

# The vibrant Schemes of Central and State Governments to Boost Village Administration

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## **Abstract**

Indira Awaas Yojana, which was a part of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, became an independent scheme from 1997-98 onwards. Its objective is construction of free houses to members of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, freed bonded labourers in rural areas and also to non-SC/ST rural poor people living below the poverty line. Beneficiaries are selected from the Below-the-Poverty-Line (BPL) list approved by the Grama Sabha. At least 60% of the total IAY allocation during a financial year should be utilized for construction/upgradation, of dwelling units for SC/ST, BPL households. A maximum 40% of allocation is for non-SC/ST BPL rural households. 3% of the above categories should be allocated for physically and mentally challenged persons. New houses as well as upgradation of kutchha houses are being taken up under the scheme. It is funded by the Centre and the State in the ratio of 75:25.

**Keywords:** Government Role, Polices, Welfare schemes and free facilities and poor people

## **New houses**

From 01.04.2005 onwards, the unit cost of a new house has been fixed at Rs. 25,000 for ordinary soil and Rs.27,500 for difficult soil. The minimum plinth area of a house should be 20 square metres. All new houses are provided with toilets and smokeless chulhas. Beneficiaries undertake the construction with locally available materials employing low cost technologies. As the cost of construction of new houses has increased substantially, it has been decided to raise the RCC roofing cost from the existing Rs.12, 000 to Rs.20, 000 per house. This along with the increase in unit cost as announced by the Central Government will raise the total cost of an IAY house from the existing Rs.37,000 and Rs.39,500 to Rs.55,000 and Rs.58,500 for ordinary soil and difficult soil respectively. A further subsidy of Rs.1,200 out of Total Sanitation Funds is dovetailed to enable each beneficiary to construct a toilet in the IAY house.

## **Chief Minister Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS)**

The Government ordered for the construction of 60,000 Solar Powered Green Houses of 300 square feet each, every year for five years commencing from 2011-12 at a unit cost of Rs. 1.80 lakhs per house. The scheme is named as “Chief Minister’s Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS).

### Salient features of the Scheme

- ❖ All the people living below poverty line in rural areas are eligible for Solar Powered Green Houses.
- ❖ Each house is built with an area of 300 square feet at a unit cost of Rs. 1.80 lakh fully funded by the State Government.
- ❖ Each house consists of a living room, bed room, kitchen, toilet and Verandah apart from Rain Water Harvesting Provision.
- ❖ Each house is provided with 5 solar powered Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL), one each in bed room, living room, kitchen, toilet and verandah. Each beneficiary is given the option to have an electric connection powered by TNEP, which will be metered.
- ❖ The unit cost is Rs.1.80 lakh per house, Rs.1.50 lakh for construction and Rs.30,000/- for Solar Powered Lights.
- ❖ The RD & PR Department is entrusted with the construction of houses and Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) is the implementing agency for solar lighting component.
- ❖ The Green Houses are constructed either insitu (replacing his/her existing dwelling structure) or in the land owned by the beneficiary elsewhere in the Village Panchayat. No land acquisition is envisaged under this scheme. Only people with patta for their sites are eligible under this scheme.
- ❖ The supply, installation and commissioning of solar panels and lights are undertaken directly by TEDA by following established procedures in co-ordination with the Project Directors of District Rural Development Agencies.

### Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGP) - Tamil Nadu

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was enacted in September 2005. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was launched on 02.02.2006 and was initially implemented in six districts, viz., Cuddalore, Dindigul, Nagapattinam, Sivagangai, Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram from 02.02.2006 onwards and in four more districts viz. Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Tirunelveli and Karur from 01.04.2007 onwards. From 01.04.2008 onwards, the scheme was extended to the remaining twenty districts of the State, 1. Ariyalur, 2. Dharmapuri, 3. Perambalur, 4. Pudukottai, 5. Ramanathapuram, 6. Namakkal, 7. Vellore, 8. Thoothukudi, 9. Virudhunar 10. Salem, 11.Erode, 12. Tiruchirapalli, 13. Kancheepuram 14. Theni, 15. Tiruvallur, 16. Madurai, 17. Nilgiris, 18. Kanniyakumari, 19. Coimbatore and 20. Krishnagiri.

### Objectives of the Scheme

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA) guarantees 100 days of employment in a financial year to any rural household whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work. This act is an important step towards the realization of the right to work. It is also expected to enhance people's livelihoods on a sustained basis, by developing the economic and social infrastructure in rural areas. The

Village Panchayat will issue job cards to every registered individual. Payment of the statutory minimum wage and equal wages for men and women is the notable feature of the scheme.

National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme - TN under National Rural Employment Guarantee.

### **Funding Pattern**

The cost of the scheme is shared between the Centre and the State in the ratio of 90:10.

### **Priority of works**

Taking into account the field conditions in Tamil Nadu, the works are being taken up in Tamil Nadu in the following priority:

- a) Formation of new ponds.
- b) Renovation of existing Ponds, Kuttais, Kulams, Ooranies, Temple tanks, etc.
- c) Desilting of channels.
- d) Desilting and strengthening of bunds of irrigation tanks.
- e) Formation of new roads.
- f) Other water conservation/soil conservation measures/flood protection measures.

### **Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)**

The Government of India restructured the Comprehensive Rural Sanitation Programme with effect from 1.4.1999 and launched the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC).

The main objectives of the TSC are to bring about an improvement in the general quality of life in the rural areas and to accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas to have access to toilets by 2012 by motivating communities and Panchayati Raj Institutions in promoting sustainable sanitation facilities through awareness creation and health education.

Individual Household Latrines, School Toilets, Anganwaadi Toilets, Sanitary Complexes and Rural Sanitary Marts are taken up under the scheme.

The project envisages a demand-driven approach with increased stress on awareness building and meeting the demand with alternate delivery mechanisms. With effect from 1.4.2006, the sharing pattern between the Centre and the State for school, Anganwadi and sanitary complex, the Government of India has increased the unit cost of IHHL (BPL) from Rs.1,500 to Rs.2,500 and the sharing pattern for IHHL w.e.f. 1.08.2008 is as given below.

The maintenance of sanitation and hygiene in the villages are the mandatory duties of Village Panchayats as envisaged under Sec.110 (d) of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994. The disposal of solid waste and sewage water is becoming a major problem for many Village Panchayats especially those situated in the vicinity of the Corporation and bigger Municipalities and individual Village Panchayats may not be a viable unit for contracting out solid waste management and sewage disposal. Hence, it is proposed to group several

suburban Village Panchayats into clusters so as to form a viable unit for contracting out or allow Village Panchayats to enter into partnership with the neighbouring Corporations or Municipalities in this regard.

### **Mahalir Thittam by the Tamil Nadu Corporation for development of women Ltd. (TNCDW)**

Mahalir Thittam is a socio-economic empowerment programme for women implemented by Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd. Mahalir Thittam is based on Self Help Group (SHG) approach and is implemented in partnership with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Community based organizations. The SHG approach was started in a small way in Dharmapuri district in the year 1989 with the assistance of International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Later the scheme was extended to Salem and South Arcot districts in the year 1991-1992 and further extended to Madurai and Ramanathapuram in the year 1992-93. Following the success of the IFAD project, Mahalir Thittam project was launched with State Government funding from 1997-1998. Today the SHG movement is a very vibrant movement spread across all districts of the State with nearly 59,00,000 women as members. As on 31.3.2009, there are 3,91,311 SHGs with a total savings of Rs.2062.04 crores.

Mahalir Thittam is implemented in partnership with NGOs who help in the formation of SHGs, provide training and monitor them. The NGOs are given funds for providing the above services. Interested NGOs are affiliated as partners with Mahalir Thittam if they satisfy the norms for affiliation.

The hallmark of the SHGs promoted by Mahalir Thittam is the systematic training provided to the SHG members and the office bearers. This capacity building brings about qualitative changes in the attitude of women and promotes cohesion and effective functioning of the group.

All the SHG members are imparted training in 4 modules for 4 days to orient them to the SHG concept. The office bearers of the SHGs (Animator and Representative) are given training in 3 modules for 6 days. This training enhances the leadership quality, team building spirit and capacity to maintain books of accounts. In addition, SHG members who are interested in starting economic activities or develop skills to get self employment are provided skill training. The skill training includes a 5 day capsule on entrepreneurial development.

In order to bring about synergy and better coordination in the implementation of SHG programmes, TNCDW which was under the administrative control of Social Welfare Department was brought under the administrative control of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

### **Panchayat Level Federation (PLF)**

In Mahalir Thittam, federations of SHGs are formed at Village Panchayat Level called Panchayat Level Federation (PLF). These federations, by pooling in talent and resources and exploiting economies of scale in production and marketing, can benefit member SHGs immensely. They can also guide and monitor functioning of SHGs in all Village Panchayats and strengthening them is the key for ensuring sustainability and self-reliance of SHGs.

### **Rural Building Maintenance Renovation Scheme (RBMRS)**

Rural Buildings Maintenance and Renovation Scheme (RBMRS) was introduced with an objective of maintaining the assets of rural Local Bodies. Continuous and proper maintenance of the buildings should be done so as to have the full utilization of the assets created. Hence, this Government has decided to implement the programme of RBMRS with an annual outlay of Rs. 100 crores under the State Finance Commission Grand for the year 2011-2012. During 2011-12, priority was given to renovate the Integrated Sanitary Complexes for women under the scheme.

### **Member of Legislative Assembly scheme (MLA scheme)**

Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme is fully funded by the State Government. The main objective of the scheme is to take up works to bridge the critical infrastructural gaps in the Assembly Constituencies. Under this scheme, each MLA proposes the works that should be executed in his constituency. The District Collector gives administrative sanction for the works. This scheme was introduced in 1997-98. The allocation per constituency has been increased progressively. Lastly it was increased from Rs. 12 crore to Rs. 1.50 crore vide. 50% of the allocation (Rs. 75 lakhs) is earmarked for priority works specified by Government.

### **Works to be taken up under the Tied Component of Rs. 75 lakhs**

Since a large number of Anganwadi Buildings, Noon Meal Centres and Noon Meal Kitchen Sheds, especially, in urban areas and to a lesser extent in rural areas are functioning in dilapidated buildings; a phased program of construction of new buildings for such cases has to be taken up. Hence, each MLA should allot Rs. 10 lakhs for construction of Anganwadi Buildings, Noon Meal Centres, Noon Meal Kitchen Sheds from MLACDs in rural and urban areas and thus a total amount of Rs. 23.50 crores shall be made available for such works in the State. From the remaining amount of Rs. 65 lakhs of the Tied Component, the MLA can choose one or more of the following works for any amount according to his choice, subject to the overall ceiling of Rs. 65 lakhs.

## Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)

The objective of this Scheme is to fill in the gaps existing in the provision of infrastructure through various Central and State schemes thereby enabling wholesome development. A sum of Rs.2 crore is allotted per Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) per year for taking up developmental works identified by the concerned M.P. In the case of Lok Sabha, the scheme is implemented in the districts falling within the constituency of the concerned MP. In the case of Rajya Sabha, the MP can suggest works in one or more districts within the State from which he is elected. As far as the nominated MPs are concerned, they can suggest works anywhere in India. The District Collector gives administrative sanction for the works. The guidelines contain a 'negative list' of works not permitted under this scheme and also an illustrative list of works that may be taken up. Under the scheme, all maintenance works of any type are prohibited. Desilting of ponds, rivers, tanks, canals etc. are also treated as maintenance activities and cannot be taken up under MPLADS.

### Illustrative List of Works that can be taken up under MPLADS

1. Construction of buildings for schools, hostels, libraries and other buildings of educational institutions belonging to Government or local bodies. Such buildings belonging to aided institutions and unaided but recognised institutions can also be constructed, provided the institution be in existence for not less than two years.
2. Construction of tube-wells and water tanks for providing water to the people in villages, towns or cities, or execution of other works, which may help in this respect. Water tankers can also be purchased for providing drinking water.
3. Construction of roads including part roads, approach roads, link roads, etc. in villages and towns and cities. Very selectively kutch roads, can also be constructed where the MP concerned and the District Head agree to meet the locally felt need.
4. Construction of culverts bridges on the roads of above description and of open cut or tube wells.
5. Construction of common shelters for the old or handicapped.
6. Construction of buildings for local bodies for recognised District or State Sports Associations and for cultural and sports activities or for hospitals. Provision of multi-gym facilities in gymnastic centres, sports associations, physical education training institutions etc. is also permissible.
7. Special forestry, farm forestry, horticulture, pastures, parks and gardens in Government and community lands or other surrendered lands.
8. Desilting of ponds in villages, towns and cities.
9. Construction of public irrigation and public drainage facilities.
10. Construction of common gobar gas plants, non-conventional energy systems/devices for community use and related activities.
11. Construction of irrigation embankments, or lift irrigation or water table recharging facilities.
12. Construction of public libraries and reading rooms.

13. Construction of creches and anganwadis.
14. Construction of public health care buildings, including family welfare sub-centres together with the ANM residential quarters. Such buildings belonging to aided institutions also can be constructed.
15. Construction of crematoriums and structures on burial/cremation grounds.
16. Construction of public toilets and bathrooms.
17. Construction of drains and gutters.
18. Construction of footpaths, pathways and footbridges.
19. Provision of civic amenities like electricity, water, pathways, public toilets, etc. in slum areas of cities, town and villages and in SC/ST habitations, provision of common work-sheds in slums and for artisans.
20. Construction of residential schools in tribal areas.
21. Construction of bus-sheds/stops for public transport passengers.
22. Construction of veterinary aid centres, artificial insemination centres and breeding centres.
23. Procurement of hospital equipment like X-Ray machines, ambulances for Government Hospitals and setting up of mobile dispensaries in rural areas by Government Panchayati Institutions. Ambulances can be provided to reputed service organisations like Red Cross, Ramakrishna Mission, etc.
24. Electronic Projects:
  - i) Computer in education project of High school/College
  - ii) Information footpath
  - iii) Ham Club in high schools
  - iv) Citizen band radio
  - v) Bibliographic data-base projects.
25. Construction of Level Crossing at unmanned Railway crossing.
26. Purchase of Audio-Visual Aids of educational nature for Government, Government-aided and also unaided but Government recognised educational institutions provided there is proper place and proper provision for safe custody of these aids.
27. Purchase of Night Soil Disposal System for local bodies.
28. Purchase of motor boats for flood and cyclone affected areas.
29. "Works related to animal care/ welfare like construction of buildings/ shelters, provision of ambulances, medical equipment and development of infrastructure facilities like provision of drinking water, drainage, etc."
30. Purchase of motor boats for flood and cyclone affected areas.
31. "Works related to animal care/ welfare like construction of buildings/ shelters, provision of ambulances, medical equipment and development of infrastructure facilities like provision of drinking water, drainage, etc."

### List of works not permissible under MPLADS

1. Office buildings, residential buildings, and other buildings relating to Central or State Governments, Departments, Agencies or Organisations.
2. Works belonging to commercial organisations, private institutions or co-operative institutions.
3. Repair and maintenance works of any type other than special repairs for restoration/up-gradation of any durable asset.
4. Grand and loans.
5. Memorials or memorial buildings.
6. Purchase of inventory or stock of any type.
7. Acquisition of land or any compensation for land acquired.
8. Assets for all individual benefit, except those which are part of approved schemes.
9. Places for religious worship.

### Thai Thittam

This Government has introduced the flagship programme called Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme from 2011-12 onwards to overcome the bottlenecks in the uneven distribution of resources and to provide minimum basic infrastructure facilities to all the habitations. **Tamil Nadu is the only State focusing on 'Habitation' as the unit of development and no other State in the Country is implementing such an innovative scheme.**

There are about 7 habitations on an average for each Village Panchayat in Tamil Nadu with 79,394 habitations in 12,524 Village Panchayats. However, the number of habitations varies from District to district. The average number of habitations in a Village Panchayat in The Nilgiris District is 37, whereas it is only 3 in Villupuram District. Therefore, allocation of equal amount to all the Village Panchayats, with varied number of habitations, has led to disparity in development, disproportionate distribution of assets and uneven progress. The THAI scheme has come as boon with the aim of extending the basic facilities to the grassroots habitation.

### Conclusion

In order to make healthier administration, much newly coined ideas, polices and schemes are launched in rural India with an aim to ameliorate village panchyat system for create green full life in people life. All enforced polices are good and guaranteed toward safety and security of rural India people with enough survival capability. In future village centered polices and schemes are to enforced to develop village people life patterns

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