and training in handicrafts for children in slum areas will be conducted with an outlay of Rs.14.00 lakh during 2008-09.

### ***Encouraging folk arts***

The Government has formed a separate welfare board for the socio- economic development of folk artists. With a view to give fillip to our folk arts, encouraging the folk artists and nurturing their zeal it is proposed to conduct the art festival Chennai Sangamam which was held successfully in Chennai all over the State, in a phased manner during the coming years.

### **Plan outlay for 2008-09**

For the sector on “Art and Culture”, an amount of Rs.135.30 crore is approved for the Eleventh Plan. **An outlay of Rs.31.53 crore is approved for Annual Plan 2008-09 for Art & Culture sector.**