# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

## POLICY NOTE
## 2025 – 2026

## DEMAND No. 31

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Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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## INDEX

| Chapter | Contents | Page No. |
|---------|----------|----------|
| 2.5 | Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) | 138-140 |
| **III** | **TAMIL NADU ARASU CABLE TV CORPORATION LIMITED (TACTV)** | **141-148** |
| 3.1 | Introduction | 141-142 |
| 3.2 | Vision | 142 |
| 3.3 | Mission | 142 |
| 3.4 | Digitalization of Cable TV Service | 143-144 |
| 3.5 | Arasu e-Sevai Centres | 145 |
| 3.6 | Permanent Enrolment Centres (PECs) for Aadhaar | 145-147 |
| 3.7 | Tamil Nadu Cable TV Operators and Workers Welfare Board | 147-148 |

# INTRODUCTION

எப்பொருள் யார்யார்வாய்க் கேட்பினும் அப்பொருள்
மெய்ப்பொருள் காண்ப தறிவு.

**(குறள் 423)**

**Wisdom is not just accepting whatever someone says about a subject, but rather investigating and clarifying what is true.**

Information Technology (IT) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITeS) have emerged as significant contributors to the economy and major job creators.

India's IT industry is poised for robust growth in 2025-26, with overall spending expected to reach $160 billion and IT exports projected at $220 billion, accounting for a significant share of global outsourcing. This growth is set to create new jobs, boosting national employment in the sector.

Tamil Nadu, as the third-largest software exporter in the country, is well-positioned to capitalize on this momentum. With Chennai known as the "SaaS Capital of India" and a growing presence of major IT companies in Tier-2 cities such as Coimbatore and Madurai, Tamil Nadu offers both robust infrastructure and a deep talent pool—housing 35 of India's top 100 colleges and producing the highest number of PhD graduates.

While challenges such as skill gaps in emerging technologies, infrastructure limitations in smaller cities, cybersecurity threats, and global economic pressures persist, Tamil Nadu's proactive policies, strategic investments, and focus on innovation and foreign investment are driving its ambition to become a global hub for IT, deep-tech, and AI-driven growth.

Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited (ELCOT) aids the State's IT development.

ELCOT promotes IT SEZ parks, supports start-ups, manages data centers, and facilitates digital infrastructure and telecom services across Tier-II and Tier-III cities. ELCOT has spearheaded joint ventures like TIDEL Park-Chennai and Elnet Technologies, and supported FinTech start-ups through FinBlue. ELCOT's initiatives also include participation in global events, and hosting flagship programs like "UMAGINE TN" annually since 2023, which showcased emerging technologies such as AI and deep tech. It also implements critical policies such as Tamil Nadu Telecom Infrastructure Policy and Tamil Nadu Cyber Security Policy, while actively fostering an innovation ecosystem through collaborations and academic partnerships. Its eight SEZ-based IT parks (ELCOSEZ) located in Chennai and other Tier-2 cities, have generated significant employment and exports, reinforcing Tamil Nadu's position as a leading digital economy.

The Directorate of e-Governance (DeG) and Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA), lead digital governance in the State. While DeG focuses on policy and compliance, TNeGA delivers digital public services, including e-Sevai and develops software using AI, GIS and Blockchain, also implements services like e-District and eOffice (paperless office).  TNeGA has launched several platforms, including Tamil Nadu Single Sign-On (TNSSO) for unified login, and the DiTN (DigitalTN) Strategy for SMART Governance. Government e-mail services have grown significantly and mandatory security audits safeguard Government applications. The IT Assessment Portal guides digital maturity across departments. University Management Information System (UMIS) integrates higher education data and supports schemes like Pudhumai Penn, while the State Scholarship Portal simplifies access to welfare schemes.

TNeGA ensures data purity through regular analysis to identify eligible beneficiaries for welfare schemes like the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam (KMUT) and Tamil Pudhalvan, ensuring effective distribution of benefits. The dashboards also support regular review meetings, driving continuous improvements in governance. The Chief Minister's Dashboards track performance across departments, enabling real-time, data-driven governance.

Tamil Nadu Geographical Information System (TNGIS) offers over 200 data layers to government agencies and supports planning, welfare, and land-related services. The State Family Database (SFDB) and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) platforms improve service delivery and transparency, with over Rs.16,429 crore transferred to 1.43 crore beneficiaries. A real-time dashboard for the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme is deployed over 34,000 schools. TNeGA

implements e-Governance, AI Data & Blockchain policies, supports other government departments and contributes to State-wide digital initiatives like the Single Window Portal and e-transactions tracking for SDG monitoring.

Tamil Nadu Artificial Intelligence Mission (TNAIM) was launched in 2024 to promote AI research, governance applications, and ethical use. The Blockchain Policy supports secure governance through platforms like Nambikkai Inaiyam, which has secured millions of certificates and documents. The Growers Online Registration of Agriculture Input System (GRAINS) project integrates farmer and land data for targeted scheme delivery, while initiatives like SimpleGov and Aadhaar-based services improve process efficiency.

Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA) promotes Tamil language and culture through digital education and tools. It offers academic programs,

operates global contact centers, and digitizes Tamil literature and manuscripts. TVA has developed Unicode fonts, computing tools and AI-based software like sentiment analyzers and syntactic parsers. TVA organized "KaniTamil24" conference to promote Tamil in emerging tech.

Through BharatNet, Tamil Nadu is expanding broadband connectivity to 12,525 Gram Panchayats. The Last Mile Connectivity (LMC) and Unified Digital Infrastructure (UDI) projects implemented by Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation Limited (TANFINET) aim to connect rural and urban areas affordably.

Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation Limited (TACTV) offers cable services to over 14 lakh users, along with e-Sevai and Aadhaar services, while supporting the welfare of 20,000 cable workers. The Tamil Nadu Cable TV Operators and Workers Welfare Board, restructured in 2024, provides welfare assistance

to industry workers, benefiting over 2,100 members with financial aid.

ICT Academy of Tamil Nadu (ICTACT) enhances higher education through industry-relevant training, especially in smaller towns. In 2024–25, it certified over 31,000 students, trained 7,500 faculty, and supported innovation through hackathons and CSR programs.

The iTNT Hub, India's first deep-tech innovation hub, focused on deep tech and emerging technologies, supports start-ups in AI, robotics and health tech, offering services like incubation, acceleration and infrastructure. The hub promotes global collaboration, industry-academia partnerships and research commercialization, while hosting events and signing MoUs with international organizations and participation in events like UmagineTN, to showcase regional startups and foster investor connections.

# CHAPTER-I

# ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED (ELCOT)

## 1.1 Introduction

Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited (ELCOT), a wholly owned Public Sector Undertaking of the Government of Tamil Nadu, was established on March 21, 1977. ELCOT has been a key enabler of the State's progress in the Information Technology Sector, including emerging fields like Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming & Comics, and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR).

ELCOT was established with an objective to promote, establish and operating State PSUs in electronics, electromedical and space technologies. It was tasked with undertaking the entire spectrum of business activities, including research and development, manufacturing, procurement, supply and services, facilitating

testing and servicing infrastructure to creation of functional industrial estates for control applications, electronic circuits, materials, entertainment equipment, space research and electronic industries.

ELCOT now plays the role of IT sector promoter and facilitator in the State and also the anchor investor in the development of IT sector across various cities in Tamil Nadu. The establishment of IT towers and estates particularly in Tier II and III cities of Tamil Nadu to nurture them to prosper as IT hubs has been a key function of ELCOT. Investment promotion and facilitation in the sector along with policy formulation in emerging areas of the IT industry are other key areas of ELCOT's operations.

ELCOT has also invested in ventures such as TIDEL Park Limited, TIDEL Park Coimbatore Limited, ELNET Technologies Limited to promote IT sector growth. It has also undertaken special

initiatives like FinBlue jointly with the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) to support the StartUps in fintech sector. Additionally, it functions as the optional procurement agency for Government departments for IT hardware and skilled IT manpower resources, undertakes data centre services and acts as the State's nodal agency for telecom and Aadhar related services.

## 1.2 Focus areas

ELCOT operates with a strategic focus on the following core areas:

i. **IT Promotion, facilitation and policy**: ELCOT actively promotes Tamil Nadu as a premier destination for IT businesses through investment promotion, facilitation and after care, policy formulation and implementation as well as by nurturing the growth of emerging sectors.

ii.   **IT Parks and Towers**: ELCOT has established IT Towers and Parks in its Special Economic Zones across the State, fostering sectoral growth and investment.

iii.  **Joint Ventures**: ELCOT has invested in various joint venture companies to promote IT sector investments and growth in the State. These JVs are actively contributing to spearheading the IT sector growth across Tamil Nadu.

iv.   **Data Centre**: ELCOT operates the Tamil Nadu State Data Centre and Disaster Recovery Centre to provide secure, robust and scalable data centre solutions to meet the critical digital infrastructure needs of Government Departments.

v.    **IT Hardware Procurement and HR Services**: ELCOT facilitates the procurement of IT products for various

Government Departments, ensuring efficiency, standardization, and reliability in public sector operations. It also provides outsourced skilled IT manpower services to various Government Departments and Organizations.

vi. **Telecom Sector Facilitation and citizen e-services**: ELCOT facilitates the grant of Right-of-way permissions for establishing new telecom infrastructure.

By leveraging these key pillars, ELCOT plays a vital role in advancing the Government of Tamil Nadu's vision for digital governance, innovation, and IT-driven economic development.

## 1.3 IT Promotion, facilitation and policy

ELCOT plays a major role in making Tamil Nadu as a preferred destination of choice for Information Technology (IT) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITeS) companies

and to promote Tamil Nadu as a preferred destination for IT and ITeS investments. ELCOT participated in various business events in India and across the world to promote the IT sector of Tamil Nadu.

## 1.3.1 UMAGINE TN 2025

ELCOT successfully conducted "UMAGINE TN 2025", a technological and innovation summit, on behalf of Government of Tamil Nadu on 9th and 10th January 2025 at Chennai Trade Centre.

The 3rd edition of "UMAGINE" event was a grand success with 12,500+ registrations. Spread over two days, the summit featured keynotes, fireside chats and panel discussions along with Investment pitches, Product showcases and Technology showcases with focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Deep tech, Climate Change, Quantum Computing, Startup ecosystem,

Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, Global Capability Centre, Talent Development and Electric Vehicle.

Total foot fall for the event was around 13,000 in "UMAGINE TN 2025" consisted of 46 sessions and 170 speakers delivered excellent speeches on variety of topics that attracted 17,000 visitors across two days from Industries, Academia and Tech Enthusiasts.

The exhibition was also a grand one with around 150 exhibitors, showcasing the success of the State in IT/ITeS Sector. This tech showcase featured an array of innovative products, services and solutions from leading Companies and Startups in various sectors. Attendees had the chance to witness the latest advancements in technology for transforming industries and shaping the future, enabling them to gain valuable insights and inspiration for their own organizations and initiatives.

Further, the Information Technology and Digital Services Department showcased a separate stall as "TN IT pavilion" to present the various projects handled by the Department. IT Tower Miniature Model (ELCOSEZ-Sholinganallur, Chennai), Video Presentation of all ELCOSEZs and other projects of ELCOT were presented.

TNeGA showcased their application on e-Sevai, Scholarship Scheme, Growers Online Registration of Agriculture Input System (GRAINS), University Management Information System (UMIS) and other e-Governance initiatives. TVA and TANFINET displayed their services through Video Presentation, and Infrastructure Model also was displayed by TANFINET. Presentation and ideas of ICT Academy Skill Development Initiatives were also displayed. Immersive and Gaming experience, working model prototype of space debris removal were displayed by iTNT Hub.

iTNT Hub exchanged a MoU with Maker Village, Kochi in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS and Dignitaries. It is aimed at building a robust innovation ecosystem, establishing a long-term framework, and promoting co-operation among stakeholders.

The Grand Innovation Challenge was launched which invites startups to develop transformative geo-spatial solutions for real-world challenges. Also, dedicated Deep tech & Emerging tech startup arena were showcased.

During this event, Foam Board - a program for iTNT Foundation Fund was launched. iTNT Hub entered into MoU with National Partners such as CDAC- Chennai, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), Visual Effects Game Animation Society (VEGAS), IITM Research Park, NASSCOM Foundation and Co-incubation agreements were exchanged with Deep Tech focused incubators. 35 Colleges were onboarded in the Jigsaw portal, a centralized

platform for collaboration between Academia, Industry, Startups, Investors and Students.

During this event, ICT Academy Research Publications were released. ICT Academy signed MoU with companies such as A2000, HCL Technologies, Bahwan Cyber Tek, Intellect Design Arena, Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) for various projects and an MoU for establishment of Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Electronic System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) at Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai. Website has been launched for TANII project for enabling Project Based Learning for 10,000 Students across Tamil Nadu in Arts and Science domain.

## 1.3.2 Policy

The State has developed dedicated policies to promote the IT/ITeS, emerging sectors in

Tamil Nadu, with ELCOT overseeing their implementation.

a. **Tamil Nadu Information and Communication Technology Policy 2018:**

To make Tamil Nadu an innovation led knowledge economy by creating an enabling ecosystem for investments in Information Technology and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITeS) sector, ELCOT is in the process of revamping and upgrading the "Tamil Nadu Information and Communication Technology Policy 2018" in line with the current needs of the industry.

b. **Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming & Comics (AVGC) and Extended Reality (XR) Policy:**

To transform Tamil Nadu into a leading AVGC-XR ecosystem of India and a global powerhouse in terms of trade, content and market recognition and as per the announcement made in

the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, a new draft policy for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming & Comics (AVGC) and Extended Reality (XR) has been formulated with detailed inputs from the sector experts and is under the consideration of Government.

### c. Tamil Nadu Data Centre Policy 2021:

To develop Tamil Nadu as the number one destination for Data Centres by catering to all the specific requirements of data centres and providing them with an attractive business environment, ELCOT is implementing the "Tamil Nadu Data Centre Policy 2021".

## 1.3.3 Investment Facilitation

A dedicated **Investment Facilitation Desk** is being established at ELCOT to facilitate IT/ITeS companies including emerging sectors in Tamil Nadu by providing comprehensive assistance to them throughout the business cycle.

This desk will be serving as a single point of contact, offering end-to-end facilitation services including on regulatory approvals, policy benefits and after care support.

## 1.4 IT Towers and Parks

ELCOT's growth strategy is built around the main objectives such as creating new IT parks with world-class IT infrastructure across Tamil Nadu, promoting IT investments and developing skills. ELCOT has established 8 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Chennai and Tier-II cities viz. Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Salem, Tirunelveli and Hosur with a total extent of 1288.03 acres (1184.64 acres of SEZ and 103.39 acres of non-SEZ) at an investment of Rs.852.46 crore.

As reported by the allottees, 1,13,841 persons are directly employed in these 8 IT Parks of ELCOT. Apart from the direct employment, the IT parks provide indirect employment and also

acts as an anchor player by developing the region in IT space. The total value of services exported from ELCOSEZ amounts to Rs.27,390 Crore in FY 2023-24 and Rs.33,268 Crore in FY 2024-25 (as on March 2025).

## 1.4.1 ELCOSEZ–Sholinganallur, Chennai

ELCOT set up an ELCOSEZ in Sholinganallur, Chennai on 377.08 acres of land at a cost of Rs.258.56 crore by creating necessary common infrastructure and an administrative building.

ELCOT has leased out a total of 218.7 acres of land to various companies including M/s.Wipro Ltd., M/s.HCL Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Tech Mahindra Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Ford Motors Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Cognizant Technology Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Sutherland Global Services Ltd., and M/s.Royal Enfield. These companies have generated employment opportunities for approximately 74,115 persons. An Information

Technology Tower of about 2.33 lakh sq.ft. is being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.88.21 crore to meet the growing demand of quality IT space for IT/ITeS companies in Chennai.

## 1.4.2 ELCOSEZ-Vilankurichi, Coimbatore

ELCOT established an ELCOSEZ on 61.59 acres of land at a cost of Rs.217.46 crore by creating necessary common infrastructure. ELCOT has leased out a total of 20.84 acres of land to M/s. Wipro Ltd., M/s. Tidel Park Coimbatore Ltd., and M/s. Access Health Care Services Pvt. Ltd., These companies have generated employment opportunities for approximately 22,900 persons. An Information Technology Tower of about 2.66 lakh sq.ft. has been constructed at a cost of Rs.114.16 crore. Companies including M/s. Capgemini Technology Services India Ltd., M/s. TexilaEducare Healthcare and Technology Enterprises Private Ltd., M/s. Value Momentum

Software Services Private Ltd., M/s. MedCode Services Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Hedgemark Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. iGenius Artificial Intelligence Services Pvt. Ltd., and M/s. MKS Vision Private Ltd., have taken up the spaces and will be commencing commercial operations in this financial year.

### 1.4.3 ELCOSEZ–Madurai

### a) ELCOSEZ–Ilandhaikulam, Madurai

ELCOT set up an ELCOSEZ on 28.91 acres of land at a cost of Rs.34 crore, by creating necessary common infrastructure and constructing an Administrative-cum-IT building measuring 60,652 sq.ft. M/s.Honeywell Technologies Ltd., M/s.HCL Technologies Ltd., M/s. Chella Software Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Rebar design & Details Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Neeyamo Enterprises Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s. SBL Knowledge Services

Ltd., and M/s. NB Media Tech are presently operational with 8,940 employees.

## b) ELCOSEZ–Vadapalanji, Madurai

ELCOT has established an ELCOSEZ on 245.17 acres of land (213 acres of SEZ and 32.17 acres of Non-SEZ) at a cost of Rs.70 crore by creating necessary common infrastructure and constructing an Administrative-cum-IT building measuring 70,139 sq.ft. M/s.Pinnacle Infotech Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Chainsys Software Exports Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Dew Info-Systems Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Global Associates, M/s.Osiz Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Sashma Global Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Shriman Technologies Pvt. Ltd, M/s.Cloud Vantage Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Infix  services Private Limited., M/s.Neeyamo Enterprise Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Neeyamo Works Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s.Medlearn vision Health Care Solutions Pvt. Ltd., and M/s. Techno Genesis Software Solutions

Pvt. Ltd., are some of the companies operational in this SEZ with 2,786 employees.

### 1.4.4 ELCOSEZ–Navalpattu, Tiruchirappalli

ELCOT has established an ELCOSEZ on 147.61 acres of land with an investment of Rs.88.44 crore, creating the necessary common infrastructure and constructing an Administrative-cum-IT building measuring 59,960 sq.ft. An Information Technology Tower of about 1.16 lakh sq.ft. has been constructed at a cost of Rs.59.57 crore and was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 17.02.2024. M/s. Esskay Design and Structures Pvt. Ltd., M/s. iLinkMultitech Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s. SPI Technologies India Pvt. Ltd., M/s. iLink System Pvt. Ltd.,M/s. VuramTechnology Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s.GI Tech Gaming Co. India Pvt. Ltd., M/s. VDart Technologies and M/s. VR Della IT Services Pvt. Ltd., are some of the companies located and as of now 1,380 persons are employed.

### 1.4.5 ELCOSEZ–Gangaikondan, Tirunelveli

ELCOT established an ELCOSEZ on a land extent of 199.87 acres with an investment of Rs.55 crore, creating the necessary common infrastructure and constructing an Administrative-cum-IT building measuring 57,107 sq.ft. M/s. Syntel International Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Fishin India Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Ranger Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Caliber Inter connect Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Silicon Oasis Pvt Ltd. and M/s. A2000 Solutions Pvt. Ltd., are some of the allottees. Around 970 persons are employed here.

### 1.4.6 ELCOSEZ–Jagirammapalayam, Salem

ELCOT established an ELCOSEZ on a land extent of 53.33 acres with an investment of Rs.44 crore, creating the necessary common infrastructure and constructing an Administrative-cum-IT building measuring 62,174 sq. ft. M/s. VeeTechnologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Nuratech

Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Sundar sons Exports, M/s. Nobl Q Technologies, M/s. Anmol Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Focus R Consultancy and Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. VeeHealthtek Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Zealous Services, M/s. VeeImaging Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Reveille Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Proultima Engineering Solution Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Mahima Technology Pvt. Ltd., M/s. E-Mudhra Ltd., M/s. Dilogy Solutions Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. Stin Soft Technologies Pvt., Ltd. are the allottees with about 2,600 persons employed here.

## 1.4.7 ELCOSEZ-Viswanathapuram, Hosur

ELCOT established an ELCOSEZ at a land extent of 174.47 acres with an investment of Rs.85 crore, creating the necessary common infrastructure and constructed an Administrative-cum-IT Building measuring 62,100 sq.ft. M/s. IAMPL, M/s. Ascent Circuits Private Limited, M/s. Rapid Global business India Pvt. Ltd.,

M/s. HICAL Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Acube Tech Solutions India Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Universal Conveyors, M/s. ChanduSoft Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. JLK Automation India Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Process Drive India Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Diggibyte Technologies Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Screen Artz, M/s. US Technology International Pvt. Ltd., and M/s. Thendral Infotech, are some of the allottees. 600 persons are employed here.

## 1.5 Joint Ventures

ELCOT has promoted and invested in Joint Ventures/Associates to promote IT Sector and is playing a vital role in driving the growth of IT Sector.

TIDEL Park Coimbatore Ltd. (33%), TIDEL Park Limited (5.91%), AGT Electronics Limited (26%), Elnet Technologies Limited (26%), Intwel Technologies Limited (49%), Kody Teck Ltd., (26%), DCL Software Limited (26%), IYKOT Hi-

Tech Tool Room Limited (7%) and Ravichandra Systems and Services Ltd (22%) are the joint ventures of ELCOT. The total net worth of all these joint ventures put together is around Rs.1061 crore.

## 1.5.1 ELCOT – STPI Finblue

Centre of Excellence in FinTech has been set up by the Software Technology Park of India (STPI) and ELCOT at a cost of Rs.11.50 Crore, with Rs.5.75 crore each from Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu with STPI as the implementing agency. 61 Fintech startups have been onboarded till date as against the target of 53. Of this, Rs.2.32 crore has been given as seed fund support to 51 startups. 24 Startups have raised external funding. The current valuation of the startups is at Rs.1,545 crore. 27 patents have been filed and 187 services/products have been created, generating 1080 direct employment and 1700 indirect employment, as reported by STPI.

## 1.6 Data Centre Services

## 1.6.1 Tamil Nadu State Data Centre

During the year 2011, Government of Tamil Nadu implemented the first ISO certified Data Centre in the country. TNSDC-I is operational with a capacity of about 62 racks. The budgetary cost for the period of 13 years is Rs.138 crore. As TNSDC-I was almost completely utilized, TNSDC–II, the second phase of TNSDC, was established and is operational from 2020 at a budgetary cost of Rs.74.7 crore. TNSDC-II can accommodate 135 racks. Its modular design supports seamless scale up.

More than 437 applications/services, including major applications such as e-Office, IFHRMS, IGR, CCTNS and Aavin are currently hosted in TNSDC-I, TNSDC-II and Cloud (Thamizh Megam).

## 1.6.2 Tamil Nadu Disaster Recovery Centre (TNDRC)

The Tamil Nadu Disaster Recovery Centre (TNDRC) was established at ELCOSEZ, Tiruchirappalli and has been operational from the year 2018. This provides business continuity for various critical e-Governance applications hosted in TNSDC in the event of any break down or disaster.

## 1.6.3 Thamizh Megam-TN Cloud Computing Services

The State cloud infrastructure, trademarked as 'Thamizh Megam', enables optimal sharing of system resources with minimal management. It is operational since 2016 at a Project value of Rs.29.46 crore.

At Thamizh Megam, Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) and Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) are being offered and 282 applications / services have been hosted.

### 1.6.4 Tamil Nadu – CERT (TN - CERT)

The Cyber Security Architecture for Tamil Nadu (CSA-TN) team already established under ELCOT in accordance with G.O. (D) No. 24, IT (B4) Department, dated 01.11.2018 shall be transferred to Directorate of e-Governance and shall function under the name of TN-CERT in accordance with G.O.(Ms). No.21, IT&DS (E2) Department, dated 23.08.2024.

## 1.7 IT Hardware Procurement and HR Services

Government of Tamil Nadu has nominated ELCOT as the Optional Procurement Agency for the procurement of IT Hardware products for Government Departments / Corporations / Autonomous bodies as per G.O. (Ms). No.58, Finance (BPE) Department, dated 16.02.1999 and G.O. (Ms). No.15, Information Technology and Digital Services (B2) Department, dated 11.07.2024.

ELCOT operates an "e-Procurement Portal" through its "E-Angadi" Division to streamline the process. The total value of procurement for the FY 2024-25 is Rs.353.94 Crore and the expected value of procurement for the FY 2025-26 is around Rs.400 Crore. ELCOT procures IT Hardware like Desktop, Server, Storage, Firewall, Printer, Copier, Scanner, Laptop, Networking Components, UPS System, Battery, Display Monitor, TV, IP Camera etc.

## 1.8 Telecom and e-Services

## 1.8.1 Telecom Facilitation

The Telecom division facilitates the grant of Right-of-way permissions for establishing new telecom Infrastructure (Underground and Overground) in a time-bound manner.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has formulated and released the TN Telecom Infrastructure Policy, 2022 vide G.O (Ms.) No.4,

Information Technology Department, dated 25.01.2022. As per the direction of the Government, ELCOT implemented an online single window portal (https://row.tn.gov.in) to grant permissions to the Telecom Service Provider/Infrastructure Provider (TSP/IP).

As on 31.03.2025, 7772 permissions have been granted for establishment of New Telecom Infrastructure. The State of Tamil Nadu also handles the regularization of existing Telecom Infrastructure and so far 33,194 have been regularized.

## 1.8.2 Permanent Enrolment Centres (PECs)

ELCOT is one of the agencies empanelled by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to execute Aadhaar Enrolment activities. ELCOT has established 266 PECs across the State of Tamil Nadu for providing Aadhaar related services to the citizens.

ELCOT initiated the operation of Permanent Enrolment Centres (PECs) from October 2016 onwards. Currently, 266 PECs have been established across the state which have undertook 22,09,919 transactions till March 2025 in this financial year. ELCOT is also an enrolment agency of the School Education Department under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme for enrolment of school students.

### 1.8.3 Public Free Wi-Fi through service providers

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the free WiFi scheme on 23.02.2024 during the UMAGINE event for public use with 500 access points in Chennai. As on March 2025, ELCOT, through the support of its private partners, has facilitated 1,869 free WiFi access points in Chennai and 712 free WiFi access points in Avadi, Tambaram and Coimbatore Municipal Corporations.

## 1.8.4 Other IT Services

ELCOT also undertakes other services like digitization work to cater to the requirements of Government Departments to digitize old records, video conferencing facilities for Secretariat programs, CCTV (Closed Circuit Television) surveillance systems for monitoring the examinations conducted by TNPSC and various Government Departments/Agencies, maintenance of Secretariat Network (SECNET) and surveillance system at main building and Namakkal Kavignar Maaligai.

## 1.9 ELCOT – Adding value through IT

ELCOT continues to play a pivotal role in driving Tamil Nadu's IT and digital transformation agenda. Through its strategic initiatives in IT promotion, investment facilitation and policy interventions in emerging sectors like AVGC-XR, Data centres, etc., ELCOT has been strengthening

Tamil Nadu's position as a global technology hub and has been actively expanding opportunities for the State's IT ecosystem.

As technology evolves, ELCOT remains dedicated to enhancing Tamil Nadu's progress in the new and emerging areas of IT sector and to ensure that Tamil Nadu stays at the forefront of technological advancements and to propel the State towards a future of inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

# CHAPER – II

# DIRECTORATE OF e-GOVERNANCE
# AND
# TAMIL NADU e-GOVERNANCE AGENCY

## 2.1 Introduction

**"Digital transformation is more about people than technology."**

*– George Westerman,* **MIT Sloan Initiative on the Digital Economy**

Digital transformation stands at the heart of modern governance. It empowers Government to engage citizens proactively, formulate evidence-based policies, and drive measurable and meaningful outcomes. Tamil Nadu has taken a leading role in this journey—leveraging technology not just to digitize services, but to reimagine governance itself as inclusive, transparent, and citizen-first.

To institutionalize its vision, the Directorate of e-Governance (DeG) was established in 2006. The primary focus of DeG was to lay the foundation for digital transformation by formulating standards and policies for e-Governance.

As the digital landscape evolved, the need for a dedicated implementation body became evident. This led to the establishment of the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA) in 2007, with the responsibility of enabling data-centric governance and developing digital tools, software and associated infrastructure.

While both DeG and TNeGA continue to evolve in parallel, their roles are being well-defined. DeG takes charge of ensuring compliance through IT assessments and security audits. It also plays a crucial role in Capacity Building, fostering a digital work environment through e-Office, Government e-Mail services, and data governance policies.

Meanwhile, TNeGA spearheads Electronic delivery of citizen centric services via E-sevai centers/ citizen portal, technology consulting, Software development for Government applications and now also focuses on building specialized technology stacks, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and Blockchain.

This structured approach establishes a clear division of responsibilities, DeG focusing on policy, standards, and security, while TNeGA acts as the technology enabler, driving innovation, implementation, and digital service delivery.

## 2.2 Organizational Structure

### 2.2.1 Directorate of e-Governance and Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency

As per G.O.Ms.No.10, Information Technology and Digital Services (B1) Department, dated 10.03.2023, the Directorate of

e-Governance and TNeGA underwent restructuring. Both entities are led by Government officers on deputation alongside senior technical experts from the IT industry.

A total of 61 IT cadre posts have been sanctioned for the Directorate of e-Governance, while TNeGA has been allocated 188 technical posts following the restructuring. Additionally, 29 non-technical positions have been sanctioned across both organizations.

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Director of e-Governance / Chief Executive Officer of TNeGA

Joint Director of e-Governance / Joint Chief Executive Officer of TNeGA

Joint Directors

Program Directors

System Analysts

Project Managers

Project Managers

Assistant System Engineers & Other Technical Staff

The Government has also established three verticals under TNeGA:

1. Software Development Unit (In-House)

2. Project Management Unit (Vendor-Based)

3. Infrastructure Team (INFRA)

To ensure effective e-Governance implementation, technical cadre salaries are aligned with market standards.

## 2.2.2 District e-Governance Societies (DeGS)

The e-District pilot project was launched in 2012 to provide citizen-centric services across Tamil Nadu, followed by the e-Sevai project in 2015. Both initiatives aim to deliver transparent, contactless, and accountable services closer to citizens' doorsteps.

e-District Managers (eDMs), serving as nodal resources, act as the bridge between DeGS and on-ground implementation. With 2 eDMs for

each district, totally 76 eDMs, flagship programs across the State are being facilitated.

DeGS, headed by the District Collector in all districts (except Chennai, where it is led by the Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation), oversee the implementation of these projects.

In 2024–2025, DeGS has been involved in several initiatives, including:-

1. e-Office Implementation
2. Makkaludan Mudhalvar
3. Electronic Promotion Management System (ePMS)
4. CM Breakfast Scheme
5. University Management Information System (UMIS)
6. Pudhumai Penn Scheme (PPS)
7. Tamil Puthalvan Scheme (TPS)
8. Ungalai Thedi Ungal Ooril (UTUO)

## 2.3 Core e-Governance Initiatives

## 2.3.1 IT Assessment Portal

IT Assessment Portal is developed by TNeGA as part of the e-Governance Initiative to introduce a measure of e-Governance maturity. The portal captures the IT infrastructures available in the government departments.

To implement a measure of e-Governance maturity in four focus areas, supporting core government systems, enhancing service delivery, mainstreaming citizen engagement, and fostering Governance enablers.

To effectively utilize the data captured in the e-Governance IT Assessment Portal, an action plan has been formulated. This plan focuses on a meticulous assessment of information provided by Heads of Departments in key categories:

Assessment Categories:

1. Project Information Profile
2. Organization IT Profile
3. ESD – Electronic Service Delivery

Strategy adopted for implementation:

Analysis/Observations are captured from the data entered in the IT Assessment portal by Departments. Recommendations are proposed based on the details entered by the Departments, focusing on the following parameters:

1.PMU / IT Cadre details

2. Security Audit, SSL contract duration details

3. Application hosting details

4. AMC duration details for IT Assets

5. External Integration (SMS, WhatsApp, e-sign)

6. ESD Services

The outcomes of activities updated as on **March 2025** in the IT Assessment Portal:

**IT Assessment Portal Activities Outcome**

318     490     451

| Heads of Departments | Application Details | ESD Service Details |
|---|---|---|
| Recorded HODs in IT Profile | Captured in Project Information Profile | Documented in ESD Profile |
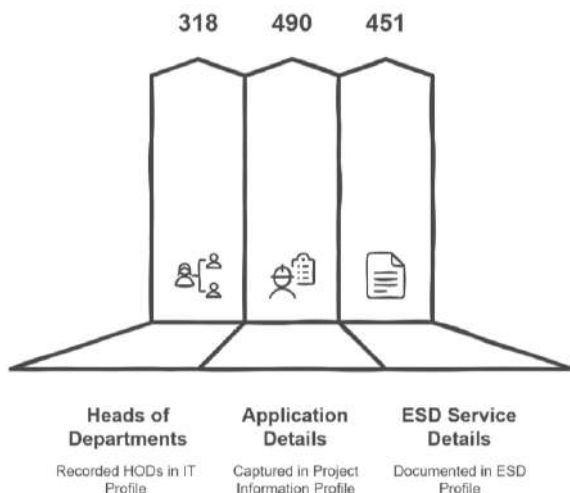
## 2.3.2 Digital Office Tamil Nadu (DoTN) - e-Office

The e-Office suite provides an electronic file management system to digitize Government workflows. TNeGA is implementing e-Office across Tamil Nadu Government offices in three phases:

I.    Phase I (March 2022): Implemented in all Secretariat departments, onboarding 4,151 users.

II. Phase II (June 2022): Rolled out in all District Collectorates and subordinate offices, onboarding 25,417 users.

III. Phase III: Expanded to Head of Departments (HODs), configuring 263 offices with 95,841 users.

As of now, 45,39,602 e-files have been created across all configured offices, showcasing the system's efficiency in governance.
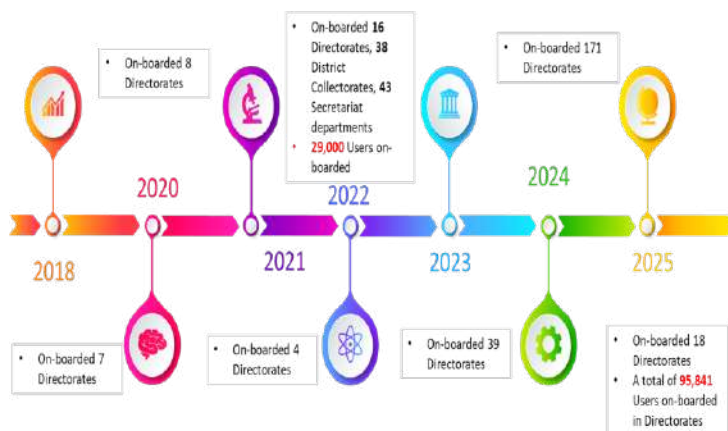


The details of funds sanctioned for the procurement of hardware, user licenses,

manpower and other components for the e-Office implementation undertaken are detailed below:

| S. NO | G.O. | DATED | AMOUNT SANCTIONED (in Rs.) |
|---|---|---|---|
| SECRETARIAT & DISTRICTS IMPLEMENTATION | | | |
| 1 | G.O.(Ms).No.19, IT Dept.<br><br>Letter No:1007862/IT | 21.10.2013<br><br>28.06.2021 | 5,17,13,000 |
| 2 | G.O.(Ms) No.14, IT Dept. | 23.08.2021 | 13,44,27,904 |
| 3 | G.O.(Ms) No.36, IT Dept. | 29.11.2021 | 61,30,632 |
| HODs IMPLEMENTATION | | | |
| 4 | G.O.(D) No. 29, IT Dept. | 03.11.2021 | 1,84,23,000 |
| 5 | G.O.(Ms) No. 33, IT &DS Dept. | 07.09.2022 | 14,12,78,368 |
| HARDWARE PROCUREMENT FOR HODs | | | |

| 6 | G.O.(Ms)No.26, IT &DS Dept. | 20.10.2023 | 10,95,91,500 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | G.O.(Ms)No.5, IT &DS Dept. | 05.03.2024 | 19,03,41,170 |

The details of end-user training undertaken by TNeGA are detailed below:

| S. No. | Phase | Departments | Users |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | PHASE-I & II | 42 Secretariat departments and 38 District Collectorates | 4,305 |
| 2 | PHASE-III | 263 | 23,317 |
| **Total** | | | **27,622** |

TNeGA has distributed hardware infrastructure to end users and the details are tabulated below:

| S. No. | Departments | Desktops | Scanners |
|--------|-------------|----------|----------|
| 1 | 40 Secretariat departments | 1779 | 60 |
| 2 | 59 HODs (Head offices) | 6031 | 369 |
| | **TOTAL** | **7810** | **429** |

Key benefits of e-Office include:

1. Paperless governance
2. Faster decision-making
3. Enhanced transparency
4. Real-time file tracking
5. Increased accountability
6. Improved data security and integrity

## 2.3.3 e-Mail

Tamil Nadu's government email services were launched in 2008 and are maintained by NIC, Chennai, with TNeGA as the implementing agency. Based on requests from the respective

organizations, TNeGA creates email IDs either based on the designation or the name of the employee.

Initially designed for 40,000 users, the service has expanded significantly due to e-Office adoption, with total users now reaching around 2,14,000.

The Tamil Nadu e-Mail policy have been issued and being implemented vide G.O.(Ms).No.22, Information Technology and Digital Services (A2) Department, Dated 09.09.2024.

## 2.3.4 IT Security Audit

TNeGA facilitates the security audit for State Government websites, web applications, and mobile applications through the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) empanelled auditors, ensuring compliance with CERT-In/STQC

(Standard Testing Quality Certification) guidelines.

The security audit is mandatory for hosting any website or web application in the Tamil Nadu State Data Centre (TNSDC). It must be conducted before initial deployment, upon the expiration of the audit certificate, or whenever modifications are made to the website or web application.

**Key highlights:**

- Security audits are conducted annually, regardless of application type (Static / Dynamic)

- TNeGA conducts a security audit of all Government websites / web applications / mobile applications once a year and continues to do the same in subsequent years also to ensure the protection of the applications from cyber attack.

- SOP (Standard operating procedure) is developed and communicated to all HODs. Departments receive audit reminders three months before the certificate expiry.

## 2.3.5 Tamil Nadu Single Sign-On (TNSSO)

Announced in 2023–2024, the Tamil Nadu Single Sign-On (TNSSO) platform simplifies access to State Government software applications by eliminating multiple login credentials. This platform will eliminate the need for users to remember multiple web addresses (URLs) for various departmental applications. TNSSO enables seamless access through a unified authentication mechanism, enhancing security and usability.

To strengthen security and usability, the Government has proposed the implementation of a centralized, uniform, and secure multi-factor authentication system under the TNSSO platform. It will address the challenges associated with

managing multiple credentials and navigating various portals by providing a secure, integrated, and user-friendly access mechanism.

**Beneficiaries**:

- Government Departments – Enabling Government-to-Government (G2G) Services

- Citizens – Facilitating Government-to-Citizen (G2C) Services

The platform is being developed in-house at TNeGA, to ensure full control over security and customization:

- Phase I: Onboarding of common applications used by the Secretaries to the Government of Tamil Nadu

- Phase II: Department-specific G2C applications that are crucial for public welfare and are actively monitored by the Government.

As of now, 9 key government applications have been integrated:

1. e-Office
2. Cour Case Monitoring System (CCMS)
3. TANFINET Unified Portal
4. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Portal
5. Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam (KMUT)
6. State Scholarship Portal (SSP)
7. Crop Survey Portal
8. Grower online Registration on Agricultural Input System (GRAINS)
9. Tamil Nadu Geographic Information System (TNGIS)

Further enhancements will focus on security, scalability, and additional Government services.

## 2.3.6 Tamil Nadu Digital Transformation Strategy (DiTN)

The Information Technology & Digital Services Department aims to enable digital transformation across Government departments

to ensure transparent and citizen-centric governance. As per G.O. (Ms.) No. 11, IT & DS (C2) Department, dated 29.03.2023, the Tamil Nadu Digital Transformation Strategy (DiTN) was officially published by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 02.11.2023.

DiTN helps departments achieve Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and provides SMART Governance (Swift, Monitorable, Accessible, Responsive, and Transparent). The strategy offers guidance on digital maturity assessment and the execution of IT strategy.

## 2.3.7 Reference Standards and Policies

The Reference Standards for Data and Cyber Security is a compilation of mandatory and recommended standards for e-Governance projects. Departments must comply with these for all e-Governance software, hardware, and applications.

## 2.3.8 Tamil Nadu Data Policy

The Government of Tamil Nadu introduced the Tamil Nadu Data Policy in 2022 to leverage data for improving governance, transparency, and service delivery.

## Key Principles of the Policy:

1. Openness
2. Privacy
3. Ethics and Equity
4. Flexibility
5. Transparency
6. Legal Conformity
7. Protection of Intellectual Property
8. Interoperability and Standards
9. Quality
10. Security
11. Accountability and Formal Responsibility
12. Sustainability
13. Usability

The implementation of this policy is currently in progress.

## 2.4 Major e-Governance Initiatives:-

## 2.4.1 Delivery of G2C Services

## a) e-Sevai Centres

Government-to-Citizen (G2C) services are delivered electronically through e-Sevai centres, bringing Government services closer to the doorstep of citizens.

As of 31.03.2025,

- 34,843 active e-Sevai centres operate across Tamil Nadu.

- 42 new e-Sevai IDs have been issued to Mathi Siragugal Thozhil Maiyam (MSTM) centres under the Vazhndhu Kattuvom Project (VKP) in FY 2024-25.

- 24 new TACTV e-Sevai IDs have been issued across eight districts.

## b) Service Centre Agencies (SCAs)

e-Sevai centres are managed by the following Service Centre Agencies (SCAs) that ensure smooth operations and efficient service delivery.

The e-Sevai centres are run by the following Service Center Agencies (SCA):

1. PACCS [Primary Agricultural Cooperative Credit Society]
2. TACTV [Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation]
3. VPRC [Village Poverty Reduction Committee]
4. FSH [Fisheries Department]
5. CHS [Co-Operative Housing Societies]
6. MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) Offices

7.   EFA [eSevai For All]

8.   MIS   [Miscellaneous   Cantonment
     Board]

9.   VKP [Vazhndhu Kattuvom Project]

10.  CSC-SPV [Common Services Center]

## SCA wise e-Sevai center Count (as on 31-03-2025)

| SCA | Count |
|-----|-------|
| EFA | 24,637 |
| CSC - SPV | 4,219 |
| PACCS | 3,973 |
| VPRC | 1,108 |
| TACTV | 697 |
| MLA | 81 |
| FSH | 55 |
| VKP | 42 |
| CHS | 28 |
| MIS | 3 |

Grand Total - 34,843

## c) New e-Sevai Services

The e-Sevai portal now offers 410 services
across various departments, a significant increase

from 273 services in FY 2022-23. In FY 2024-25, 35 new services were added from 12 departments.

- e-Contractor services (24 services) are enabled in 8 Departments in Tamil Nadu.

- The Geology and Mining department service named "Permission for the Removal of CLAY/SILT from the TANK" has been developed online by TNeGA and was launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 08.07.2024.

Newly Added Services (FY 2024-25):

| S. No. | Department | Services Count |
|--------|-----------|----------------|
| 1 | Directorate of Government Examinations | 3 |
| 2 | Tamil Nadu Electrical Inspectorate | 3 |
| 3 | Department of Geology & Mining | 1 |
| 4 | Revenue and Disaster Management Department | 4 |

| 5 | Public Works Department | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| 6 | Highways Department | 3 |
| 7 | Greater Chennai Corporation | 3 |
| 8 | Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board | 3 |
| 9 | Water Resources Department | 3 |
| 10 | Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board | 3 |
| 11 | Rural Development & Panchayat Raj | 3 |
| 12 | Directorate of Municipal Administration | 3 |
| **Total** | | **35** |

**e-Sevai transaction detail – The financial year 2024-2025:**

| e-Sevai Transaction details - financial year 2024-25 | |
|---|---|
| **Month** | **No. Of Transaction** |
| **April** | 4,93,608 |
| **May** | 7,99,914 |
| **June** | 10,57,363 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **July** | 12,40,455 |
| **August** | 11,06,104 |
| **September** | 8,87,446 |
| **October** | 7,25,936 |
| **November** | 8,53,787 |
| **December** | 7,09,622 |
| **January** | 9,14,345 |
| **February** | 11,99,712 |
| **March** | 9,77,923 |
| **Total** | **1,09,66,215** |

## d) Impact of e-Sevai for All (EFA) Initiative

The "e-Sevai for All" (EFA) initiative was launched on March 15, 2023, to encourage entrepreneurs to establish e-Sevai centres in every village, ward, and habitation.

**EFA's Economic Impact:**

- Supports entrepreneurs in establishing digital service centres.

- Strengthens micro-economies by creating jobs, improving market access, and fostering financial inclusion.

- Enhances community development by providing Government services efficiently.

**Key Achievements:**

- Training was provided to all EFA centre operators in their respective districts.

- In FY 2023-24, EFA handled 58.31% of total e-Sevai transactions (56,47,612 transactions).

- In FY 2024-25, EFA's share increased from 58% to 60% up to March 2025.

**e) Grievance Redressal**

To address citizen concerns, TNeGA launched a 10-seater call centre with a toll-free number **1800-425-6000** in April 2023.

Enhancements in 2024-25:

- In May 2024, the call centre was migrated to the Mudhalvarin Mugavari Call Centre in Kotturpuram.

- Increased capacity from 10 to 20 seats to handle higher call volumes.

- Abandoned call rates reduced from 37% (May 2024) to 1.12% (December 2024).

- Total calls received (FY up to March 2025):2,95,134 (with 97% resolved at the operator level).

## f) Third-Party Auditing (TPA)of EFA centres

The objective of third-party auditing of the EFA centres is to verify their compliance with Government guidelines and enhance service efficiency. This was initiated on 18-10-2023 for auditing 26,311 operators. As of 31-03-2025, TPA has completed the audit of 24,801 EFA operators.

The following aspects were covered as part of TPA:

1. Mandated display of rate charts at all e-Sevai centres.
2. Enforced installation of webcams for enhanced monitoring.
3. Required installation of signage boards for better visibility.
4. Operators were instructed to confirm compliance of the helpdesk email system.

## g) Permanent Enrolment Centres (PECs)

Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) and Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation (TACTV) have been appointed as the enrolment agencies for Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency. New Aadhaar enrolment is done free of cost for the public.

As on 2024-2025, a summary of Aadhaar enrollment is given below:

| Enrolment Agency | No. of Centers | New Aadhaar generated from UIDAI portal. (In lakh) as on 31.03.2025 |
|---|---|---|
| TACTV | 335 | 1.42 |
| ELCOT | 266 | 1.52 |
| **Total** | **601** | **2.94** |

## 2.4.2 Important projects developed by TNeGA

### 2.4.2.1 University Management Information System (UMIS)

The University Management Information System (UMIS) functions as a single platform for collecting details of all the higher education institutions and students in Tamil Nadu. The primary objective of the common portal is to provide a single window platform like Education Management Information System (EMIS) for all the higher education institutions under the key departments to serve as a comprehensive platform that integrates data, automates processes and provides analytical capabilities to support the diverse needs of the Higher Education Department.

UMIS also acts as a Decision Support System and helps to make data-driven decisions through reports, analytics, dashboards, etc. The student data has been validated with other

interfaces like EMIS, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), Aadhaar, e-Sevai, etc., for the genuineness of the information. This common portal has also been integrated with other platforms like the Tamil Nadu State Scholarship Portal, Naan Mudhalvan Platform, CM Dashboard etc., to share information.

**Integration with Government Schemes:**

UMIS acts as the primary data source for the Tamizh Pudhalvan Scheme, Pudhumai Penn Scheme, and other state scholarship initiatives. So far, 9,14,402 students benefitted from Tamizh Pudhalvan & Pudhumai Penn schemes through UMIS.

G.O. (Ms) No. 61, Higher Education Department, dated 04.03.2024, designated the Directorate of Technical Education (DoTE) as the nodal agency for UMIS implementation.

As on 31.03.2025, the beneficiaries details are stated below:

| Active Students | 29,02,895 |
|---|---|
| Beneficiary Departments | 29 |
| Beneficiary Universities | 81 |
| Institutions | 5,487 |

## a) State Scholarship Portal

The State Scholarship Portal is a transformative initiative designed to elevate the socio-economic status of students from diverse community backgrounds, including Scheduled Caste(SC), Scheduled Caste converts to Christianity (SCC), Tribal (ST), Backward Class (BC), Most Backward Class (MBC), and Denotified (DNC) communities. The utility of a student in obtaining a scholarship is significant as it provides

financial assistance to support their education. Scholarships can help alleviate the burden of tuition fees, book fees, and other educational expenses, making higher education more accessible and affordable. Additionally, receiving a scholarship can boost a student's confidence, motivation, and academic performance.

Overall, scholarships play a crucial role in empowering students to achieve their academic goals. The scholarship portal serves as a centralized platform where eligible students can apply for a range of scholarships offered by various government departments and agencies.

The objective of the scholarship portal is to enhance the efficiency of the student application process by integrating databases like UMIS, EMIS, eSevai, Aadhaar, NPCI, and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). This integration has eliminated manual data entry, leading to quicker processing

and direct fund disbursement into beneficiaries' accounts.

This scholarship portal encourages more student enrolment by facilitating every eligible student and no ineligible students are permitted to apply for the scholarship. The portal encompasses both state and central welfare schemes for school and college students.

| Scholarship Schemes Onboarded in TNSSP | |
|---|---|
| Total No. of Departments | Total No. of Scholarship Schemes |
| 6 | 27 |

| List of Onboarded Scholarship schemes for college students | | |
|---|---|---|
| Department Name | Count | Scholarship Name |
| Adi Dravidar Welfare Department | 6 | 1. Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme. <br> 2. Special Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme. <br> 3. Higher Education Special Scholarship scheme. |

| | | 4. Free Education Scholarship scheme for UG Boys, Girls, Transgender. |
| | | 5. Free Education Scholarship scheme for PG Girls, Transgender. |
| | | 6. Tuition Fee Concession. |
| Tribal Welfare Department | 5 | 1. Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme. |
| | | 2. Higher Education Special Scholarship Scheme. |
| | | 3. Free Education for UG Boys, Girls, Transgender Scholarship Scheme. |
| | | 4. Free Education for PG Girls, Transgender Scholarship Scheme. |
| | | 5. Tuition Fee Concession. |
| BC, Welfare Department | 2 | 1. Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme |
| | | 2. Free Education Scholarship Scheme. |
| MBC and DNC Welfare Department | 2 | 1. Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme |
| | | 2. Free Education Scholarship Scheme. |

| List of Onboarded Scholarship schemes for school students | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Department Name** | **Count** | **Scholarship Name** |
| Adi Dravidar Welfare Department | 5 | 1. Post-Matric Scholarship (XI and XII) <br> 2. Pre-Matric Scholarship scheme (IX and X) <br> 3. State Girls Incentive (III to VIII) <br> 4. Pre-Matric Scholarship for Uncleaned occupation (UCO) (I to X) <br> 5. Special Post-Matric Scholarship Students (XI and XII) |
| Tribal Welfare Department | 3 | 1. Pre-Matric Scholarship scheme (IX and X) <br> 2. Girls Incentive scheme (III to VIII) |

| | | 3. Post-Matric Scholarship scheme (XI and XII) |
|---|---|---|
| BC Welfare Department | 1 | Pre-Matric Scholarship scheme (IX and X) |
| MBC, and DNC Welfare Department | 1 | Pre-Matric Scholarship scheme (IX and X) |
| WAQF Board | 1 | Muslim Girls Educational scheme - (III – VIII) |
| Minorities Welfare | 1 | Rural Girls Incentive Scheme - (III – VI) |

## b) Tamizh Pudhalvan Scheme

The Tamizh Pudhalvan Scheme, launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on August 9, 2024, aims to support boys from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds in pursuing higher education. Under this initiative, students who have studied from

Class 6 to 12 in Government or Fully Aided Schools (Tamil medium) and have enrolled in undergraduate, diploma, ITI, or other approved programs receive a monthly financial assistance of Rs.1,000 through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) till they complete their course. This scholarship is available to all eligible students, irrespective of their economic status, caste, or religion, and can be availed alongside existing community scholarships. By reducing financial barriers, the scheme encourages greater enrolment of boys in higher education, contributing to the increase in overall Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Tamil Nadu. Since its launch, the scheme has benefited approximately 4.17 lakh students, reinforcing Tamil Nadu's commitment to inclusive and equitable education. As of March 2025, the scholarship has been disbursed to 4,16,877 unique beneficiaries.

**Beneficiaries**

| | Aug 2024 | Sep 2024 | Oct 2024 | Nov 2024 | Dec 2024 | Jan 2025 | Feb 2025 | Mar 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beneficiaries | 227560 | 224972 | 306203 | 324848 | 352406 | 375461 | 381826 | 380467 |
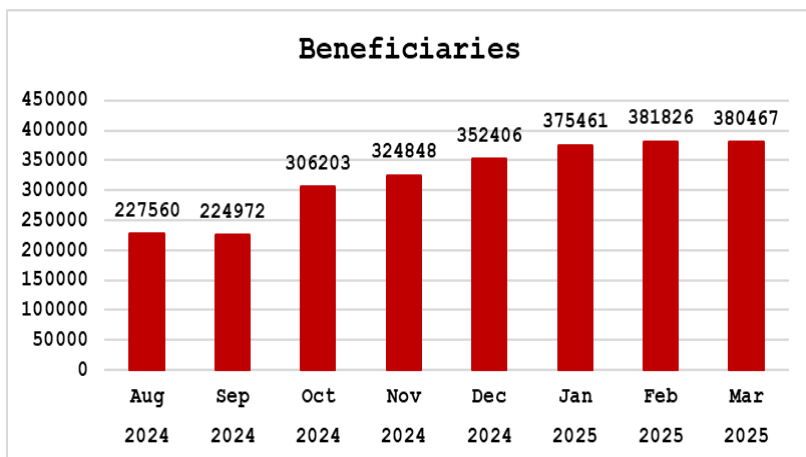
## c) Pudhumai Penn Scheme

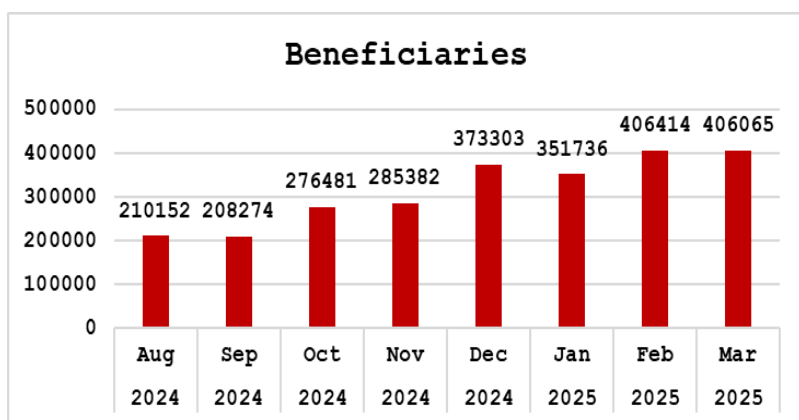The Pudhumai Penn Scheme aims to boost girls' enrolment in higher education by providing Rs.1,000 monthly financial assistance to those who studied from Class 6 to 12 in Government or Fully Aided Schools (Tamil medium) and have enrolled in undergraduate, diploma, or ITI programs. This Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scholarship is awarded irrespective of economic status, caste, or religion and can be availed alongside other community scholarships,

promoting gender equity and increasing Tamil Nadu's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for female students. Since its launch, the scheme has benefited approximately 4.98 lakh students. As of March 2025, the scholarship has been disbursed to 4,97,525 unique beneficiaries.

**Beneficiaries**

| Month | Beneficiaries |
|---|---|
| Aug 2024 | 210152 |
| Sep 2024 | 208274 |
| Oct 2024 | 276481 |
| Nov 2024 | 285382 |
| Dec 2024 | 373303 |
| Jan 2025 | 351736 |
| Feb 2025 | 406414 |
| Mar 2025 | 406065 |

In case of both TPS and PPS, Implemented through TNeGA's paperless UMIS portal, the scheme ensures automated eligibility verification using predictive analytics through databases like UMIS, EMIS, and DGE. Aadhaar-based e-KYC and NPCI Aadhaar seeding enable secure fund

79

transfers, while an 'Appeal' option allows students to contest ineligibility. The centralized system streamlines application, verification, and grievance redressal, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and equitable access to higher education.

## 2.4.2.2 DeTN

The Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology, during the 2021-2022 Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly session on 08.09.2021, made the following announcement:

"A Tamil Nadu Decision Support System (TN Decision Support - DeTN) will be implemented to aid policy formulation and effective implementation of decisions through data analysis and machine learning."

This system will also help in delivering information through the Chief Minister's

Dashboard and in integrating data from various digital platforms for better insights.

### a) Role of DeTN:

The role of data in the design of policies, anticipation and forecasting on a real-time basis will not only aid in making crucial decisions but helps to improve transparency and efficiency in governance. Hence, Government of Tamil Nadu envisions to design, develop and implement comprehensive decision support solutions with a capability to analyze and provide insights from diverse datasets to aid decision making and project management.

A Government Order was issued for the Tamil Nadu Decision Support System (DeTN) vide in the G.O.(Ms). No.37, Information Technology Department, dated 02.12.2021, granting administrative sanction for a cost of Rs.15 Crore over a three-year period.

**b) Objective of DeTN:**

- Decision Support System for Tamil Nadu (DeTN) is a connected data ecosystem that would aid the Government in decision-making for effective implementation and policy responses using data analytics.

- This system would establish the necessary framework and create infrastructure for supporting and maintaining open data sharing, visualization platforms, data warehousing, and tools necessary for connecting individual datasets and diverse systems.

- This system will have several modules focused on a specific data domain or purpose-driven or function-driven reports and dashboards.
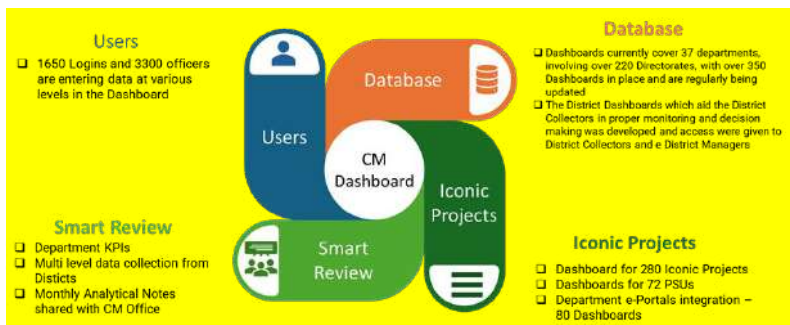
- Some of these modules, which are in different stages of development, are part of services being rendered to the Government – SFDB analytics, CM Helpline, CM Dashboard, TNGIS Dashboard, etc.

- This system would integrate these modules as foundational components and enable a consistent view of data linked across.

- This system would have the capability to integrate any other key decision support systems that already exist or in the future and become a platform for creating necessary reports and dashboards for all planning and monitoring purposes.

- This system will have several components and applications listed below and would be implemented in a phased manner over a period of three years.

## 2.4.2.2.1 Chief Minister Dashboard
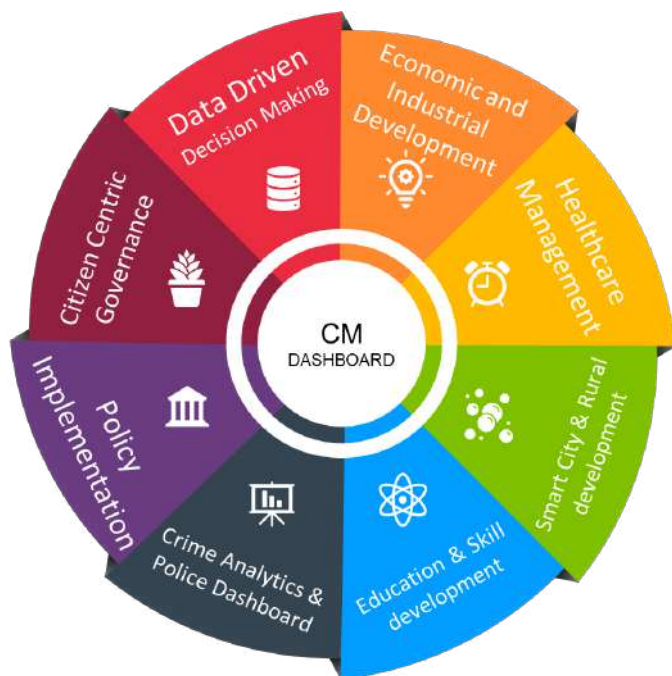


The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Dashboard was launched on 23.12.2021. This Governance Process Data Management Dashboard began as an information platform for evidence-based decision making and to assist the Hon'ble Chief minister in monitoring all departments. It has the capability to collect data from multiple sources,

certify the data and create visual representations and insights from the data, helping towards efficiency in governance and to arrive and measure the KPI's for various departments, under one roof. Since its launch, the Dashboard has been essential in tracking the performance of various departments, schemes, policing efforts, and overall governance. Originally designed as an information platform, the Dashboard has evolved into an internal governance tool that is useful in evidence-based decision-making.



**Users**
- 1650 Logins and 3300 officers are entering data at various levels in the Dashboard

**Database**
- Dashboards currently cover 37 departments, involving over 220 Directorates, with over 350 Dashboards in place and are regularly being updated
- The District Dashboards which aid the District Collectors in proper monitoring and decision making was developed and access were given to District Collectors and e District Managers

**Smart Review**
- Department KPIs
- Multi level data collection from Distiscts
- Monthly Analytical Notes shared with CM Office

**Iconic Projects**
- Dashboard for 280 Iconic Projects
- Dashboards for 72 PSUs
- Department e-Portals integration – 80 Dashboards

The traditional approach on being dependent on paper-based reviews has its limitations. Hence, the focus of the CM Dashboard

is on getting the big picture and ensure that Governance is on track. Over the course of time, it has become an internal governance tool that is helping department heads to speed up implementation and ensure better monitoring. More Department Heads are actively cooperating in helping to develop their dashboards. The software stack is designed using state-of-the-art technology on which the dashboards are built and further developed by a dedicated team in TNeGA. The purpose is to provide updated information on a daily, monthly, and yearly basis, with some departments providing real-time information through APIs.

Accurate and timely information is crucial to the Head of Departments and Secretaries for informed decision-making and better monitoring of policy implementation. The Dashboard currently cover 38 departments, involving over 220 Directorates, with over 350 Dashboards in

place and regularly being updated. The District Dashboards, which aid the District Collectors in proper monitoring and decision making, were developed, and access was given to District Collectors and e-District Managers. Iconic Projects Dashboards are developed to track the progress of over 280 projects as per the guidelines of the Special Program Implementation Department and are being regularly reviewed. Dashboards for 72 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are under development as per Finance Department guidelines. The integration of the e-portals of the Departments through API has improved the effectiveness and efficiency of the Dashboards, enabling good governance. About 80 dashboards run on a no-code API integration platform, ensuring seamless connectivity with departmental e-portals.

Each Dashboard is uniquely designed to reflect the Key Performance Indicators as finalised

by the department. A smart review report for most dashboards is provided to get 2nd level depth across all districts. Periodic and monthly inferences drawn from the Dashboard is being shared with respective departments in the form of analytical notes/ Red Flags. Currently, 1650 officers are given access to the dashboard, and about 3300 are entering data onto the Dashboard.

Overall, the Chief Minister's Dashboard represents a significant step towards transparency and data-driven decision-making in Tamil Nadu's governance. Periodic review meetings, based on the Dashboard, are chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, who instructs and directs ways to improve performance from time to time. Secretaries and HODs are increasingly utilising the Dashboards to rectify gaps and stagnancy if any. Dashboards serve as powerful tools for departments in providing a visual representation of data that enables informed decision-making,

performance monitoring, and efficient resource management. By consolidating and presenting data in a user-friendly format, dashboards empower users to gain insights, identify trends, and take actions based on data-driven analysis. Dashboards empower departments to harness the power of data, enabling them to drive efficiency, effectiveness, and informed decision-making. By leveraging the capabilities of dashboards, departments can improve their performance, optimize resource allocation, and ultimately achieve their goals of governance.

## 2.4.2.2.2 Data Purity and Analytics

The data purity project aims

a. To help the departments to identify the right beneficiaries and weed out ineligible ones,

b. To remove data of those deceased from the beneficiary lists,

c. To create a beneficiary database which acts as a decision-making support system for the Government.

TNeGA conducts regular analysis across multiple departments and datasets to ensure that genuine beneficiaries receive the benefits provided by various welfare schemes like Civil Supplies Department Public Distribution System data, Revenue Department Social Security Schemes Pension, Health Department, Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme, TN Rights, Self Help Group, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Bureau of Public Enterprises, Transport Department - Vahan sarathi, Handlooms, Fisheries Department, Tamil Nadu Generation & Distribution Corporation limited, University Management and Information System, and Educational Management and Information System, etc. By leveraging data analysis, the

Government aims to efficiently identify eligible beneficiaries and ensure the effective distribution of government assistance across different sectors and programs.

The Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam (KMUT) is one of the flagship welfare schemes launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu, dedicated to empowering women across the State. The project involved ambitious and visionary objective of zeroing-in on the eligible beneficiaries. The massive task of validation of Bank Accounts was done consistently, which ultimately resulted in 99.13% successful payment to the beneficiaries. A total of 1.14 Crore beneficiaries were benefited using this scheme.

Further, for the Pudhumai Penn and Tamil Pudhalvan scheme, the Data Purity helped in identifying the eligible beneficiaries. The major feature of Tamil Pudhalvan scheme is that the 3.5 lakh potential beneficiaries were identified

with the help of Education Management and Information System (EMIS), University Management and Information System (UMIS) and Directorate of Government Examination (DEG) dataset.

In 2025-26, the Data Purity will be instrumental in identifying beneficiaries for key initiatives like the students laptops scheme, scheme for monthly assistance to children who lost both the parents, etc.

## 2.4.2.2.3 Tamil Nadu Geographical Information System

TNGIS currently manages over 400 spatial data layers, encompassing both state-wide coverage and department-specific datasets sourced from various government departments. These datasets are shared with other departments as needed, with more than 200 layers actively provided to government agencies.

The available data is accessible through the TNGIS web portal (https://tngis.tn.gov.in). Approximately 27 commonly used layers—including State, District, Taluk, Village, Ward, Town, Blocks, and Panchayats—are provided in GIS formats for free download (with user registration). The portal also offers various APIs for seamless integration with external applications. The boundary datasets are derived from cadastral records, ensuring accuracy and consistency.

Furthermore, TNGIS has developed multiple department-specific GIS applications to enhance

data accessibility and decision-making. The key activities undertaken by TNGIS in the 2024-25 fiscal year are outlined below:

I.  Many web and mobile applications are developed for various departments for the different departmental functional requirements, as below:

   a. Spatial visualisation of the assets and facilities

   b. Geotagged data collection

   c. Geo-fenced validation during field data capture

   d. Thematic visualisation of data based on multiple parameters

   e. Dashboard with statistics, reports and charts

   f. Applications for spatial visualisation of tabular data (excel files) and drill down visualisation – by geographical hierarchy based on any boundary layer.

II. The geo-referenced cadastral boundaries are linked with Tamil Nilam database – holding the ownership records of rights and with the guideline values of Registration Department. It is completed for the rural areas.

III. The valuable datasets are made available in TNGIS Portal for departmental and public consumption. Some of the departmental applications / functionalities and the spatial database developed by TNGIS are listed below:

a) **The Tamil Nilam Geo Info Mobile application launched in January 2025,** provides access to comprehensive land records, including A-Register, FMB (Field Measurement Book) sketches, and Patta details. Users can retrieve and download digitally authenticated Patta copies directly through the mobile platform, ensuring streamlined access to land ownership/user.

**b)** Application to visualize the availability of survey boundaries.

**c)** Application to visualise the anomalies in the guideline values within a village within multiple land uses.

**d)** Spatial Integration of IGR and GCC roads

**e)** Development of mobile app to geotag the handlooms / power looms and generating the weaver database for planning and decision-making needs.

**f)** TNGIS is integrated with Single Window Portal for issue of No Objection Certificate (NoC) and for Self-Certification Portal. This enables a user to validate the project location and identifies the departments required for getting NoC and the reasons specifically for obtaining the same – just on a single click. This drastically reduces the time and bring in operational efficiency and better delivery of public service.

**g)** Development of web application for integrated spatial functionalities for operational activities of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

**h)** Development of dashboards for all mobile apps, departmental assets and facilities, and jurisdictional boundaries.

**i)** Web GIS application is developed for visualizing the statistics / Excel tables in GIS map based on district/taluk/village names.

IV. In addition, the TNGIS team has developed various web / mobile apps for Kalaignar Mahalir Urimai Thittam (KMUT) schemes, Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) etc.
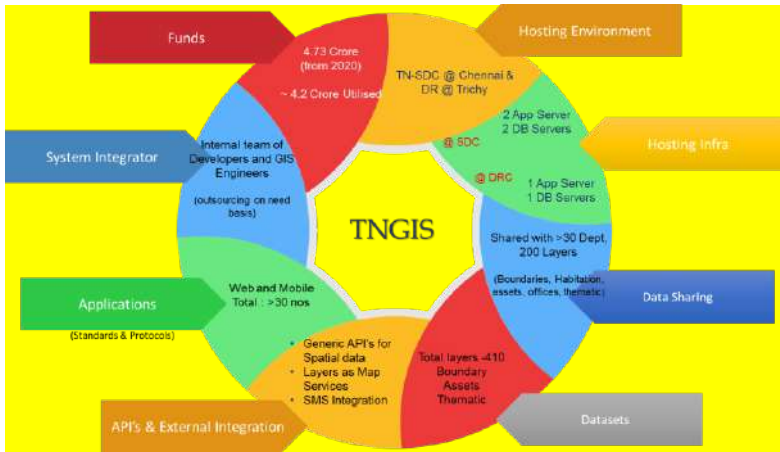
For the year 2025-26, following activities are proposed under TNGIS.

(i)     Cadastral-based spatial framework is to be created for Tamil Nadu: TNeGA will extend all technical support for the project and coordinate with the Department of Survey & Settlement for implementation. In this regard, DOSS will carry out the Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) survey and TNGIS has already shared bi-junction and Tri-junction points for the survey.

a. Carry out DGPS Survey using Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) data by DOSS.

b. Preparation of Seamless Georeferenced Cadastral Map.

c. Digitisation of Field Measurement Book (FMB) for Urban areas (Block maps).

(ii) Land Use Information System for Urban Integrated GIS Viewer and Database

The proposed Land Use Information System (LUIS) will be a GIS-based platform that integrates urban planning data, cadastral boundaries, and infrastructure information. This system will help planners, government agencies, and developers analyse land-use patterns, zoning regulations, and property details in a centralized urban GIS viewer.

(iii) Forest Mapping Based on Cadastral Data and Jurisdiction

The proposed Forest Mapping System will digitally map forest boundaries at multiple administrative levels such as circle, division, range, section, beat, and reserve forest. It will ensure better monitoring, jurisdiction clarity, and conservation through cadastral data integration.

(iv) To publish the GIS data sharing policy for the State.

TNGIS will prepare and publish the standards for all spatial data layers in consultation with all user departments. A Geospatial policy of Tamil Nadu will be prepared which shall dwell upon the data sharing / exchange policy for all spatial data contents. TNGIS team will be strengthened to cater to the demands of geospatial needs in various departments.

## 2.4.2.2.4 State Family Database (SFDB)

The State Family Database (SFDB) involves the Integration and unification of different department databases and creates a unified record of Tamil Nadu citizens. This platform will act as a data Integration and exchange platform for planning and monitoring of Government schemes and programs. 38 different datasets integration has been completed in SFDB.
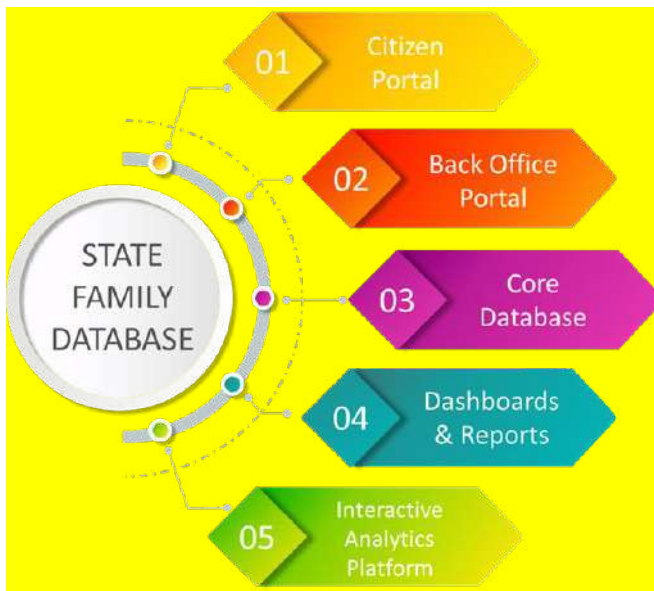
Makkal Portal development was completed, which provides a single window access to all residents the demographic data available across the different department databases.

Important components of Makkal Portal are as follows:

**Personal information:** Resident can view his/her family details and personal information, contact details and other information available in all different databases.

**Family Tree:** The citizen can view their entire family details in order of family head, spouse, children etc., with gender and age.

**Schemes/Services:** The Resident can view the list of already availed Government scheme benefits and benefit details.

**Eligible schemes:** The resident can view the list of eligible schemes based on the

demographic details and eligibility criteria of the schemes.

**Schemes Eligibility check**: List of schemes the citizen can select as per their interest

Each of the Departments of Government of Tamil Nadu has its own applications and associated databases. All those databases would be unified to build the SFDB core database and used to identify the unique beneficiaries across the State. It would enable increased awareness of State Government Services and proactive delivery of Government benefits and services to citizens in an inclusive manner. Makkal Portal and Back Office Portal will be released in a phased manner.

All Departments will use SFDB as the front-end model to retrieve or fetch basic details and already availed scheme(s) details of the citizen when applying for any new benefit. External API

will be shared with all the Departments in a phased manner with the integration of the Citizen data.

So far, SFDB has successfully tested API integration with e-Sevai, Unorganized Welfare Board, Skill Development Program, CMUPT where the Departments have tested API by keying in either UFC (Ration Card or Smart Card Number/ Aadhar Number) to get the basic details matching with the UIDAI portal along with Family details of the Member pertaining to the availed schemes by both individual and Family.

Further enhancements are in progress and will be carried out in a phased manner.

## 2.4.2.2.5 Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)

The Direct Benefits Transfer platform is a unified digital platform for processing Direct Benefit Transfers for State Government and Central Government schemes. All the necessary

validations and verifications for transferring cash benefits to citizens, including Aadhar verification, name verification, bank account linking status, etc. would be carried out through the platform. After validations and obtaining approval from departments, the benefits would be transferred directly to the citizens' bank account through the Aadhaar-based Payment System and Automated Clearing House(ACH) payment mode system.

The details of the schemes onboarded in DBT are as follows:

| S. No | Name of the Scheme |
|-------|--------------------|
| **State Sponsored Schemes** | |
| 1. | Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam (KMUT) |
| 2. | Pudhumai Penn scheme (PPS) |
| 3. | Tamil Pudhalvan scheme (TPS) |
| 4. | Maintenance Grant for Disabled persons |
| 5. | ADW Girls Incentive (3rd std-5th std) |

| | |
|-----|--------------------------------------------|
| 6. | ADW Girls Incentive (6th std-8th std) |
| 7. | Pre-Matric BC Scholarship |
| 8. | Pre-Matric MBC Scholarship |
| 9. | Muslim Girls Education Scholarship |
| 10. | State Special Post Matric scholarship |
| **State and Central Government sponsored schemes** | |
| 1. | Post Matric  Backward Class (BC) |
| 2. | Post Matric  Most Backward Class (MBC) |
| 3. | Post Matric  Scheduled class (SC) |

The above schemes have been onboarded to Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) since 2024, and so far a total amount of Rs.16,429.38 Crore has been transferred directly to the bank accounts of the total Rs.1.43 Crore beneficiaries.  During the year 2025-26, it is expected that another 15 departments may use the DBT platform of TNeGA.

### 2.4.2.3 Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning (AI/ML)

In February 2024, the TNeGA had submitted a proposal on Tamil Nadu Artificial Intelligence Mission and requested the Government to approve and sanction a sum of Rs.13.93 Crore towards its implementation for two years. The government has approved of the same and established Tamil Nadu AI Mission (TNAIM) at TNeGA.

Accordingly, the TNeGA is co-ordinating for the implementation of TNAIM. Other organizations involved as part of the Department of Information Technology and Digital Services such as iTNT, ICT Academy, Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited shall be the stakeholders and support the implementation of TNAIM. All stakeholders will work together on the concept design and solution development in the area of Artificial Intelligence.

TNeGA has implementation plans to provide maximum benefits to citizens and other stakeholders in the State. TNeGA will interact with other Government departments to identify the use cases where the application of AI technologies can make an impact and develop AI applications as Proof of Concepts. The key objectives and salient features of the TNAIM document are as follows:

1. To promote research and innovation in AI Technologies.
2. Skill Development – Training and Capacity building in the areas of AI technologies.
3. Engage in partnerships and collaborations to share best practices, knowledge and resources in the field of AI.
4. Identify use cases/problem areas in Governance (Service Delivery improvements, data-driven decision-making, Healthcare, Security and public

safety) which can be solved through AI technologies.

5. Work on sample use cases and provide AI-based solutions through the implementing agencies.

6. Establish the basic backbone/infrastructure facilities towards compute / storage capacities for the Researchers and Startups to implement their ideas.

7. Share Government data for implementing the AI ideas as needed, ensuring compliance with data protection and data sharing Acts on force.

8. Establish guidelines and regulations through the adoption of Indian and Global practices/advisories to ensure the ethical and responsible development and use of AI technologies. This includes addressing issues such as bias, transparency, accountability and privacy concerns.

TNAIM shall focus on the use of AI tools and technologies in the following areas by facilitating the availability of adoptable AI-based solutions or developing AI-based applications that benefit these areas and the connected eco-system:

1. Predictive Policy Making
2. Government Adoption
3. Capacity Building
4. Skills and Education
5. Community Collaboration
6. Engaging Start-ups
7. Innovation
8. Providing Infrastructure for computing and storage.

The Information Technology and Digital Services Department, through its constituent departments, shall spearhead the AI Mission program to achieve the objectives listed above.

## 2.4.2.4 Block Chain

The Government of Tamil Nadu introduced the Tamil Nadu Block Chain Policy to promote the adoption of blockchain technology across various sectors within the state. Block chain policy envisages providing faster, more efficient, secure, and transparent delivery of services to the people of Tamil Nadu by building new e-governance Blockchain applications and also augmenting existing governance workflows and processes with Blockchain. It also envisages creating a set of standards and establishing guidelines to be followed by all Tamil Nadu Government blockchain implementations to ensure enhanced interoperability, security, privacy, and uniformity in technology stacks across Government departments.

"Nambikkai Inaiyam (NI)" represents a Blockchain-as-a-Service infrastructure meticulously designed for the State of

Tamil Nadu. The platform adopts the modular architecture and designed in a way to scale, ensuring that it can adapt and grow with the demands of its expanding user base. Security is at its forefront, Nambikkai Inaiyam's vision is to provide a true blockchain solution that gives confidence, encourages innovation, and empowers the state, ultimately driving adoption and trust, following the Tamil Nadu Blockchain Policy.

Its core purpose is to empower the government with a strong platform for safeguarding critical documents and data, which includes e-Sevai certificates, academic certificates, mark sheets, licenses, and land transaction records, against unauthorized alterations and tampering. At the core of this innovative ecosystem lies the "e-Pettagam" application, which serves as a secure path for the public to share their e-Sevai certificates, academic certificates, and mark sheets. By leveraging this

application, residents gain the ability to transmit these digitized documents with utmost security.

It enables the residents and businesses of Tamil Nadu to seamlessly exchange their digitized documents in a secure and paperless manner, all while maintaining the integrity of the data. These documents can be swiftly and reliably verified by a wide array of stakeholders, including employers, higher education institutions, government departments, financial institutions, and various authorities.

**Features:**

TNeGA has deployed Phase I of the Blockchain Backbone platform and below ones are the first few use cases,

a. Secured and verified 27 e-Sevai certificates.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Community Certificate | 15. Small/Marginal Farmer Certificate |
| 2. Nativity Certificate | 16. Solvency Certificate |
| 3. Income Certificate | 17. No Male Child Certificate |

| | |
|---|---|
| 4. First Graduate Certificate | 18. Unmarried Certificate |
| 5. Deserted Woman Certificate | 19. Licence under Pawn Broker Act |
| 6. Agriculture Income Certificate | 20. Money Lender's Licence |
| 7. Family Migration Certificate | 21. Issuance of Jain Religious Minority Certificate |
| 8. Unemployment Certificate | 22. Economically Weaker Sections (Income and Assets) |
| 9. Widow Certificate | 23. Issuance of Public Building License |
| 10. Certificate for Loss of Educational Records due to Disasters | 24. Destitute Widow Certificate |
| 11. Inter Caste Marriage Certificate | 25. Birth Certificate |
| 12. Legal Heir Certificate | 26. Death Certificate |
| 13. OBC Certificate | 27. Marriage Certificate |
| 14. Residence Certificate | |

b. Tamil Nadu State Board certificates and mark sheets for Tamil Nadu residents.

### Secure Document Management with e-Pettagam:

Once the user logs in e-Pettagam and fetches his/her certificates by entering the certificate parameters, the certificates gets secured in blockchain. This will allow the residents of the State to securely share their blockchain secured genuine documents for verification with employers, education institutes or other authorities using the e-Pettagam wallet app. Apart, the documents registered in the Registration department are automatically fetched and being secured in the blockchain. The metadata of document registry is stored and can be validated in blockchain platform.

- TNeGA has created a Block chain platform. It will serve as the only source of authenticity and trust in Government operations and Government Data. In

addition, the documents registered in the Registration department are automatically fetched and are being secured in the blockchain. The metadata of document registry is stored and can be validated in blockchain platform.

- The Blockchain Backbone platform, Nambikkai Inaiyam along with ePettagam – citizen wallet app and IGR application was launched.

- e-Sevai & Education certificates (more than 3.5 lakhs certificates) and the registered documents (more than 36 lakhs) from Registration Departments are continuously being secured in Block chain, since its launch.

In future, the track and trace, asset management, network and transaction

management will be added as core functionalities to the current blockchain platform.

## 2.4.2.5 GRAINS – Grower online Registration of Agricultural Input System

As announced during the 2022-23 Assembly session, the GRAINS project was successfully implemented in 2023-24 by the Department of Agriculture, the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, and the Department of Revenue Administration and Disaster Management.

GRAINS will serve as a single source of truth for beneficiaries, containing essential information such as farmers basic particulars, bank details, land records, and crop data. This platform will streamline access to government schemes, allowing farmers to easily access benefits from over 25 departments that implement farmer-oriented programs.

TNeGA has developed web and mobile applications for "GRAINS" (Grower Online Registration of Agricultural Input System), a portal that integrates farmer, land, and crop registries while offering tailored agricultural advice to boost crop production and farmers' livelihoods.

It includes three key registries: the Farmer Registry, which validates farmer and land details; the Geo-Referenced Village Map Registry, which provides accurate land data; and the Crop Registry, which tracks crop areas using geospatial technology.

The GRAINS covers 38 districts, 302 taluks and 17,164 villages with land details comprising 50.79 lakh survey numbers, 4.06 crore subdivisions, and covering a total area of 112 Lakh hectares.

Currently, crop data for 72.45 lakh land sub-divisions were recorded during Kharif 2024-2025 season and 3.85 crore sub-divisions during Rabi 2024-2025 season achieving a 94.70% completion rate.

TNeGA has deployed 15 Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for GRAINS to communicate with user departments for various functions like user profile, land details, crop information, and more. These APIs facilitate seamless integration of data from the Grains portal into departmental systems.

Currently, the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBiH) is integrated with GRAINS for instant loan disbursement. Various departments, including the Agriculture Department, Horticulture Department, Sugar Department, and Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, utilize this API.

During 2025-2026, Digital Crop Survey has to be conducted every season. Hence, the Digital Crop Survey mobile and web applications will be continuously updated and actively used for crop surveys.

## 2.4.3 Government process simplification

## 2.4.3.1 SIMPLEGOV

In continuation to the Announcement made on 'SimpleGov' in the Legislative Assembly to simplify the existing process of various services and schemes rendered by the Government to the citizens/Businesses, a Government Order was issued by the Human Resources Management Department constituting a Screening Committee and Empowered Committee for reviewing the proposal put forth by the Advisor, SimpleGov. This will involve process re-examining and re-engineering of all existing Licenses/ Certificates/Schemes/Approvals/Clearances such that the compliances are substituted with the

least red tape and digitizing the approval/renewal processes of all services to ensure easier access and greater benefits for citizens.

Currently, priority has been given to areas with a maximum public interface, process compliances, licenses, acts, regulations, and rules that require re-engineering, which will then be processed through the Screening Committee and Empowered Committee. And then the final orders are issued by the Departments concerned for final implementation to make life simpler for the citizens.

The core team of 5 members from CM Dashboard had been deployed for this project. The core team led by Advisor, SimpleGov wrote the proposal for the selected 8 processes and presented it to the screening committee. Based on the recommendation of the Screening Committee, the Empowered Committee was convened and cleared all the 8 proposals and for

6 proposals G.O has been issued. For the remaining 2 proposals, the G.O.s issue is under progress. Application development is in progress on the e-Sevai portal for the services for which the G.O's have been issued. During the year 2025 – 2026, 150 services across various departments are proposed to be simplified under SimpleGov initiative and are in progress.

### 2.4.4 IT Services offered to other departments

### 2.4.4.1 SMS and WhatsApp Gateway

TNeGA is providing the SMS and WhatsApp Gateway to all Government departments at a low cost and effective manner in order to create awareness and up to date information on all schemes of the Government. Currently, SMS service provided to 84 Departments / Boards / PSUs / Agencies and WhatsApp Gateway Services provided to 26 Departments / Boards / PSUs / Agencies. Till date, 137.8 crore SMS and

20.02 crore WhatsApp messages were sent to beneficiaries.

## 2.4.4.2 Online Exam as a Service (EaaS)

In order to facilitate the Government Departments to fill the vacancies quickly and in time bound manner, TNeGA is providing online 'Examination as a Service' to Departments. The scope of this work includes Pre-examination process, Examination process and Post examination activities.

So far, six Departments / Boards have utilized this service of TNeGA:

1. Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA)
2. Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS)
3. Teachers Recruitment Board (TRB)
4. Medical Services Recruitment Board (MSRB)

5. Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT)

6. Madras High Court.

A total of 5,06,677 candidates applied to take the exams, representing the initial pool of interested individuals. Out of these applicants, 3,46,146 candidates appeared, successfully participated and wrote the exams.

During the year 2024-25, TNeGA conducted three examinations to the Medical Services Examination (MSRB), two examinations to the Teachers Recruitment Board (TRB), One examination to the Fisheries Department and One examination to the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT). It is expected that a greater number of Departments / Boards will use the Examination as a Service (Eaas) of TNeGA during the year 2025-2026.

### 2.4.4.3 e-Sign as a Service

e-Sign is one of the key elements for Paperless revolution, as part of the Digital Programme, it is flexible and easy to implement. e-Sign is also a Secured online service which has compliance of guidelines of Controller of Certifying Authorities(CCA) and UIDAI.

e-Sign service is to offer on-line service to citizens for instant signing of their documents securely anytime, anywhere, using device such as Personal Computer or Laptop or Mobile. It is cost effective and legally accepted mechanism for instant electronic signing of documents as per Indian IT Act, 2000.

e-Sign service supports both One Time Password (OTP) and Biometric (Fingerprint) based modes of authentication for leveraging e-KYC service of UIDAI.

At present, the eSign service of TNeGA is being utilized by 19 Departments like Health, Registration, Land Administration, Geology & Mining, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, Town & Country Planning, Education, Social Defence, Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Minorities Welfare Department, Tamil Nadu Police, Social Welfare and Treasuries and Accounts Department, Commissionerate of Revenue Administration.

Around 2,88,27,775 e-Signatures were carried out since 2020. Departments like Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Agriculture Directorate, Agricultural Engineering Department, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Tamil Nadu Electrical Inspectorate, Tamil Nadu Fiber Net Corporation (TANFINET), Tamil Nadu Housing Board, Tamil Nadu Online Gaming Authority and Electronics Corporation of

Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) are currently in the pipeline for availing e-Sign services from TNeGA. The number of e-Signature is expected to cross 4 crore during the year 2025-26.

## 2.4.4.4 API Gateway as a Service

The API Gateway acts as a central hub for managing, securing, and regulating APIs, facilitating efficient and secure communication between applications and their services. Utilizing an API Gateway presents several advantages to different departments:

A. Interdepartmental Integration: It allows secure exchange of data and services between various government departments.

B. Standardization: By establishing standardized protocols and formats for API communication, it ensures consistency and compatibility across different systems and applications used by various departments.

127

C. Enhanced Security: Robust authentication and authorization mechanisms are implemented to control API access, safeguard sensitive government data, and ensure compliance with data protection regulations.

## 2.4.4.5 Aadhaar as a Service:

TNeGA is the State Registrar for Aadhaar enrolment through Permanent Enrolment Centres across Tamil Nadu.  The Permanent Enrolment Centres are being run and maintained by M/s.ELCOT and M/s.TACTV. Aadhaar authentication is facilitated by TNeGA, for the validation of the beneficiaries instantly anytime, anywhere for various Departments. Therefore, one need not carry any other ID proof except Aadhaar number.

As the registrar, TNeGA is providing AUA (Authentication User Agency) / KUA (e-KYC User

Agency) services to 44 Sub-AUA/ KUA Departments and the onboarding of 12 Departments is in under process. The Aadhaar authentication may be done through OTP, Fingerprint, Iris and Face authentication. To avoid biometric failures, TNeGA has successfully implemented IRIS authentication for Civil Supply and Consumer Protection Department.

### Achievements:

- TNeGA, serving as an AUA/KUA, plays a significant role across various government departments and schemes utilizing Aadhaar as a service (AaaS).

- Various welfare schemes reach beneficiaries directly through the Aadhaar Payment Bridge System (APBS).

- The Aadhaar seeding system prevents duplication of beneficiaries availing the

benefit more than once from the Government for the same.

- Also, 34,92,560 applicants' details have been verified through Aadhaar biometrics while applying for a new electricity connection.

- The Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection department has proposed to distribute the flood relief amount to the PDS family cardholders through the PDS/Fair Price shops in the districts of Tamil Nadu viz., Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanyakumari etc. starting from 29.12.2023.

- The Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection department is already a Sub-AUA (Bio-Auth) with TNeGA and in November, 2023 a monthly transaction of 4,29,08,025 was done in the state for all the 38 districts

(maximum transaction count in November, 2023 is 32,91,086 on 05.11.2023)

- TNeGA has developed the Generic Face Auth e-KYC App and collaborated with the school education department to facilitate the completion of students' eKYC processes from January 29 to March 02, 2024.

- There are 2,25,42,002 family card holders verified with Aadhaar biometrics during Pongal gift hamper packages (09.01.2025 to 13.01.2025) in 2025.

- From 01.01.2024 to 31.12.2024, totally 83,48,703 registrant's details have been verified through Aadhaar biometrics during registration timing.

- Overall transaction in the year of 2024 was 58,47,28,418, Auth transactions- 56,50,18,483 and e-KYC transactions- 1,97,09,935.

### 2.4.5 Significant Interdepartmental Initiatives

### 2.4.5.1 Mobile application and Dashboard for CM Breakfast Scheme

TNeGA has created a mobile application and dashboard to oversee the execution of the Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme at the school level. The primary aim of the application is to offer visibility into the day-to-day operations of implementation of the scheme within each school. It furnishes information on the number of students benefiting from the scheme at school level, district level and State level.

The solution incorporates a centralized kitchen monitoring module tailored for schools within Corporations and Municipalities, facilitating tracking of breakfast meal preparation, delivery, and serving. To ensure prompt movement and delivery, a Fleet Tracking System has been integrated into this module.

For rural areas, a decentralized module has been developed with additional features such as Offline data capturing, catering specifically to remote and hilly regions.

Right from the commencement of the project, a real-time dashboard has been accessible to all stakeholders, enabling monitoring by key decision-makers at various levels including School Management Committees, Villages, Blocks/Zones, Municipalities/Corporations, and Districts. As part of exception handling, push SMS notifications are dispatched to these decision-makers daily at 11 am.

Currently the mobile application developed by TNeGA is being used by 34,987 schools on all working days to document the cooking and food serving procedures. Further, daily supervision of the schools is being done at district level and state level.

Recognizing the distinctive capabilities of the mobile application and its functionalities for overseeing and administering the Chief Minister Breakfast scheme, TNeGA received the "Chief Minister's Best Practices Award" for 2023 from the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Phased Implementation of the Scheme:

1. Pilot Phase (2022–2024):

Launched in 1,969 schools, benefiting 1,96,852 students.

2. Statewide Expansion (2023–2024):

Scaled up to cover 30,992 Government Primary Schools, reaching 18,53,595 students.

3. Rural Expansion (2024–2025):

Further extended to include all Government and Government-Aided Primary Schools in rural areas, covering 17,53,257 students.

In the ongoing efforts to streamline processes and minimize manual intervention, TNeGA is currently in the process of developing an Automated Billing and Indent Management Module into the existing application. This module is designed to fully automate indent and billing procedures while also overseeing school-level inventory, with the current inventory status readily available on the dashboard for inspection purposes. Additionally, plans are underway to introduce delivery-based confirmation of raw materials, adhere to SLA-based delivery schedules, generate reports for delays, and automate the payment process.

## 2.4.5.2 Other Department Key Projects

TNeGA has been instrumental in providing technical consulting services to design and develop e-Governance software for enabling digital services delivery channel for various departments.

TNeGA is supporting Tamil Virtual Academy for identification of Tamil Computing tools, Creation of Virtual Reality content & Design, Development, and Maintenance of VR/AR/XR Hybrid platform and Development of Integrated Digital Archival Management System & Portal including Hybrid Mobile App.

The resources at TNeGA are providing technical evaluation committee support for STAR 3.0 Project implementation of IGR Department, ERP 2.0 implementation by Greater Chennai Police Department, Integrated Housing Information System for Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board, State High Level Committee to review Consultancy Services for Home department, End-to-End Computerisation of Public Distribution System (PDS) for continued O&M Support services and for PDS 2.0, Integrated Core Management System Software for Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation Ltd, Naan Muthalvan

Skill portal for Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation, Expert Committee for Commissionerate of Treasuries and Accounts, Screening Committee for Social Welfare.

TNeGA is implementing state-wide Single Window Portal for Online Planning Permission and Approval system for building plan, layout and reclassification (Online PPA) for CMDA, DTCP and various Urban & Rural Local Bodies (GCC, CMA, DTP, RD & PR). Development of Mathi Sandhai portal for Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW), Namma Grama Sabha Application for Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, Elephant Death Audit Framework for Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Online portal for Jallikattu event, and many other websites and applications for various Government Departments.

TNeGA has been supporting the various departments for enabling the end-to-end

computerisation of their business processes; Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Sewerage Board (TWAD), Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), Sericulture Department, etc.

TNeGA has successfully set up IT Project Management Unit (PMU) for Commercial Taxes Department and Registration Department for end-to-end implementation of their e-Governance initiatives.

Through computerisation, the services delivered by the department will be in digital mode, enabling faster service delivery mechanism and effective monitoring of the services delivered to various stakeholders.

## 2.5 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG is an inter-governmental set of 17 aspirational goals with 169 targets, further elaborated through indicators focused on

measurable outcomes. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) enshrine a vision for better and more sustainable future for all by balancing economic, environmental, and social components.

In Tamil Nadu, the Government has constituted a High-Power Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary to Government to oversee the implementation of SDGs. Eight thematic Working Groups have been formed to review and monitor the achievement of goals and targets. The implementation is coordinated by the Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department and the State Planning Commission.

TNeGA captures the data of Sustainable Development Goals and their associated targets for all departments/boards. An SDG unit has been formed in the IT Department with the following composition:
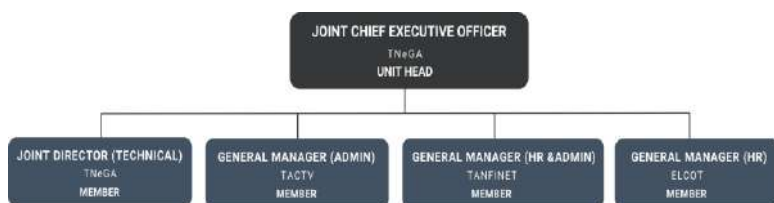
The SDG indicators related to the TNeGA and their achievements are as follows:

| Sl. No. | Indicators | 2024-2025 Performance (As on March 2025) |
|---------|-----------|------------------------------------------|
| 1 | No. of Government services provided online to citizens | 410 |
| 2 | No. of Departments/ Agencies integrated for mobile Governance | 70 |
| 3 | No. of e-transactions on e-Taal | 39.97 Crore |
| 4 | No. of Operational Common Service Centres | 34,843 |

# CHAPTER III

# TAMIL NADU ARASU CABLE TV CORPORATION LIMITED

## 3.1 Introduction

"Arasu Cable TV Corporation Ltd", a Company registered under Companies Act, 1956, was setup on 04.10.2007 with the objective of providing high quality cable services to the public at an affordable cost through Local Cable TV Operators (LCOs). In 2011, it was revamped and renamed as the "Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation Ltd" (TACTV). The service provided by the TACTV Corporation is a welfare initiative taken by the Government to provide livelihood to 8000 Local Cable Operators and 12,000 labourers in the industry and to provide high quality cable TV service to the public.

TACTV's subscription cost of Rs.140/- + GST is the lowest cable TV subscription rate in

the country. The corporation currently operates with a digital subscriber base of approximately 14.12 lakh users. Further, the welfare Board has been strengthened during 2024 to support the Local Cable Operators and workers in the Cable TV industry.

## 3.2 Vision

To provide high quality digital Cable TV and e-Sevai services to the public at an affordable cost using the latest and emerging Technologies.

## 3.3 Mission

- To provide high quality Digital Cable TV service to the public at an affordable cost through the Local Cable Operators.

- To create an enabling environment to facilitate the livelihood of Local Cable Operators through cable TV services.

- To establish model 'e-Sevai front offices' for the benefit of the general public.

## 3.4 Digitalization of Cable TV Service

TACTV had applied for the DAS (Digital Addressable System) license for the Chennai Metro Area on 05.07.2012 and for the rest of Tamil Nadu on 23.11.2012 with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. The DAS License was granted to TACTV on 17.4.2017 for providing Digital Cable TV Service. It is the first of its kind a State Government Undertaking in the Cable TV industry to get DAS License in the Country. In order to ensure superior picture quality with the latest Digital Cable TV technology, TACTV also upgraded its existing Motion picture expert group (MPEG-2) Digital Head End in Chennai to (MPEG-4) Digital Head End with higher channel capacity in Digital Transmission.

In order to cater to the needs of the general public, TACTV is providing high-quality Digital Cable services at an affordable cost of

Rs.140+GST with 229 channels (147 Free To Air (FTA) + 82 Pay channels). This is the lowest Digital Cable TV subscription rate in the country. To expand the subscriber base and to introduce modern technology, TACTV has finalized a tender for 50 lakh High Definition (HD) Set-Top Boxes (STBs) on rental model.  Initially, 2 lakh HD STBs have been procured and are being distributed to the subscribers through the Local Cable Operators. Further, TACTV has facilitated credit facilities through a Nationalised Bank to ease the financial burden on Local Cable Operators for Set-Top Boxes Procurement.

Steps are being taken to increase the subscriber base to 50 Lakh and to introduce the latest technology IPTV services through internet and ensure quality digital TV reaches the public at an affordable cost.

## 3.5 Arasu e-Sevai Centres

TACTV established Arasu e-Sevai Centers in 2014 to deliver Government to Citizen Services (G2C).  As of now, TACTV is operating 537 Arasu e-Sevai centers across urban and semi urban areas of the State, offering a gamut of high volume 136 Citizen Centric Services of the Government. In 2024-25, services have been delivered electronically to the public and about 15.03 lakh transactions been made by Arasu e-Sevai centers. In addition, 138 special camps were held in response to requests received from various District Administrations.

## 3.6 Permanent Enrolment Centres (PECs) for Aadhaar

The Government of Tamil Nadu appointed Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA) and Commissionerate of e-Governance as Registrar for Aadhaar enrolment in Tamil Nadu. The TNeGA has authorized TACTV to act as an Aadhaar enrolment

agency starting from 01.10.2016. TACTV has since established 335 Permanent Enrolment Centers across the State. During 2024-25, about 1.42 lakh new Aadhaar enrolments and 21.5 lakh mandatory biometric and demographical updations have been made through Permanent Enrolment Centers.

| **TACTV PEC Transactions Report (Year Wise)** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sl.No | Financial Year | New Aadhaar Enrolment | Mandatory/ biometric/ Demographical Updation | Total Transactions |
| 1 | April 2021 – March 2022 | 3,30,001 | 19,09,246 | **22,39,247** |
| 2 | April 2022 – March 2023 | 2,56,235 | 19,03,254 | **21,59,489** |
| 3 | April 2023 – March 2024 | 2,10,345 | 20,34,092 | **22,44,437** |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | April 2024 – March 2025 | 1,42,783 | 21,15,794 | **22,58,577** |
| | **Total** | **9,39,364** | **79,62,386** | **89,01,750** |

## 3.7 Tamil Nadu Cable TV Operators and Workers Welfare Board

The Government through G.O.(Ms.) No.03, Information Technology and Digital Services (A1) Department, dated 13.01.2024, reconstituted and rechristened the existing Cable TV Workers Welfare Board as Tamil Nadu Cable TV Operators and Workers Welfare Board. This change enables both the Local Cable Operators and workers be the members of the Welfare Board, thereby extending the welfare schemes to all in the Cable TV industry. The online member registration portal was launched on 07.03.2024, and 2115 members have registered with the Welfare Board as of date. So far, the welfare Board has extended welfare measures to 39 eligible

beneficiaries at a cost of Rs.2,83,500/-. The details are tabulated as below:

| Sl. No. | Type of Assistance | No.of Beneficiaries | Amount Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Educational Assistance | 31 | 65,500 |
| 2. | Marriage Assistance | 5 | 23,000 |
| 3. | Natural Death & Funeral Assistance | 2 | 70,000 |
| 4. | Compensation for accidental Death | 1 | 1,25,000 |
| | **Total** | 39 | 2,83,500 |

# CHAPTER IV

## TAMIL NADU FIBRENET CORPORATION LIMITED (TANFINET)

### 4.1 Introduction

BharatNet project is currently being implemented by TANFINET at an approved cost of Rs.1815.31 Crore funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), Department of Telecommunications, Government of India (GoI). The project envisages to connect 12,525 Gram Panchayats of the State through Optical Fiber Cable (OFC), which will enable TANFINET and other service providers to extend high-speed broadband connectivity to the rural areas. Establishing such an infrastructure will enable all digital services to be available to rural people and improve digital services in all government offices.

Further, TANFINET Corporation is also implementing Last Mile Connectivity (LMC) Project sanctioned under the Special Assistance Scheme

to States for Capital Investment with an outlay of Rs.184 crore. This project aims to connect Government Institutions, Offices and Households using the BharatNet infrastructure.

The Government of Tamil Nadu designated TANFINET Corporation as Optional Procurement Agency (OPA) on 13.10.2023 for providing connectivity services to Government Institutions, Offices and its agencies by relaxing clause 3 under section 3 of the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998.

## 4.2 BharatNet Phase II Project

The implementation of the project has been divided geographically into four packages (A,B,C & D) and the on-field implementation of the BharatNet Phase-II project is progressing across the districts. As on 31.03.2025, 92% of the project scope has been achieved by connecting

11,626 Gram Panchayats of the State to the nearest block through 53,334 kms. of OFC.

| Package Name | No. of Blocks | No. of GPs | OFC Route Length (in km) | GPs lit-up (in Nos) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 75 | 3095 | 12,903.54 | 2970 |
| B | 94 | 3001 | 12,860.39 | 2784 |
| C | 110 | 3326 | 15,215.39 | 3271 |
| D | 109 | 3103 | 12,354.90 | 2601 |
| **Total** | **388** | **12,525** | **53,334.22** | **11,626** |

## 4.3 Last Mile Connectivity

Under the Special Assistance scheme for the year 2022-2023 to States for Capital Investment, the Government had accorded approval for the Last Mile Connectivity Project at an outlay of Rs.184 Crore. This project aims to connect Government Institutions, Offices and Households

using the BharatNet infrastructure. Accordingly, the Letter of Acceptance for LMC Project has been awarded to the successful bidders to supply, install and integrate around 9,500 Optical Line Terminal (OLT) equipment across the State to provide Last mile Connectivity through Fibre Medium, with upgraded broadband ecosystem. Further, all district headquarters are proposed to be connected to the nearest BharatNet Point of Presence (PoP) at Block headquarters.

To facilitate connectivity services, TANFINET has obtained an ISP Class "B" license from the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on 17.04.2023.

## 4.4 Unified Digital Infrastructure (UDI)

In order to provide seamless connectivity to urban areas and to set up a backbone infrastructure for BharatNet, Government has proposed to implement "TamilNet" project.

"Unified Digital Infrastructure" project envisages implementing "TamilNet" and integrating the BharatNet with TamilNet, to create a unified network ecosystem, thereby enabling urban citizens to reap the benefits of the digital revolution with assured quality at an affordable cost. UDI will also act as the backhaul optical fiber infrastructure of BharatNet. Implementation of UDI may be taken up subsequent to the completion of the BharatNet Phase-II project.

## 4.5 TNSWAN & Other Connectivity Services

Earlier, ELCOT had been providing TNSWAN connectivity services through Point-to-Point, Leased Line (P2P-LL). Based on the direction of Government, the Government Offices covered under TNSWAN have been migrated to TANFINET w.e.f. 14.11.2023. Under the migration process, TANFINET has adopted MPLS VPN based connectivity, which provides higher bandwidth, eases the maintenance of circuits, reducing the

number of network hops and lesser network down time. As BharatNet is currently under implementation, TANFINET has completed the TNSWAN migration process through ISPs onboarded by TANFINET tender process. As on date, TANFINET has completed the migration of 1938 number of Government links provided with Point-to-Point, Leased Line (P2P-LL) with the MPLS VPN connectivity services based on the requirement of various Government offices. Once BNG is functional, all the links will be migrated to TANFINET.

## 4.6 Franchisee Partner Registration

> ➢ TANFINET invites applications from Franchisee Partners to collaborate in providing high-quality internet services. A Franchisee Onboarding notification was published on December 4, 2024, for 960 Gram Panchayats (GPs) currently under Operation & Maintenance (O&M).

➢ TANFINET invites all eligible entrepreneurs, local cable TV operators and networking enthusiasts to join this initiative and work together towards the Government of Tamil Nadu's goal of ensuring reliable internet connectivity to every household, bridging the rural-urban divide and driving inclusive development.

➢ TANFINET aims to select franchise partners from approximately one thousand Gram Panchayats every month and work with them to deliver internet services to residents. Once partners are selected, internet service rollout will begin in rural and semi-urban areas.

## 4.7 Sustainable Development Goals

As per the Sustainable Development Goals, the Government has created a performance

indicator of TANFINET Corporation showing its performance in "Percentage of Gram Panchayat with High speed Fibre Optic Connection". As on 14.02.2025, out of proposed 12,525 Gram panchayats under BharatNet Project, 11,506 Gram Panchayats have been successfully commissioned, thereby achieving 92% in the above performance indicator.

## 4.8 Benefits

On completion of BharatNet, Last Mile Connectivity and UDI projects, TANFINET would be able to provide high-speed connectivity services at affordable cost to the Government Departments, Private Institutions and Households in the State of Tamil Nadu.

# CHAPTER V

# TAMIL VIRTUAL ACADEMY

## 5.1 Introduction

The Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA) was initially established as Tamil Virtual University in 2001, under Section 27 of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act of 1975. It was renamed Tamil Virtual Academy on July 16, 2010. The aim of Tamil Virtual Academy is to provide Tamil education to the Tamil Diaspora through virtual mode, digitisation of all rare Tamil books, palm leafs and developing Tamil Computing tools.

## 5.2 Objectives of Tamil Virtual Academy

- ❖ To offer certificate courses in five levels and cultural propagation.
- ❖ To manage Tamil Digital Library and Digital Cultural Repository.
- ❖ To develop software and tools for making advancements in Tamil computing.

157

## 5.3 Academic Programmes

Tamil Virtual Academy offers a range of courses including Certificate course, Diploma, Higher Diploma and a Degree in B.A., Tamilology, Diploma in Tamil Teaching. To date, over 100,000 students have enrolled in these programs. The details are given below:

## 5.3.1 Certificate Course

Five levels of Certificate Courses with a skill-based syllabus (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing) are offered:

| S.No. | Level | Equivalence |
|-------|---------|------------------|
| 1. | Akaram | Classes 1 & 2 |
| 2. | Ikaram | Classes 3,4 & 5 |
| 3. | Ukaram | Classes 6,7 & 8 |
| 4. | Lakaram | Classes 9 & 10 |
| 5. | Cikaram | Classes 11 & 12 |

So far, 18,968 students have passed in the above courses.

## 5.3.2 B.A. Tamilology Degree Programme

The B.A. Tamilology degree program is structured to award Diploma, Higher Diploma, and Degree qualifications in three progressive stages. The details of the students passed so far is as follows:

- ❖ Diploma Course – 2679
- ❖ Higher Diploma Course - 2151
- ❖ Degree Course - 1906

To support the implementation of these academic programs, 184 contact centers have been established across 39 countries. Detailed information is available on the Tamil Virtual Academy website (www.tamilvu.org).

## 5.3.3 Tamil Parappurai Kazhagam

Following the announcement in the Assembly regarding teaching of Tamil as a second or third language to the Tamil Diaspora, the

activities of Tamil Parappurai Kazhagam are being carried out by Tamil Virtual Academy. These initiatives are funded by the government, with a grant of Rs.2.00 crore allocated for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24.

## 5.3.3.1 Tamil Learning Resources

To support multimodal learning for students, supplementary learning tools such as audiobooks, read-along books, animation videos, video lessons and flashcards are being developed.
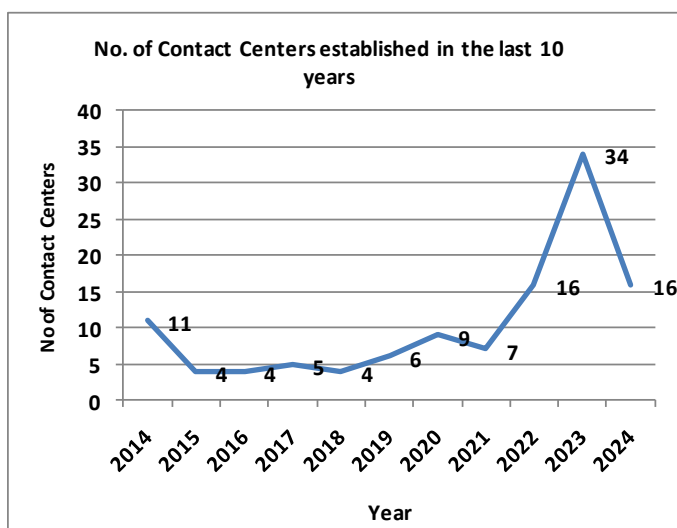
The launching ceremony of Tamil Parappurai Kazhagam, along with the Akaram – Semester 1 textbook, its translations in 24 languages, transliterations in 13 languages, and supplementary learning tools, was inaugurated by the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 24th September 2022.

A book titled 'தமிழைப் பிழையின்றி எழுதுவோம்' was launched by the Honorable

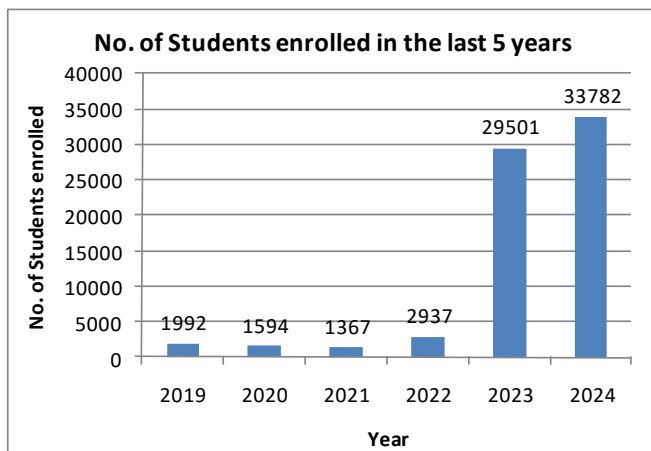Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services on 27th August 2024.

**5.3.3.2 New Contact Centres**

Since the formation of this Government 74 new contact centers have been established across 20 countries.



No. of Contact Centers established in the last 10 years

## Students Enrolment

**No. of Students enrolled in the last 5 years**

| Year | No. of Students enrolled |
|------|--------------------------|
| 2019 | 1992 |
| 2020 | 1594 |
| 2021 | 1367 |
| 2022 | 2937 |
| 2023 | 29501 |
| 2024 | 33782 |

## 5.3.3.3 Cultural propagation activities

❖ Martial Arts – Videos demonstrating the basics of Silambattam training have been recorded and uploaded.

❖ The presentation of 64 Thevaram and Thiruvasagam hymns in contemporary music is nearing completion, featuring visuals of temples and the locations where these hymns were originally recited.

- ❖ Virtual Pannisai Payirchi classes are being offered to Tamil devotional music enthusiasts in the Tamil Diaspora. More than 125 classes were conducted till date.

- ❖ A unique infinity table calendar featuring 366 verses from Sangam Literature, accompanied by illustrations and explanations in both Tamil and English, was launched by the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on February 04, 2025.
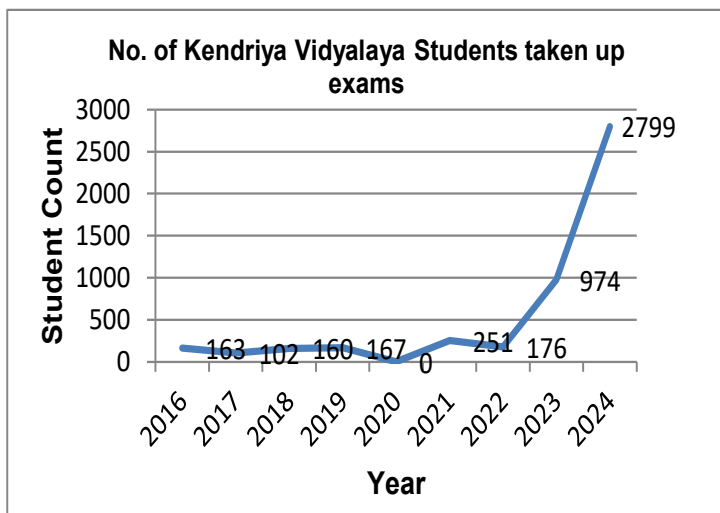
### 5.3.3.4 Diploma in Tamil Teaching

A one-year Diploma course in Tamil Teaching for volunteer teachers of Tamil Diaspora students was launched by the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 26th September 2023. More than 200 volunteers have enrolled and pursued this program.

**5.3.3.5 Online Classes**

Online Tamil classes are being offered to students from various countries and Indian States, with certificates issued upon completion of exams.

The enrollment of Kendriya Vidyalaya students in Tamil Virtual Academy's academic programs has seen a significant increase, rising from 4 schools to 50 schools in the Chennai region during the 2023-2024 academic year. Online Tamil classes are also being provided to these students. Online classes for 98 batches were completed and classes for another 101 batches are being conducted.

**No. of Kendriya Vidyalaya Students taken up exams**

A line chart plots Student Count (y-axis, 0 to 3000) against Year (x-axis, 2016 to 2024). Data point labels: 163, 102, 160, 167, 0, 251, 176, 974, 2799.

## 5.3.3.6 Spoken Tamil Course

Spoken Tamil classes, a new initiative, are being offered to Central Government employees such as Southern Railway, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, Airport Authority of India, National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes and Narcotics, Directorate of Census Operations, State Bank of India, Union Bank of India and Inter State Migrant workers of Tiruppur and Coimbatore who have recently migrated to Tamil Nadu.

## 5.3.3.7 Financial Assistance

Plans are in place to provide financial assistance to cover teachers' remuneration, classroom rental costs for Tamil associations, and Tamil schools operating in other countries and states.

A teacher has been sent to Fiji to conduct Tamil classes.

## 5.3.3.8 Optional Tamil Language Exam for Private School Students

The Tamil Virtual Academy conducted an optional Tamil language exam for students studying Tamil as an optional language subject in 10th grade at Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and other board-affiliated private schools. The exam was held on January 30, 2025, and January 31, 2025. 12,813 students from 812 schools registered, of which 12,350

students took up the exam. The process of issuing certificates to these students is underway.

### 5.3.4 Theera Kaadhal Thirukkural

To promote the teachings of the Thirukkural among school and college students and foster their painting skills, a competition titled 'Kuraloviyam' was organized. From this, 365 outstanding paintings were selected and compiled into a Thirukkural daily table calendar.

On 21st December 2022, a Thirukkural dance drama titled 'Kural Inidhu' was performed for the benefit of school and college students. It is planned to conduct these events on a regular basis.
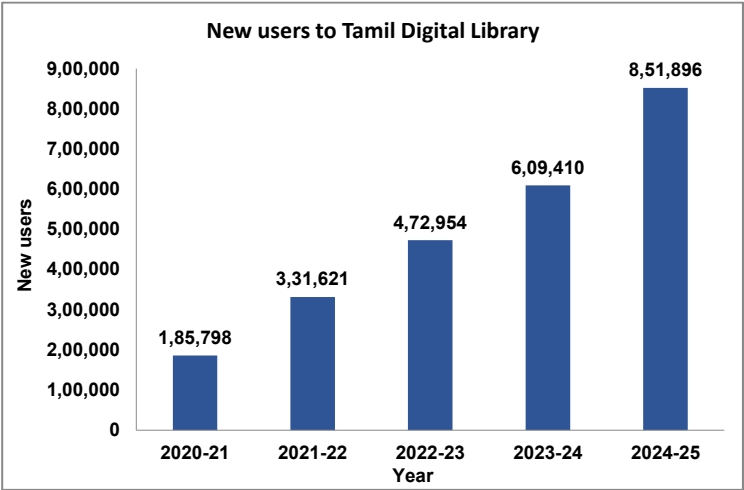
### 5.4 Digital Library

The Tamil Virtual Academy offers digital library services through its website, www.tamildigitallibrary.in. The library houses rare

books, periodicals, manuscripts and documents covering literature, religion, history, and medicine, dating from the 18th century onwards. To date, over 1 lakh books, periodicals and documents have been digitized and uploaded. The library is continuously enriched with the addition of more rare materials. The website has received more than 13 crore visits.



*Tamil digital library website*
*(www.tamildigitallibrary.in)*

*Google Analytics Data*
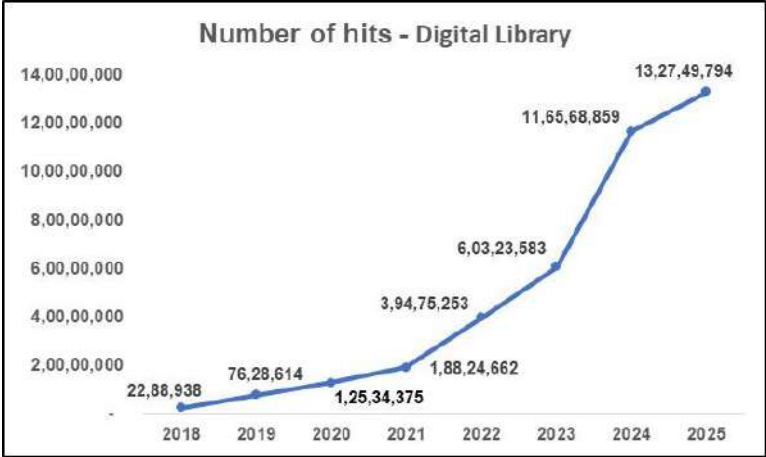


*Number of hits - Digital library*

### 5.4.1 Palm-Leaf Digitization

The Tamil Virtual Academy has digitized and uploaded over 8 lakh palm leaf manuscript pages from the Dr. U. V. Saminathar Library, the Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy, and the International Institute of Tamil Studies.

### 5.4.2 Inclusive Digital Library

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has been allocated to transform the digital library into an Inclusive Digital Library for visually impaired users. Using Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology, 12.85 lakh pages from PDF of printed books in the library have been converted into text format. Additionally, 1,30,000 pages have been converted into doc and epub file formats.

### 5.4.3 Digitization of rare audio-video, photographs and other historical documents

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has been allocated for digitizing audio-video tapes, audio discs, rare photographs, and other historical documents. To date, 800 hours of audio-visual content and 6,974 photographs have been digitized, and efforts are underway to upload them to the website.

### 5.4.4 Digitization of rare books, periodicals, manuscripts and other important documents and modernization of Digital Library

The Government allocated Rs. 96.65 lakh in the year 2022-23 for the digitization of rare books, periodicals, manuscripts and other important documents, as well as the modernization of the digital library. To date, 19,89,301 pages have been digitized. The revamped website will be launched shortly.

## 5.4.5 Digital Cultural Atlas

The Government allocated Rs. 99.72 lakh in the year 2022-23 for the creation of a Cultural Digital Atlas. Field study and documentation have been completed at 500 locations across 5 districts in Madurai region, and the integration of this data into the website is currently in progress.

## 5.4.6 Celebrating 150th Birth Anniversary of 'Kappalottiya Tamilan' V.O. Chidambaranaar – digitise and publish his books and manuscripts in the internet

In commemoration of the 150th Birth Anniversary of 'Kappalottiya Tamizhan' V.O. Chidambaranar, a collection of 127 books, manuscripts, photographs, documents, and multimedia content has been meticulously digitized and made available online. This special webpage was officially inaugurated by the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

on          November          18,          2022.
https://www.tamildigitallibrary.in/voc



*V.O. Chidambaranaar 150th Birth Anniversary*
*special webpage*
*(https://www.tamildigitallibrary.in/voc)*

### 5.4.7 'Kalaignar Karuvoolam' special web page

In honor of the nationalization of the works of 'Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar,' the Tamil Virtual Academy has created a special webpage titled 'Kalaignar Karuvoolam' (https://www.tamildigitallibrary.in/kalaignar/).

This page houses a remarkable collection of 955 rare items, categorized into Literature, Journalism, Speeches, Films, Timeline, and documents about Kalaignar. It features a wide range of materials, including his novels, stories, dramas, poems, articles, autobiography, literary speeches, periodicals, annuals, letters, caricatures, legislative assembly speeches, lectures, interviews, film screenplay, dialogues, lyrics, photographs, audio recordings, videos, books and articles about Kalaignar. The webpage was officially launched by the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on February 4, 2025.

*'Kalaignar karuvuulam' - special webpage*
*(https://www.tamildigitallibrary.in/kalaignar)*

### 5.4.8 Documenting Ph.D Thesis Abstracts, Synopses and Glossaries from all State Government Universities.

The abstracts, thesis, and glossaries of doctoral dissertations from all State Government universities are being received. As of now, 2,388 Ph.D. thesis abstracts have been received from Universities since 2022.

## 5.5 Research and Development - Tamil Computing

For the past 25 years, the Tamil Virtual Academy has been a pioneer in developing and releasing a diverse range of Tamil computing software and tools, serving students, researchers and language technology enthusiasts. These resources are freely available on www.tamilvu.org fostering global accessibility and encouraging engagement with Tamil digital tools.

## 5.5.1 Tamil Software and Tools

The Tamil Virtual Academy has developed a suite of advanced Tamil software and tools aimed at supporting and promoting the use of the Tamil language in the digital realm. These software and tools are specifically designed to meet the needs of a wide range of users, including students, researchers, and language technology professionals.

### 5.5.1.1 Tamil Unicode Fonts

Recognizing the crucial role of Tamil Unicode fonts in enabling the use of Tamil across digital platforms, the Tamil Virtual Academy has developed 15 unique Tamil Unicode fonts. These include: Bharathi, Kapilar, Kambar, Valluvar, Marutham, Cauvery, Ezil, Kurinji, Mullai, Palai, Urai, Achu, Malar, Neythal, and Nilavu. Available in four styles—Regular, Italic, Bold, and Bold Italic—these fonts offer versatility for a wide range of applications. The Tamil Unicode fonts are essential for uniform digital representation of the Tamil language. Notably, the Government of Tamil Nadu has officially ordered 'TAU-Marutham' as the standard Unicode font for Tamil documents to be used by all government departments.

### 5.5.1.2 Keezhadi Keyboard

In October 2021, the Tamil Virtual Academy launched the Keezhadi Keyboard, a versatile tool

designed to simplify Tamil typing across various digital platforms. The Keezhadi Keyboard features three distinct layouts:

- **Tamil99 Keyboard:** A standardised Tamil typing layout.
- **Old Typewriter Keyboard:** A layout based on the traditional Tamil typewriter.
- **Phonetic Keyboard:** A layout designed for users who prefer to type Tamil based on its phonetic sounds.

This innovation makes typing in Tamil more intuitive and accessible to a wider range of users.

### 5.5.1.3 Thamizhi Unicode Converter

Released in October 2021, the Thamizhi Unicode Converter is an essential tool that enables users to convert documents from various encodings, such as ASCII, TAB, TAM, and Vanavil, into Unicode. This software also supports the conversion of multiple file formats, including DOC,

DOCX, RTF, XLS, XLSX, PPT, and PPTX. By facilitating seamless document migration, it enhances compatibility across different platforms.

### 5.5.1.4 Spell Checker

The Tamil Virtual Academy has developed a spell-checker tool called Tamilinaiyam-Pizhaithiruthi, designed to minimize typographical errors when typing in Tamil on digital devices. This tool will detect spelling mistakes in Tamil texts, helping users create error-free content.

### 5.5.1.5 Grammar Tool for Tamil

The Grammar tool offered by the Academy supports two Tamil grammatical types:

- Traditional Grammar
- Modern Grammar

This tool simplifies the learning of Tamil grammar and includes features for analyzing modern Tamil verbs, making it a comprehensive

179

resource for both learners and language enthusiasts.

## 5.5.1.6 Index – Concordance

To support Tamil scholars, the Academy has compiled comprehensive Indexes and Concordances for 100 key ancient Tamil literary works:

- **Index:** Identify the frequency of specific word usage within a literary text.
- **Concordance:** Provide insight into the context in which a particular word is used within the text.

These resources are designed to enhance scholarly research and deepen the understanding of ancient Tamil literature.

## 5.5.1.7 Visual Thesaurus for Tamil

To further enhance the Tamil language experience, the Visual Thesaurus for Tamil has been developed. It offers users a graphical

representation of synonyms, highlighting the various nuances and shades of meaning a word may carry in modern Tamil. Unlike traditional thesauruses, the visual format helps users grasp the subtle distinctions between words.

Through these innovations, the Tamil Virtual Academy continues to play a vital role in advancing Tamil computing, ensuring that the language remains vibrant and accessible in the digital age.

## 5.5.2 Software for Artificial Intelligence

As part of this technological revolution in the AI era, the following software are being developed specifically for the Tamil language. According to an announcement made in the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 2022-23, a budget of Rs.110.35 lakh has been allocated for the development of these software.

### 5.5.2.1 Kalaignar Syntactic Parser

The 'Kalaignar Syntactic Parser' is designed to analyze the structure of sentences by breaking them down into smaller components, such as phrases and clauses. This helps users understand the relationships between different parts of a sentence. With advancements in AI, the tool is set to play a crucial role in advancing language technology. It can be applied in various areas like Machine Translation (MT) and Language Learning (LL) significantly enhancing the understanding of sentence structure and grammar.

### 5.5.2.2 (a) Parts of Speech (POS) analyzer for Tamil

The Parts of Speech (POS) analyzes the grammatical structure of Tamil sentences by categorizing each word into its respective grammatical category.

## (b) Semantic Role Labeling (SRL) Tool for Tamil

The **SRL Tool** focuses on the **semantic interpretation** of sentences, identifying the functional roles of words beyond their grammatical classification.

## 5.5.2.3 Tamil Speech Dialects to Text Software

This innovative software is designed to convert various regional dialects of Tamil into written text. It dynamically transcribes spoken words into text in real-time.

## 5.5.2.4 Hyphenation for Tamil Typesetting

The Hyphenation tool for Tamil typesetting assists in the proper spacing of words within a paragraph and splits longer Tamil words into syllables. This tool is vital for digital publishing, especially in Tamil, where proper word

segmentation and typesetting are critical for readability and aesthetics.

These software tools were officially launched by the Honorable Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services, further demonstrating the Government's commitment to advancing Tamil language technology through AI.

### 5.5.2.5 Chatbot and Question-Answering System for Tamil

A chatbot and question-answering system is being developed specifically for the Tamil language, focused on the domains of language and literature. This AI-driven system will allow users to interact with the chatbot in Tamil text, enabling it to provide contextually relevant answers, engage in discussions, and assist in educational or literary applications. Such a system can be an essential tool for digital learning platforms, customer support, and content-driven

websites, offering users an interactive experience in Tamil.

## 5.5.2.6 Sentiment Analyzer for Tamil

This sentiment analysis tool is designed to analyze Tamil text mixed with English, especially in online content. It detects sentiment (positive, negative, or neutral) in reviews, opinions, and social media posts related to Tamil language and literature. Additionally, it offers suggestions to enhance language usage and content quality, benefiting marketers, content creators, and analysts in a multilingual digital space.

## 5.5.2.7 Palm-Leaf Character Recognition Tool

This neural network-based tool will convert Tamil handwriting, including ancient palm-leaf manuscripts, into modern Tamil text. By digitizing historical manuscripts, it preserves Tamil's rich literary heritage and makes it accessible to researchers. Using multimodal fusion techniques,

it enhances recognition accuracy for both historical and modern Tamil scripts. Once fully developed, it will advance language processing, digitization, and AI-driven applications, strengthening Tamil's role in technology and innovation.

### 5.5.3 Unicode Consortium

The Tamil Virtual Academy, an institutional member of the Unicode Consortium, represents the Government of Tamil Nadu. TVA is working to include all Tamil characters, ancient fractions, symbols, and vattezhuttukal in the Unicode Registry. This ensures standardized digital representation, preserving Tamil's rich linguistic heritage for global accessibility in modern computing.

### 5.5.4 Forum for Tamil Computing

The Forum for Tamil Computing promotes awareness of Tamil Computing among students,

with 212 forums established in universities and colleges across Tamil Nadu. It fosters discussions on Tamil digital technologies, language processing tools, and software development. This initiative strengthens Tamil Computing in academia, preparing students for digital careers while preserving and advancing Tamil in technology.

## 5.5.5 Course in Tamil Computing

The course in Tamil Computing equips students with essential skills for careers in Tamil language technology. Designed for the digital era, the course covers key topics, including Tamil computing tools, NLP, AI integration, and digital content creation, ensuring students are industry-ready for emerging opportunities in the digital landscape. The curriculum covers:

1. Introduction to Tamil Computing
2. Tamil Computing Software
3. Natural Language Processing (NLP)

4. Corpus Creation

5. Tagging Grammatical Indications

6. Digital Teaching & Learning

7. Machine Translation (MT)

This program bridges language and technology, empowering students to advance Tamil computing.

## 5.5.6 KaniTamil24 – International Tamil Computing Conference

The KaniTamil24, an International Tamil Computing Conference organized by the Tamil Virtual Academy on February 8–10, 2024, at the Chennai Trade Centre, marked a historic milestone after 25 years. It brought together experts, scholars, and enthusiasts to discuss Tamil's role in AI and emerging technologies. Over 50 scholars from 10 countries and 8 Indian States participated and deliberated on various topics.

An in principle MoU with AI Singapore was signed to develop a Tamil Large Language Model. Tamil Nadu is India's first State to host a dedicated Language Technology conference.

## 5.5.7 Series of Lecture on KaniTamil

In line with the KaniTamil24 Conference proposal to advance Tamil Computing, the Tamil Virtual Academy has been granted an annual recurring fund of Rs.3.00 lakh for conducting KaniTamil lectures. This funding will support a monthly lecture series designed to enhance the knowledge in Tamil language processing technologies among students. The series covers topics such as Tamil teaching and learning, digital library, art, culture, and heritage, while also delving into the latest advancements in language technology.

# CHAPTER VI

# ICT ACADEMY OF TAMIL NADU (ICTACT)

## 6.1 INTRODUCTION

The Information and Communication Technology Academy of Tamil Nadu (ICTACT) is an initiative of the Government of Tamil Nadu. This was established in the year 2009. The primary objective of ICTACT is to enhance the quality of higher education by equipping faculty and students, particularly in Tier II and Tier III towns, with industry-relevant skills in various technology domains. Further, ICTACT focuses on capacity-building programs, digital empowerment, and industry-driven skill development to create a future-ready workforce.

## 6.2 ACTIVITIES

The activities and achievements of ICTACT for the year 2024-25 are:

### 6.2.1 Faculty Development

A total of **7,533** faculty members have undergone training through **250** faculty development programs. These programs focused on enhancing both technology and soft skills. This initiative has significantly empowered educators with advanced knowledge and expertise.

### 6.2.2 Skill Development

ICTACT has successfully trained and certified **31,811** graduating students from colleges state-wide. This initiative aims to enhance their employability skills. It reflects ICTACT's commitment in empowering students for a competitive workforce.

### 6.2.3 Entrepreneurship Development

ICTACT organized entrepreneurship awareness seminars that reached **21,523** students across 125 colleges in Tamil Nadu. The

initiative aimed to foster entrepreneurial skills and mindset among students. It played a crucial role in promoting innovation and self-reliance in the region's educational institutions.

### 6.2.4 Youth Empowerment

➢ Organized "**Learnathon 2024**" activity for college students to inculcate the habit of self-learning and to make students learn foundations of trending technologies. **1,61,539** students were registered and completed **2,06,942** online certifications through this initiative.

➢ ICTACT organized **Skill-A-Thon 2024,** an initiative designed to encourage students to embrace automation. The event saw an overwhelming response with **81,234 student registrations**, out of which **20,779 students earned industry-recognized certifications**, enhancing their skills and career prospects.

➢ As part of its commitment to promote design thinking and creativity, ICTACT hosted the 24-hour 'India Design Week' Challenge. This initiative encouraged students to explore innovative design solutions, challenging them to think beyond conventional methods and develop practical, industry-relevant ideas. A total of **87 teams** participated in the challenge, with the **top 3 teams** being honored at the Grand Finale of India Design Week Challenge.

➢ Organized "**Youth Talk 2024**" as a part of **Youth Leadership Summit 2024** for the students of Tamil Nadu. This initiative is envisioned to develop and exhibit the public speaking skills of student community. Youth Talk is conducted in **7** regions which include Chennai, Coimbatore, Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Kanyakumari, Madurai, and Puducherry. On this occasion, **20,562** students participated in the contest.

- ➢ ICTACT in association with KYN Hood organized the **"Kynnovate 2025"** Hackathon, a premier innovation challenge. Totally **353** teams participated and **top 18** teams were shortlisted for finals; the **top 5** teams were recognized at this competition and awarded at **UmagineTN 2025**.
- ➢ ICTACT in association with Openweaver and CII organized **"Openweaver Hackathon"**. Totally, **4,141** Teams participated and **125** teams selected for the next level of Hackathon and **Top 3** were awarded at CII Connect Salem.

## 6.2.5 Research and Publications

## 6.2.5.1 ICTACT Research Journals

ICTACT publishes 6 peer reviewed International Research Journals on quarterly basis. During the year 2024-25, **4,166** articles were received and after a detailed peer review,

**239** research papers were published of which **195** papers are from India and **44** from overseas. Totally **698** research scholars, academicians and professionals were benefitted from **387** Institutions worldwide. ICTACT gained huge reach by which **21** scholars published their research work in its Journal; **18** scholars are from different countries. **398** Editors and Reviewers were involved for proof reading process. **270** are from India and **128** from across the globe.

ICTACT collaborate with its membership Institutions for research conferences. Totally, **71** conferences were collaborated across the nation.

ICTACT Journals are indexed in several international databases & libraries, including UGC-CARE (Group I) list.

- ➢ ICTACT Journal on Communication Technology (IJCT)*
- ➢ ICTACT Journal on Image and Video Processing (IJIVP)*

195

- ➢ ICTACT Journal on Soft Computing (IJSC)*

- ➢ ICTACT Journal on Micro Electronics (IJME)*

- ➢ ICTACT Journal on Management Studies (IJMS)

- ➢ ICTACT Journal on Data Science & Machine Learning (IJDSML)

*Journals listed in UGC-CARE (Group I)*

## 6.2.5.2 Special Issue on Advances in GenAI and Deep Learning (AGDL – 2025)

A Special Issue of the ICTACT Journal on Soft Computing, unveiled at the prestigious Umagine TN 2025 event. This marks a significant milestone for ICTACT and the global research community.

The guest editor for this special issue was Dr. Sainarayanan Gopalakrishnan, Ph.D., MIPL., ASMP (IIMK),Global Technology Director at HCLTech, who has expertly curated the content.

The special issue received an overwhelming response, with over 200 research articles submitted by scholars from across the globe. After a thorough peer review process conducted by global experts, 12 outstanding articles were selected for publication.

These selected articles explore the cutting-edge applications of Generative AI and Deep Learning across various fields, including software development, robotics, healthcare, and security.

This launch highlights the growing importance of AI and deep learning technologies in shaping the future of industries and offers valuable insights into their transformative potential in diverse sectors.

### 6.2.5.3 ictConnect – EduTech Magazine

ICTACT publishes ictConnect, the EduTech e-magazine dedicated to enriching the lives of diverse readership. Unveiling the extraordinary in

the ordinary, it explores the industry, helps one learn about ICT technological advancements, career guidance, skill development, case studies, skill gap analysis, teaching and learning methodologies and ICT industry trends from experts worldwide. During the year 2024-25, **132** articles were published authored by experts, corporate professionals and industry heads. Totally, **78** authors contributed for this magazine.

## 6.2.6 Industry Institute Interaction

**6,431** educators, policy makers and industry experts have participated in the below-mentioned events:

1. BRIDGE – Coimbatore, Pune, Madurai, Puducherry, Hyderabad and Bengaluru
2. MongoDB Academic Leaders Connect
3. Infocomm India Summit 2024
4. Xposure-Evangelizing Tomorrow's Technology

5. Thought Leaders Talk Series

6. Global Education Summit – ELETS

## 6.2.7 New Government Projects Implemented (2024-2025)

### 6.2.7.1 ICTACT and Department of Finance, Government of Tamil Nadu

ICTACT conducted an exclusive training on 'MS Office 365' to newly recruited officers under the Director General of Audit. Totally **967 staff** got trained under this initiative.

### 6.2.7.2 ICTACT and Chennai Port Authority

ICTACT provided Microsoft Office training to the staffs of Chennai Port Authority, enhancing their digital skills for improved workplace productivity. Totally **424** staff were trained under this initiative.

### 6.2.7.3 ICTACT and MeitY

ICTACT and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology have trained **2,130** faculty members in emerging technologies.

### 6.2.8 Corporate Partners Signed for Content (2024-2025)

ICTACT has signed MoU with Electronics Sector Skill Council (ESSC), Banking, Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI) Sector Skill Council, VEGAS, Carbon Markets Association of India (CMAI), Splunk, A2000 Solutions Private Limited, OpenWeaver, Bahwan Cybertek, Unstop and Fortinet. These corporate partners will help faculty members and students to build industry relevant skills.

### 6.2.9 Placement Impact

The Placement Impact for students graduated in 2024-25:

- No. of companies – 211

- No. of drives conducted – 402

- No. of students placed – 12,444

- Average salary: Rs.2.5 lakh per annum

## 6.2.10 New Government Partners Signed

2024-25 ICTACT has signed an MoU with

➢ MEiTY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology), Government of India

➢ Department of Employment and Training, Government of Tamil Nadu

➢ Tamil Virtual Academy

➢ National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

## 6.2.11 CSR Projects implemented in 2024–2025

ICTACT has implemented the CSR projects of the leading organizations such as Atos Prayas Foundation, Capgemini, Finastra, Infosys Foundation, ITC Infotech, Honeywell Hometown Solutions India Foundation, Redington

Foundation, and TagIT. These projects benefitted students and teachers in Tamil Nadu by providing training on emerging technology skills, entrepreneurship skills and digital teaching skills.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Project | Organization/ Department |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Trained **333** students across Tamil Nadu under the Youth Empowerment Program initiative. | ATOS Prayas Foundation |
| 2 | Trained **2,501** students under the unique initiative titled "ICT Campus to Corporate Digital Academy" | Capgemini |
| 3 | Trained **473** students under the student transformation program. The students got trained in emerging technologies. | Finastra |
| 4 | Trained **3,784** students in advanced IT skills under Honeywell's initiative, empowering them for future success. | Honeywell Hometown Solutions India Foundation |
| 5 | Trained **1,791** students in cybersecurity skills under Honeywell's initiative, enhancing their digital security expertise. | Honeywell Hometown Solutions India Foundation |

| 6 | Trained **506** students in sustainability studies under Honeywell's initiative, promoting awareness on sustainable practices. | Honeywell Hometown Solutions India Foundation |
|---|---|---|
| 7 | Trained **16,071** students in enhanced IT skills and industry-specific expertise across BFSI, Retail, E-Commerce, Logistics, and KPO sectors. | Infosys Foundation |
| 8 | Provided Aspire STEM Education Programme on IT industry readiness for **821** students. | ITC Infotech |
| 9 | Trained **514** students in Advanced IT Skills. | Redington Foundation |
| 10 | Trained **229** students in emerging IT skills. | TagIT India |
| 11 | Trained **200** faculty members and **3028** students in cybersecurity skills. | Microsoft |
| 12 | Trained **300** students of Government & Private Arts and Science institutions in retail skills. | Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) |
| 13 | Trained **178** gas delivery staffs and agency staffs in sales & marketing skills. | Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) |

Total beneficiaries impacted through CSR initiatives: **31,811**

## 6.2.12 Proposed projects in Tamil Nadu for the year (2025-2026)

| Sl. No. | Name of the Project | Organization /Department | No. of Beneficiaries |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Providing sales & marketing training to gas delivery staffs and agency staffs. | Indian Oil Corporation Limited | 3,000 |
| 2 | Training youth aged 18–35 from underprivileged backgrounds on IT & BFSI Skills. | SBI Foundation | 3,200 |
| 3 | Training 1,000 students of Arts and Science institutions and 800 unemployed youth on BFSI, Retail, & IT skills. Also establishing 3 CoEs in Madurai for IT skill training. | HP | 1,800 |

| 4 | Training final year students of engineering, arts & science colleges, polytechnic and ITIs on AI & ML Skills. | IBM | 22,600 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Training final year students of engineering, arts & science colleges on IT/ITeS, BFSI, e-Com, Logistics and Retail Skills. | Atos Prayas Foundation | 3,633 |
| 6 | To train pre-final and final year students of engineering, arts, science & polytechnic institutions in emerging technologies across the Puducherry union. | Department of Information Technology, Govt. of Puducherry | 3,000 |
| 7 | Provide training to graduating students on Advance IT skills across the State. | Rockwell Automation | 550 |

| 8 | Training students of higher education on advanced IT skills, cybersecurity and sustainability studies. | Honeywell Hometown Solutions India Foundation | 6,000 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Training students of higher education on IT and non IT skills. | Infosys Foundation | 16,000 |
| 10 | Training students of higher education on IT, ITeS and BFSI skills. | Capgemini | 2,500 |
| 11 | Training students of arts and science colleges on IT skills | ITC Infotech | 1,200 |
| 12 | Training students of higher education on advanced IT skills. | Capgemini | 1,000 |
| 13 | Training students of higher education on entrepreneurship development. | Cyient | 2,000 |

# CHAPTER VII

# TAMIL NADU TECHNOLOGY (iTNT) HUB

## 7.1 Introduction

Tamil Nadu has been one of the leading States in driving India's economic growth. Industrial development, technology adoption, high academic focus and a strong entrepreneurial mindset are some of the key factors in the State's growth and success. In order to facilitate innovation-led entrepreneurship as an enabler for contributing to the economy of the State, the Government established Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) Hub.

iTNT Hub, India's First Innovation Hub was established by the State Government with a focus on Deep Tech and Emerging Tech and inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 15th May 2023. iTNT Hub is funded by the Government of India, Government of Tamil Nadu and prominent industry players.

## 7.2 Vision

To harness Tamil Nadu's vast tech capability and make Tamil Nadu amongst the top 10 innovation hubs globally.

## 7.3 Mission

To build a thriving global innovation ecosystem by strengthening Research, Development & Innovation landscape, Industry–academia collaboration and international partnerships.

## 7.4 Objectives

The objectives of iTNT Hub are as below:

1. Support innovation-led startups in their incubation, acceleration, infrastructural and other services with a primary focus on deep tech applications.

2. Enabling corporate partnerships and support by providing defined roadmaps and responsibilities.
3. Providing high technology equipment like Fab Lab, 3D Printing and various types of IR 4.0 devices.
4. Supporting startups in creating value in the IT and Deep Tech space.
5. Creating a Digital Market Access Portal to provide services and facilitate interaction between different stakeholders.
6. Facilitating startups to assist the Government as a customer by application of Deep Tech to solve problems of public-policy and good governance.

## 7.5 Sectors in Focus

The iTNT Hub focuses on supporting startups in the Creative Tech, Semiconductor, Quantum, Climate Tech, Space Tech, Robotics,

Health Tech, High Value SaaS sectors and emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), IoT and Edge Computing.

## 7.6 Current Status

iTNT Hub currently supports 80+ Deep Tech and Emerging Tech Startups and mentored 2600+ entrepreneurs for various technology and business aspects. It has onboarded 6000+ researchers through 137 Institution MoUs and is aimed at facilitating the triple helix model of innovation – industry, academia, government connect along with startups. iTNT Hub has entered into collaboration by signing MoUs with 25 Tamil Nadu Deep Tech and Emerging Tech Incubators and launched 18 Deep Tech and Emerging Tech products. iTNT Hub has signed MoUs with C-DAC, Kerala Startup Mission, T-Hub,

T-Works, etc. to access the best resources from other States.

## 7.7 Core Initiatives
## 7.7.1 Deep Tech Startup Support

Through the pre-incubation, incubation and acceleration initiatives, iTNT Hub aims at shaping ideas & innovations into ground-breaking startups. The iTNT Hub offers technology development support, architecture and scale-up support, Fab Lab and infrastructure for rapid prototyping. It also helps entrepreneurs secure seed funds in developing Deep Tech and Emerging Tech companies and provide essential backing through seed funding and mentorship.

### 7.7.1.1 BEACON (Pre-Incubation)

Business Exploration & Acceleration Creation of New Ventures (BEACON) is a 4 week bootcamp for entrepreneurs and researchers who are in the Idea Validation stage. This program

defines, validates and refines their business concepts through a series of engaging workshops and personalised mentorships by experts.

## 7.7.1.2 PATHFINDER (Incubation)

Promoting Advanced Technologies & Innovations by Nurturing Entrepreneurs (PATHFINDER) focuses on the next-generation technologies and applications and supports startups on a cohort basis. This sector specific programme aims to support startups in AI, IoT and AVGC, Semiconductor startups in their validation, product development and fund-raising journey over a period of 6–18 months.

## 7.7.1.3 iAccelerate (Acceleration)

Through the acceleration initiative, iTNT Hub aims to increase the competitiveness of Tamil Nadu startups through Talent, Capital and Market Access. Over a 16-week duration, startups undergo structured, tailor made programmes

aimed at optimising their existing technology, operations, increasing their customer base, accessing investors making them investment ready and at expanding to other regions.

## 7.7.2 Innovation Network

Through this initiative, iTNT Hub aims to transform the Research & Development ecosystem to Research, Development & Innovation ecosystem, by facilitating the translation of research-based innovation to enterprises. The Innovation Network also harnesses a rich academic talent pool aligning it with the specific demands of the industry, propelling towards innovation excellence and the forefront of the Deep Tech landscape.

## 7.7.3 Fab Lab & Design Studio

The Fab Lab & Design Studio aims to redefine the Indian design landscape. It prepares innovators and startups for a change in design

process, transcending traditional silos. The services offered will assist them in building elegant products for rapid prototyping and small batch production for wear & tear testing.

## 7.7.4 International Pavilion

Through this initiative, iTNT Hub aims to support international startups to collaborate with startups in Tamil Nadu. iTNT Hub provides the requisite support to startups through the following programmes:

- ❖ Indian Market Literacy Programme (Online)
- ❖ Market Exposure Programme (7-10 days)
- ❖ Market Entry Programme (3 months)

## 7.7.5 Events and Community Building

iTNT Hub has conducted 131 Events and Community Engagements, like Pre-Incubation Program (BEACON), Artificial Intelligence specific Incubation Program (PATHFINDER), iAccelerate

program for supporting the startups for 3Ms, i.e. Money, Market & Mentorship.

## 7.7.6 Deep Tech Venture Builder with Research to Startup (R2S) Grant

Through this initiative, iTNT Hub aims to establish an integrated model to transform breakthrough research into commercially viable ventures on the lines of MIT Engine (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA) and Cambridge Future Tech (Cambridge Science Park, Cambridge, UK) and to drive the commercialization of innovations by spin-out creation, and robust IP management while also nurturing startups from ideation to market entry. The iTNT Hub provides Financial and Mentorship support to facilitate spin-off creation through the following activities:

- Integrated Technology Transfer
- Ecosystem Strengthening
- Scouting, Sourcing, and Selection
- Integrated Incubation Program

215

**7.8 Other Initiatives of iTNT Hub**

iTNT Hub implements the following initiatives:

**7.8.1 Joint Innovation Gateway for Synergistic Startup Academic - Industry - Investor Work (JIGSAW™)**

iTNT's JIGSAW (Joint Innovation Gateway for Synergistic Startup – Academic – Industry – Investor Work) portal was launched by Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister on 24th February 2024. The mission for JIGSAW is primed towards the theme 'Synergistic Collaboration of Academia, Industry, Startups and Investors Fostering Transformative Innovation'. The JIGSAW Portal involves the following:

- Solving real time industry problems.
- Identifying innovative resources.
- Co-creating solutions with partners.

**7.8.2 Industry Innovation Challenges**

iTNT Hub is executing industry innovation challenges with reputed organizations like Rolls

Royce, Government of Tamil Nadu, Centre for Innovation in Governance, Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, Amazon Web Services by connecting them with academia and startups to solve real time industrial and social economic challenges.

### 7.8.3 CoEs for Emerging sectors

Centres of Excellence will be established in the focus sectors of Emerging and Deep Tech. The first CoE will be established for AI, followed by other CoE in the Deep Tech Sectors for synergistic collaboration, fostering transformative innovation.

### 7.8.4 Foundation Fund

iTNT Hub launched its FOUNDATION (Financing Opportunities for Unleashing Deep Tech Advancements & Transformative Innovations) Fund to invest in Tamil Nadu based Deep Tech and Emerging Tech startups supported by iTNT Hub, with up to Rs.40 lakh per venture.

### 7.8.5 Innovation and Startup Bridge

The Innovation and Startup Bridge are aimed at connecting Tamil Nadu Startups to established Innovation economies through soft-landing pods. These also include connecting to local startups and investors communities, legal firms, co-working spaces, etc. TN-UAE Innovation & Startup Bridge has been launched by Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services in October 2024 by onboarding institutes like Sharjah Research Technology & Innovation Park, Rochester Institute of Technology, Dubai Campus. Works for TN-Singapore are underway.

### 7.9 iTNT Regional Hubs

iTNT Hub is expanding to Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities like Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Coimbatore, Hosur, Tirunelveli and Salem. This expansion enables local startups in the Deep Tech Space to set the necessary support in terms of Mentorship,

Infrastructure, funding, etc. These hubs will be based on the local innovation ecosystem strengths.

## 7.10 UmagineTN 2025

iTNT Hub facilitated the Innovation Arena at "UmagineTN 2025" to showcase Deep Tech and Emerging Tech startups from Tamil Nadu. The arena showcased 60 startups, witnessed 10 product launches and 83 one-to-one investor connections by engaging 66 startups and 35 investors.

# Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan
## Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M.K.Stalin inaugurated the two-days UMAGINE TN IT Summit organized by the Information Technology and Digital Services, Department at the Chennai Trade Centre, Nandambakkam, Chennai on 09.01.2025. The event was attended by Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Additional Chief Secretary, Information Technology and Digital Services Department Mr. Kumar Jayant, I.A.S., Director, e-Governance and Chief Executive Officer, Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency Mr. M. Govinda Rao, I.A.S., Managing Director (FAC), Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) Tmt. P. Ramana Saraswathi, I.A.S., and the senior Government Officials.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. M.K. Stalin, on 05.11.2024, inaugurated the newly constructed ELCOT IT Tower at Vilankurichi, Coimbatore under the purview of the Information Technology and Digital Services Department. This modern IT Tower has been constructed at a cost of Rs.158.32 crore with a total built-up area of 2.94 Lakh sq.ft. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Thiru. K.N. Nehru Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration, Thiru E.V.Velu, Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Thiru M.P.Saminathan, Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information & Publicity, Thiru V.Senthilbalaji, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services, Dr. T.R.B. Rajaa, Hon'ble Minister for Industries and senior officials including the Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Additional Chief Secretary of IT&DS Department, Managing Director, ELCOT and others.

On 17.12.2024, Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services Department Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan delivered a keynote address during KaniTamil lecture event at Ethiraj College for Women, organized by the Tamil Virtual Academy. In this event, poet Dr. Madhan Karky, Director of Tamil Virtual Academy Thiru S.R. Gandhi, Chairman of Ethiraj College for Women Mr. Muralitharan, Principal Dr. Uma Gowri Government officials and students participated.

On 27.08.2024, Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services Department Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan released the Tamil Computing Tools developed by Tamil Virtual Academy and the book Thamizhai Pizhaiyindri Ezhuthuvom at Tamil Virtual Academy, Kotturpuram, Chennai. In this event, Director of Tamil Virtual Academy Thiru S.R. Gandhi, Joint Director Thiru R.Komahan, Coordinator Dr. A. James, Assistant Directors Thirumathi R. Madhura and Thiru Selva Puviyarasan participated.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin on 04.02.2025 at Secretariat released the Sangathamizh Calendar developed by the Tamil Virtual Academy. In this event, Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services Department Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Chief Secretary Thiru N. Muruganandam, I.A.S, Director of Tamil Virtual Academy, Thiru S.R. Gandhi, IRPFS, Joint Director Thiru R.Komahan and senior Government Officials participated.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin on 04.02.2025 at Secretariat, launched the Kalaignar Karuvoolam special webpage (https://www.tamildigitallibrary.in/kalaignar) developed by the Tamil Virtual Academy. In this event, Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services Department Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Chief Secretary Thiru N. Muruganandam, I.A.S., Director of Tamil Virtual Academy, Thiru S.R. Gandhi, IRPFS, Joint Director Thiru R.Komahan and senior Government Officials participated.
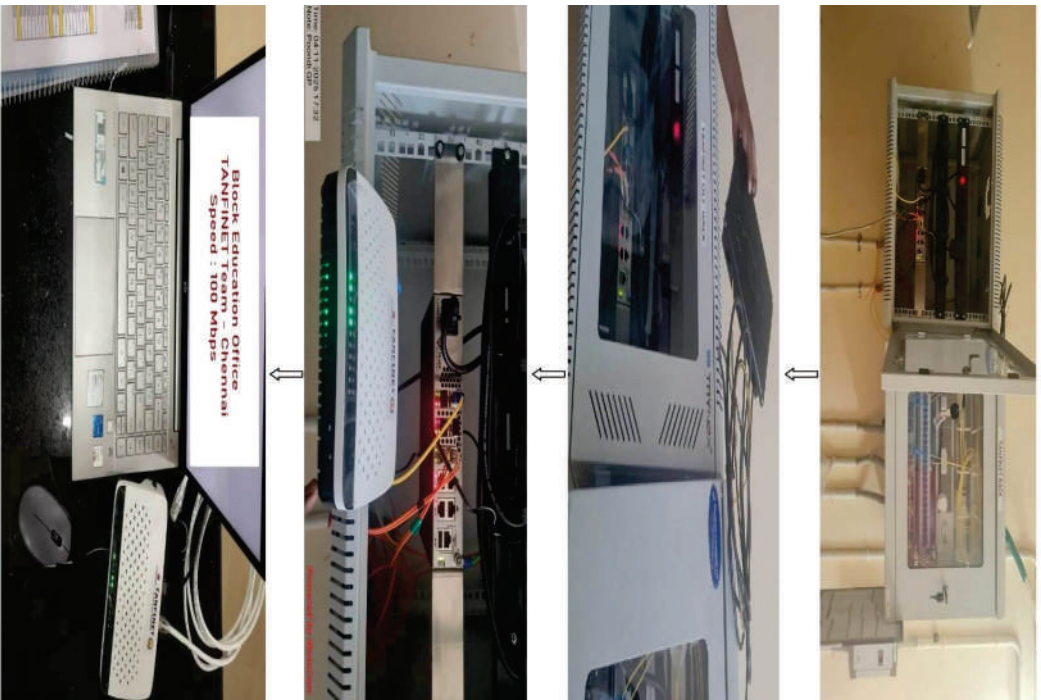
Each Block / Gram Panchayat is installed with a Router. This Router is connected with a device namely Optical Line Terminal (OLT) which can provide internet connectivity to nearly 500 subscribers. ONT connected with OLT through splitter and the ONT is installed at subscriber premises for providing Wired and Wireless Internet Connectivity.
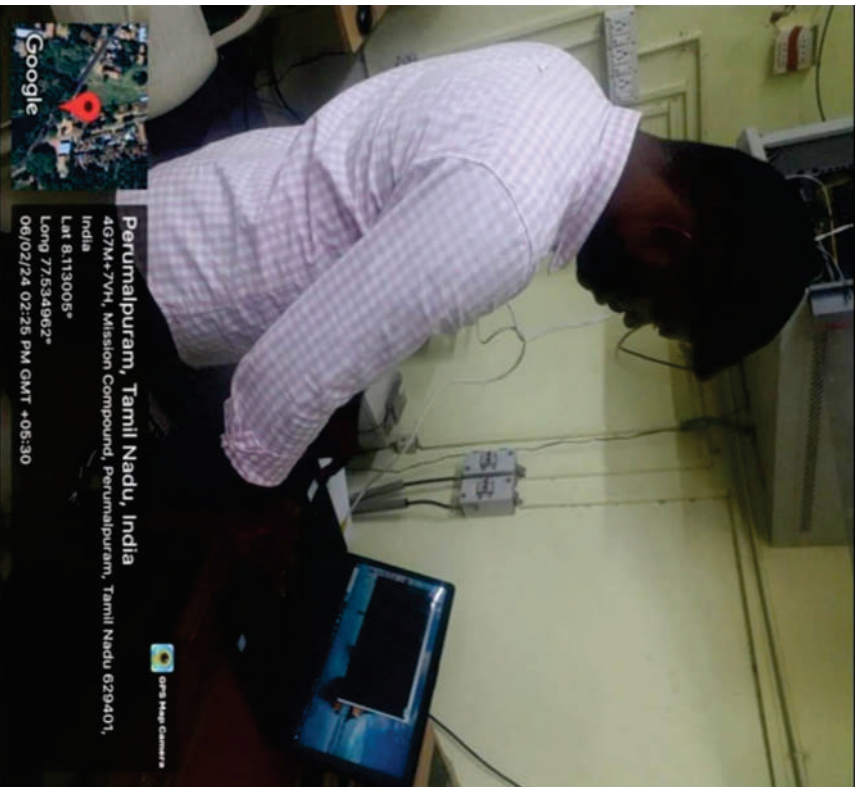
Earlier, ELCOT has been providing TNSWAN connectivity services through Point-to-Point, Leased Line (P2P-LL). Based on the letter communication received from the Government, the Government Offices covered under TNSWAN, TANFINET has been appointed as Optional Procurement Agency (OPA) for providing connectivity services to Government Departments. Under the migration process, TANFINET has adopted MPLS VPN based connectivity solution that provides flexibility for higher bandwidth, ease of maintenance of circuits, reducing the number of network hops and lesser network down time.

Google

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India
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GPS Map Camera

## Hon'ble Chief Minister appreciates iTNT Hub Incubated Startup- October 28,2024



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin appreciated Mr.Azhagu Pandia Raja, Founder & CEO of Scrapify Ecotech Private Limited, an iTNT Hub Incubated Startup for securing global recognition to represent India at the Next Generation Digital Action Program 2024, in Copenhagen, Denmark. Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS Department Dr.Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Additional Chief Secretary to Government IT & DS Department Thiru.Kumar Jayant, I.A.S., and Chief Executive Officer of Tamil Nadu Technology Hub (iTNT) Ms.Vanitha Venugopal were present on the occasion.

## UmagineTN 2025 Valedictory – January 10,2025



The Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru.Udhayanidhi Stalin addressing the gathering through video conferencing at the valedictory of UmagineTN 2025 on January 10,2025. Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS Department Dr.Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Thiru.Neeraj Mittal, I.A.S., Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Government of India, Thiru.Kumar Jayant, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary to Government, IT & DS Department; Tmt.P.Ramana Saraswathi, I.A.S., Managing Director (In-charge), ELCOT, Thiru.M.Govinda Rao, I.A.S., Director of e-Governance / CEO of TNeGA, Mr.Natarajan Mallupillai, Group CEO, IIT MRP, Mr.Srivats Ram, Chairman, CII Tamil Nadu State Council and Dr.Chandrika Kaushik, Scientist, DRDO, were on stage.

**Hon'ble IT & DS Minister Fireside Chat at GITEX 2024 –
October 2024**

Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS Department Dr.Palanivel Thiaga Rajan participated in an engaging Fireside Chat on "Architecting the Digital Future: Policy Frameworks for Tech Hubs and Data Center Markets in South Asia" at GITEX Global, Dubai, in October 2024. The session was moderated by Mr.Steve Nouri, CEO & Co -Founder of GenAI Works, Australia.

Dr.Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services delivered the Chief Guest address at the 57th edition of ICT Academy BRIDGE'24 at Coimbatore.

Dr.Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services delivered the Chief Guest address at the ICT Academy Youth Leadership Summit at Coimbatore.

ICT Academy exchanged 6 MoUs at UmagineTN held on 10th Jan 2025. The companies signed the 6 MoUs are HCLTech, Thiagarajar College of Engineering, A2000, CPCL, Bahwan Cybertek, and School of Design Thinking. These MoUs were exchanged during the presence of Dr.Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services.

Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services launched the special issue in Advance Gen AI and Deep Learning by ICT Academy at UmagineTN on 10 January 2025.