Other Services

Scientific Services and Research

The major thrust areas for this sector under the Twelfth Union Plan includes aligning Science and Technology to developmental needs, strengthening the interactions between Science and Technology institutions and the industry, encouraging research in strategic sectors, expanding and deepening basic sciences teaching, research and expanding our dialogue and collaboration with advanced and developing nations in order to refine our competencies and facilitate meaningful collaborations.

The three organizations established by the Government of Tamil Nadu, namely Science City, the area at Guindy ī Tharamani, Chennai aim to promote Science and Technology components, technology transfer component involving industrial houses and venture, Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology undertakes research and development in scientific disciplines and providing financial assistance to scientists and researchers for carrying out Research and Development work on topics of social relevance and Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre formed to create scientific temper among the young generation. The three organizations have implemented various science and technology programmers to popularize science and create a strong scientific temper among the public and student community. They support and coordinate fundamental and applied research programmes in universities, other scientific bodies and non-governmental organizations and create awareness among public, students and researchers in the field of industry, agriculture, health, environment, energy and other sectors.

The Science City carried out the schemes like Creation of Data base on Scientists and Researchers, Popularization of science such as Meet the Scientist, Web Quiz, Conference, Festivals, Exhibitions, Awards, and Camps etc, Gender Cell activities to encourage women scientists, awards etc and Science for physically challenged.

Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology now execute the schemes viz Student Project Scheme, Young Student Scientist Programme, Young Scientists
Fellowship Scheme, Financial Assistance to Seminar, Symposia and Workshop, Assistance for Science and Technology publication in Tamil etc.

Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre now implement schemes such as "Gallery on Defence Research and Development" at Chennai for an amount of Rs.1 crore under GoI fund, "Ramanujam Gallery on mathematics" at Chennai at a cost of Rs.40 lakh, "Dinosaur park" at Chennai at a cost of Rs.1.45 lakh and "Hall of Nuclear Power" at Chennai with a cost of Rs.2.20 crore.

Tamil Nadu has tremendous potential in terms of Science and Technology development and during its past Plan periods, the State has recognized the critical role of Science and Technology in promoting economic growth and social progress. During the Twelfth Plan period, the State places considerable emphasis on encouraging research in key areas which are relevant to the State and also in emerging areas such as biotechnology, nano-sciences etc. The State also proposes to continue its on-going efforts to popularize Science and Technology cultivate and nurture the scientific fervor at all levels of education. Vision Tamil Nadu 2023 aims at setting up of Centres of Excellence in the areas of Automobile Technology, Solar and clean energy technology, Bio-Technology. Agricultural practices, Water resources management, Constructions management, Lifestyle diseases, Aerospace, Basic Services, Nano-technology and Social Services.

The main objectives of the Twelfth Plan period will be to nurture and develop S&T manpower, foster research, particularly in areas relevant to our State and to identify and promote research in emerging and new areas of S&T such as biotechnology, information technology, nano-technology and associated sciences. To this end, the current strategy of implementing S&T schemes through the existing excellent infrastructure, expertise and facilities available already in our State in the form of State and Central Government research institutes, higher educational institute and NGOs will be continued. The total outlay for the Twelfth Plan for this Science and Technology as a whole is Rs.177.42 crore.
Plan Outlay for 2013-14

An outlay of Rs.5.87 crore is proposed for Scientific Services and Research sector for the Annual Plan 2013-14.

Art & Culture

Tamil Nadu has a rich cultural history and heritage which spans several areas such as literature, art, music, dance, drama, architecture, sculpture, paintings and folk forms. All these need to be preserved for posterity as they remind the citizens of the State of its greatness and contribute to the feeling of achievement. In some areas (e.g. classical music and dance forms, temples, and beaches) Tamil Nadu has world class splendors to showcase, which need to be nurtured, packaged and appropriately promoted to support the branding and economic outcomes that Tamil Nadu Vision 2023 seeks to achieve. Vision Tamil Nadu 2023 aims to propel the State into the league of developed regions of the world and to the top of the league of Indian States. Preserving and wherever possible, improving the quality of the environment and nurturing the cultural heritage of the State is the essential ingredient of Vision Tamil Nadu 2023

The state has been taking various steps to propagate our ancient traditional arts and create awareness among the people. The Department of Art and Culture engages in the popularization and dissemination of various forms of art and artists through various institutions including the colleges of music, fine arts and sculpture, the Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nadaka Mandram, Tamil Nadu Ovia Nunkalai kuzhu and Tamil Nadu Jawahar Balar Bhavan. The Archaeology department undertakes excavations at the historically important places and valuable antiquities have been unearthed and preserved in archaeological Museums situated in various districts of the state. As on date, 85 monuments are preserving and maintaining by this Department. Museums are a treasure house of our national heritage. The Chennai Museum is famous for its rich collection of South Indian Bronzes, pre-historic and proto-historic antiquities. Rich collections of rare zoological and botanical specimens are also available. The Bronze gallery consisting of very rare collection is a major attraction for foreign tourists. Apart from the Chennai Museum, there are 20 district museums in the State.
The total outlay for the Twelfth Plan for this Art and Culture sector as a whole is Rs.201.42 crore. The main objectives of the Twelfth Plan period is to provide infrastructural facilities, improvement and upgradation for the Directorate of Art and Culture, District Music Schools, Fine Arts Colleges, Government Music Colleges, Government College of Architecture and Sculpture at Mamallapuram, Introduction of diploma courses, to conduct various cultural programmes, art training camps and documentation of rare art forms through Regional Cultural Centres, Additional grants to Tamil Nadu Jawahar Siruvan Manram, Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram, Tamil Nadu Ovia Nunkalai Kuzhu, and Tamil Nadu Folk Artistes Welfare Board, Improving the district museums under the control of the Department of Museums, Improving the site museums under the control of the Department of the Archaeology, Conservation, Modernization and improvement of galleries in Government Museum, Chennai and District museums, Reprinting of museum publications, Conservation of protected monuments and construction of buildings by the Department of Archaeology, Excavation work and making a film on archaeological perspectives, digital publication of printed books, digitizing rare negatives and slides and publication of books by the Department of Archaeology, Chemical conservation of monuments, antiquities and manuscripts by the Department of Archaeology.

A new Field Fossil Museum will be established at Ariyalur at a cost of Rs.2 crore.

Plan outlay for 2013-14

An outlay of Rs.40.78 crore is proposed for the Annual Plan 2013-14 in respect of Art & Culture sector.

Tourism

The tourism sector has a major role to play to promote faster, sustainable and more inclusive economic growth i.e the goal of the Twelfth Five Year Plan. It has better prospects for promoting pro-poor growth than many other sectors. This is because tourism involves a collection of activities, services and industries comprising transportation. Accommodation, eating and drinking establishments, retail shops,
entertainment businesses and other hospitality services provided to individuals or groups traveling away from home for leisure, business or other purposes. The tourism potential of our country, especially in a global context, remains far from realized. The Twelfth Five Year Plan envisages a target of 12 percent growth rate in inbound as well as domestic tourists.

Tamil Nadu’s tourism industry is the second biggest in India and is built on several attractive propositions including beaches, hill resorts, architecture, and heritage sites. Infrastructure for tourism includes development of hotels and resorts, theme parks, entertainment complexes, improvements to heritage and archaeological monuments, development and connectivity to places of tourist interest.

The State will set up a world class oceanarium at Mamallapuram at a cost of Rs.250 crore through the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation under Public-Private-Partnership with the technical support of the Fisheries Department. A new Field Fossil Museum will be established at Ariyalur at a cost of Rs.2 crore.

The State targets a foreign tourist inflow of 15 million by 2023. The estimated total investment is Rs.10,000 crore for various projects proposed in connection to development of world class facilities in tourist locations with proper infrastructure. There are three types of tourists visiting the State, international, Inter-State and Intra-State. Separate strategies have to be evolved to attract each category of tourists.

Tamil Nadu ranks second as a destination for foreign tourists and third with respect to domestic tourist arrivals. The State continues to be the leading State in foreign exchange earnings to the tune of Rs.11,823 crore during the year 2012. The Growth rate of foreign exchange earnings is 13.87 percent for the year 2012 as compared to Growth rate of 5 percent for the year 2011. The number of domestic tourists who visited the State during 2012 is 18.41 crore and the number of foreign tourists is 0.36 crore. The Twelfth Plan will focus on development of domestic tourism with necessary infrastructures facilities with a view to attracting 7 million foreign tourists by 2017. This is 34.01 percent higher than 2011. The State of Tamil Nadu has been
pursuing a two pronged strategy on making tourists to stay for a longer period and provides world class infrastructure facilities to boost the tourism sector.

The total outlay for the tourism sector is proposed at Rs.364 crore during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period (2012-17). The objectives of the Twelfth Plan are to promote Tamil Nadu as an attractive international tourist destination and sustain its leading position. In order to boost tourism sector in Tamil Nadu, the following thrust areas are Infrastructure Improvements, quick and better Service delivery, Publicity and various tourism development promotion activities in domestic and international, based on that schemes are implemented in Twelfth Plan. Development of Tourism Parks, Development of Rural tourism clusters; Skill development, Wayside amenities centre, clean toilet campaign and Promotion of heli tourism, Cruise tourism and Cable car Project are other important strategies being implemented during the Twelfth Plan period. Considering the vast potential for tourism in Tamil Nadu, the present Government has spelt out strategies for promoting rural tourism, eco-tourism, heritage and temple tourism and Medical tourism. Adventure tourism is promoted to attract adventure seeking youth. The trekking programmes are conducted at identified trekking routes in Nilgiris, Kodaikanal, Yercaud and Elagiri. Paragliding programme is conducted at Elagiri during summer. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has been assisting the State for the development of tourist infrastructure through the Central Financial Assistance schemes like, Mega tourism schemes, Development of Madurai, Rameswaram, Kanniyakumari and Thanjavur Palace, development of Botanical Garden at Yercaud in Salem District, development of Vaigai Dam in Theni district etc..

Tamil Nadu Tourism plans to enhance economic growth and provision of livelihood opportunities for local communities through Integrated Development of Tourist Destinations/Circuits/Cities. The following two Circuits namely-East Coast Circuit (Pilgrimage and Heritage) and Southern Circuit (Pilgrimage and Eco Circuit) are to be developed with the assistance ADB loan. The Project loan agreement has been signed by the State Government with the Asian Development Bank on 2-4-2012 at New Delhi.
Under this project, infrastructure will be strengthened in select tourism centres at a cost of Rs.67.91 crore during 2013-2014. Further, State fund of Rs.10 crore will be used for publicity to popularise “Destination Tamil Nadu 2014” during 2013-2014. Rs.153.95 crore has been proposed for the Tourism sector in the 2013-2014. This Government will set up a world class oceanarium at Mamallapuram at a cost of Rs.250 crore through the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation under Public-Private-Partnership with the technical support of the Fisheries Department.

The unlimited tourism potential of the State needs to be highlighted internationally so that the tourist arrivals can be increased manifold. A publicity blitzkrieg has to be undertaken to popularize our tourist attractions. FAM tours (familiarisation tours) will be conducted for Travel writers and Tour operators. A large number of tourists are coming from Singapore, Malaysia, Russia, Spain, Italy and from various other Countries. An aggressive marketing campaign in these countries can make a major impact in realizing the tourism potential. At International Travel Marts, all important members of travel and hospitality industry congregate under one roof. Tourism department promotes the destinations at these Marts. Tamil Nadu has showcased in major International Travel Marts like, International Tourism Bourse (ITB-Berlin-Mach 2013) and World Travel Market (WTM-London-November 2012). Tours for overseas tour operators and travel writers will be arranged to promote Tamil Nadu.

**Plan Outlay for 2013-14**

An outlay of Rs.33.22 crore is proposed for the Annual Plan 2013-14 to implement various schemes for the development in Tourism sector.