



AGRICULTURE-FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT

**POLICY NOTE
2026 – 2027**

DEMAND No. 5

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MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE - FARMERS WELFARE

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2026

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Introduction

**“சுழன்றும்ஏர்ப் பின்னது உலகம் அதனால்
உழந்தும் உழவே தலை.**

திருக்குறள் 1031

The world, functions mainly on Agriculture in spite of being engaged in many other occupations. Therefore, the greatness of agriculture can be understood very clearly as the noblest occupation as quoted in Thirukkural.

The importance of Agriculture is emphasized by Vellaikkudi Naganar in the Purananuru verse

**“பொருபடை தருஉம் கொற்றமும் உழுபடை
ஊன்றுசால் மருங்கின் ஈன்றதன் பயனே.” -**

depicting agriculture as the foundation of a country's political strength, wealth, food, and social life.

Agriculture is the primary occupation of the majority of the rural population and also

determines their livelihood. Agriculture plays a major role in the country's food security, economic growth, environmental protection, people's standard of living and serves as the backbone in determining the progress and development of the nation.

Origin of the Agriculture and Allied Departments

In 1863, the then Governor of the Madras Presidency, Sir William Denison, submitted a memorandum on agricultural practices to his Council. This initiative laid the foundation for a sustained advancement in agriculture and facilitated the adoption of development works.

Based on the recommendations of the Indian Famine Commission in 1880, the Agriculture Department was established in the year 1882. Subsequently, it was reorganised as the Commissionerate of Revenue Settlement, Land

Records and Agriculture and in 1905, it was reconstituted as an independent department under the auspices of Director of Agriculture. In the initial years, the Department functioned under the Revenue Department at the Secretariat level, and later under the Planning and Development Department. Subsequently, the Agriculture Department was newly constituted, and its administration was brought under the control of the Secretary to Government. Over the years, the **Department of sugars** (1969), **Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business** (1977–78), **Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops** (1979–80), **Department of Seed Certification and Organic Certification** (1979–80), and the **Agricultural Engineering Department** (1980–81) were carved out from the Agriculture Department separately.

In 2022, the headquarters of the Seed Certification and Organic Certification Department

was shifted from Coimbatore to Chennai. In the same year, the Sugar Department was merged once again with the Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Department. Further, the Tamil Nadu Food Processing and Agri Export Promotion Corporation was separated from the Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri-Business (since 2022) and transferred to the Department of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Further, the State's first Agricultural College was started at Saidapet, Chennai, in 1876. Later, the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) was established at Coimbatore in 1971.

Thus, the several specialised departments formed out of Agriculture – Farmers Welfare department have provided a strong institutional framework for agricultural growth in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu continues to be one of the leading states in the country in agriculture, owing

to several distinctive features, including fertile and productive agricultural lands, adequate seasonal rainfall, seven distinct Agro - climatic zones, irrigation projects that provide water for agriculture, new agricultural technologies comprising advanced scientific technologies suited for climate changes, need based various Agricultural crops, Horticultural and Plantation crops, Medicinal plants, crop-specific cultivation practices, value addition and food processing methods.

With the ambitious objective of advancing agriculture and improving farmers' welfare, the Government of Tamil Nadu is taking earnest efforts to increase the agricultural production, enhance farmers income and thereby improving their livelihood through various schemes of Agriculture-Farmers Welfare Department.

The Agriculture – Farmers Welfare Department is implementing a plethora of ingenious schemes based on agricultural

strategies such as, soil health management for restoring the fertility of mother soil given by nature, distribution of certified seeds that are the foundation of enhanced productivity to farmers, provision of irrigation water required for cultivation; the continuous supply of three-phase electricity required for agriculture; promoting high-yielding varieties and hybrids as per the requirements of farmers, promoting alternate crop cultivation for water management; food and nutritional security, promoting organic farming and natural farming for preserving soil health, integrated crop management for high productivity, Micro-irrigation for conserving water and cultivate multi crops, agroforestry for climate change and environmental management; agricultural mechanization to overcome labour shortages during cultivation season; value addition to supply agricultural produce without wastage and generate income; and food processing for future use.

Based on the principle of **“Leave No One Behind”** set by the United Nations, various programmes are being implemented worldwide to bring about positive changes and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. In this regard, the Tamil Nadu of Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Department has been effectively implementing various farmer welfare schemes, focusing on the goals of **No Poverty (Goal 1), Zero Hunger (Goal 2), Gender Equality (Goal 5), Clean Water and Sanitation (Goal 6), and Responsible Consumption and Production (Goal 12)**.

Vetri Thamizhagam - Perspective Plan

Tamil Nadu, renowned for its ancient heritage and rich tradition has been divided into 4 Zones viz., Kurunji Zone, North Zone, South Zone and Central Zone and advanced agricultural infrastructure will be created in each zone taking into account its unique natural resource endowments, requirements and comparative

advantages. Modern storage structures will be established in procurement centres to prevent the losses of agricultural produce to give due regard to the farmers' labour, and safeguard their rights and produce. Similarly, schemes will be formulated to enhance the farmers livelihood and economic growth.

Development of Irrigation Sources

Tamil Nadu will be made a pioneer state in Irrigation water management through schemes such as making rainfed agricultural lands into 100 percent irrigated lands creation of 100 percent irrigation sources in rainfed agricultural lands. Rejuvenation of thousands of minor irrigation tanks that lack maintenance; expansion of micro-irrigation and establishing Blue - Green Horticulture Parks in coastal districts.

Enhancement of Income

Domestic and International market opportunities will be created for farmers through subsidy to Agri Startups; Agri Business centres in

major urban areas; Standardized cold storage godowns; protection of Palm trees; Special schemes for Coconut farmers; Incentives to Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs).

“Farmers Income Enhancement Commission” will be established to safeguard the welfare of farmers by ensuring special incentives to farmers of drought prone regions; dissemination of information to farmers through Artificial Intelligence; Minimum Support Price for Paddy and Sugarcane; 100% Insurance coverage; Self Reliance through Solar Pump sets and additional income besides evolving measures to increase the farmers income substantially.

Promotion of Organic Farming

A notable progress will be achieved in Organic farming by resorting to diligent and meticulous efforts such as incentives to Organic farmers under Tamil Nadu Organic Farming Mission; Separate Diploma College for Organic

Farming; creating opportunities for marketing of Natural and Organic produce.

The above said long-term strategic plans will be formulated and farmer centric welfare schemes will be assiduously implemented to transform the farmers of Tamil Nadu into **Vetri Vivasayigal (Successful farmers)**, thereby propelling the State towards the vision of "**Vetri Tamizhagam**".

Initiatives of Government of Tamil Nadu for Agricultural Development

Albeit, the Mettur Dam could not be opened on the scheduled date of 12th June due to inadequate storage in Mettur Dam, announcement and implementation of Kuruvai package scheme at an outlay of Rs.134.83 crore has benefitted 4.03 lakh farmers so far.

Even under severe fiscal constraints, the demands of farmers were duly considered and a

crop loan amount of Rs.6,220 Crore was waived for 13.34 lakh farmers.

This government is committed to ensure the timely availability of critical inputs required for cultivation like quality seeds, planting materials, fertilizers and bio control agents by stocking them adequately.

Considering the prevailing drought and El Niño conditions, the Food Grain production target for 2026-2027, has been marginally increased over and above the achievement made during the last year and fixed at **125 lakh metric tonnes** and programmes will be implemented accordingly. To achieve this target, appropriate measures are being undertaken to enhance the productivity and mitigate the challenges posed by climate change.

Since, the Horticultural crops like Vegetables, Fruits, and Flowers fetch continuous and higher income to the farmers, much emphasis is given for area expansion of these crops.

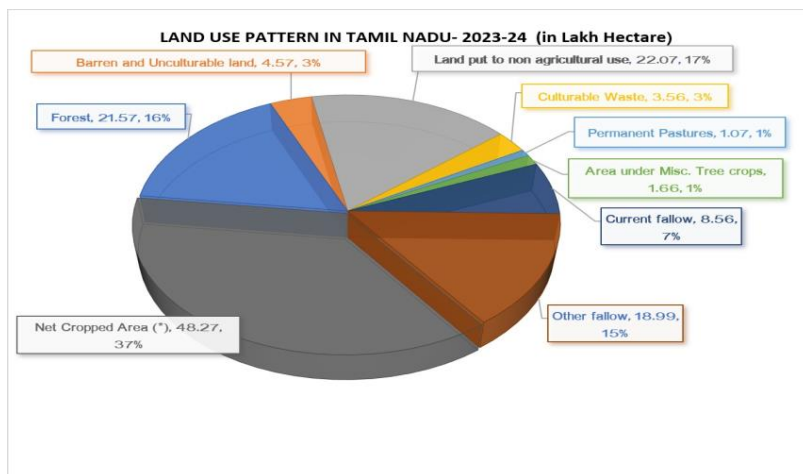
Efforts are being taken to promote farm mechanization, considering the decline in availability of agricultural labourers.

Agriculture in Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu is characterized by a moderate and dry-humid tropical landform. With an area of 1.30 lakh sq. km, it is the 11th largest state in India and ranks 7th with a population of 7.21 crore as per the 2011 Census. Tamil Nadu accounts for 4% of India's total land area, 6% of its population and 3% of its water resources.

In Tamil Nadu, 79.38 lakh landholders cultivate an area of 59.71 lakh hectare. Among them, 93% are marginal and small farmers, holding 62% of the land area. The 7% of farmers who are medium and large farmers hold 38% of the land area. The average landholding size in Tamil Nadu is 0.75 hectares, which is lower than the All India average of 1.08 hectare.

Fig.1 Land Use Pattern of Tamil Nadu 2024-25 (in Lakh Hectare).



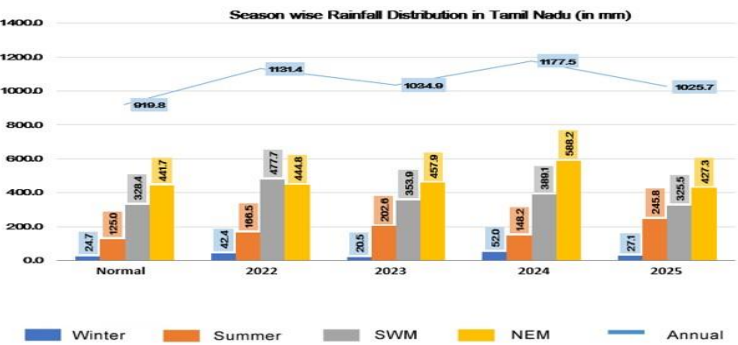
Total Geographical Area	130.33 lakh Ha
Cropping Intensity (%)	128.96
Gross Cropped Area	62.25 Lakh Hectare
Area sown more than once	13.99 Lakh Hectare

Source: Department of Economics and Statistics

Average Rainfall of Tamil Nadu

The annual average rainfall in Tamil Nadu is 919.8 mm. During 2025, 1,025.7mm of rainfall was received.

Fig.2 Season wise Rainfall Distribution from 2022-2025



Source: Indian Metrological Department (IMD)

Sources of Irrigation

The details of net area irrigated through various sources of irrigation across the State are as follows:

Table 1.1: Water Source wise Net Area Irrigated - 2024-25

Source	Numbers	Net Area Irrigated (Lakh Ha.)	Net Area Irrigated (%)
Canals	2,241	6.50	21.66
Tanks	41,123	3.98	13.27

Source	Numbers	Net Area Irrigated (Lakh Ha.)	Net Area Irrigated (%)
Tube Wells & Bore wells	3,76,944	5.85	19.51
Open wells	14,70,165	13.61	45.38
Others	46,487	0.05	0.18
Total		29.99	100

Source: Department of Economics and Statistics

The area cultivated through wells and borewells accounts for 65 percent, while canals irrigate 22 percent and tanks irrigate 13 percent of the total area.

Fig.3 – Source wise Net irrigated area

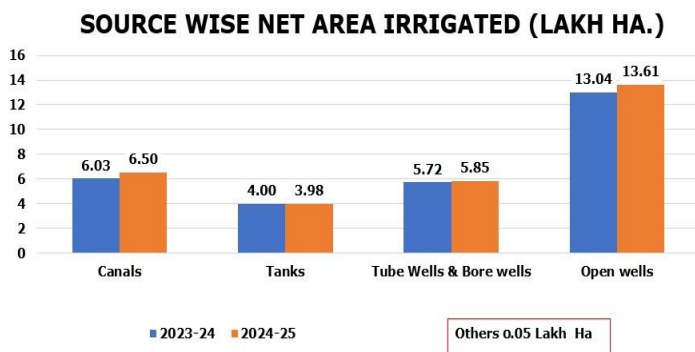
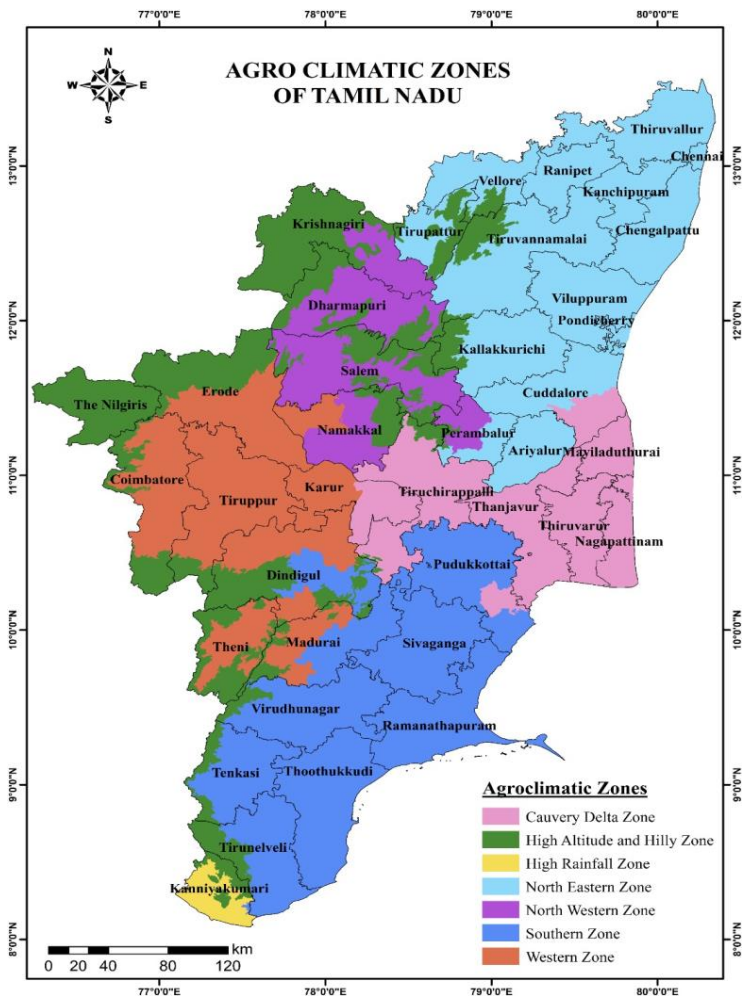


Fig.4 Seven Agro Climatic Zones of Tamil Nadu



1. AGRICULTURE

1.1 Increasing the Area, Production and Productivity of Agricultural Crops

Tamil Nadu's average food grain production is 112.94 Lakh Metric Tonnes (L.MT). As per the 3rd Advance Estimate of the Department of Economics and Statistics, the Food grain production of **121.58 L.MT** has been achieved during 2025-26.

In continuation, the target for food grain production has been fixed at **125 lakh MT** for 2026-27.

Table 1.2. Action Plan for 2026-27

S. No	Crop	Area (Lakh Ha)	Production (Lakh MT)	Productivity (Kg/Ha)
1	Rice	20.80	79.00	3,798
2	Millets	10.00	39.35	3,935
3	Pulses	10.00	6.65	665
Total Food Grain		40.80	125.00	3,064

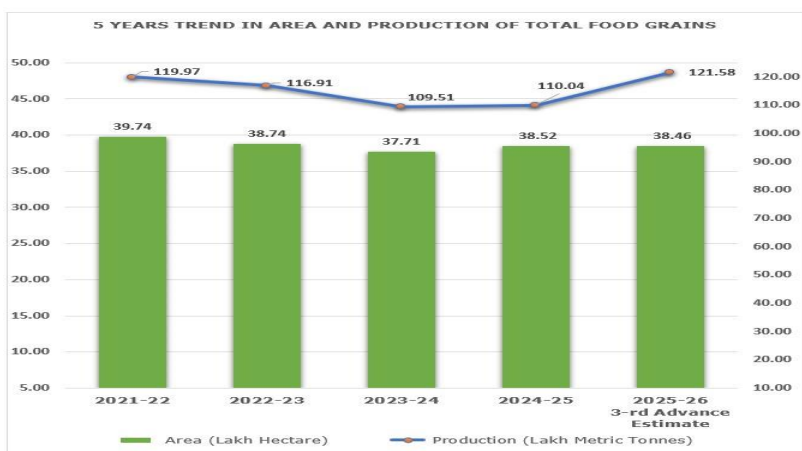
S. No	Crop	Area (Lakh Ha)	Production (Lakh MT)	Productivity (Kg/Ha)
4	Oilseeds	5.80	14.00	2,484
5	Cotton	1.58	3.72 *	400 **
6	Sugar	1.45	174.65	120 ***
	Total	49.63		

*Production in Lakh Bales: 170 Kg of Lint for each bale.

**Productivity in terms of lint.

***Productivity (Metric Tonne / Ha)

Fig:5. Food Grain Production –Area and Production for the Period of Five-Years



1.2. Prime / Flagship Schemes in Agriculture

1.2.1. Tamil Nadu Soil Fertility Mission

i) Distribution of Green Manure and Multi-grain Seeds

With the objective of restoring soil fertility, strengthening natural nutrient cycling and improving soil organic carbon content and microbial activity, green manure crop seeds for one lakh acre and multi-grain seeds for 22,000 acre will be distributed to farmers at subsidised rate. To facilitate the incorporation of green manure and multi-grain crops into the soil for natural nutrient enrichment, ploughing subsidy will also be provided. A sum of Rs.63.50 crore has been allocated for the implementation of this scheme.

ii) Incentive for Organic Farmers

To promote organic farming, an incentive of Rs.4,000/- per acre will be provided to farmers

practicing organic farming in an area of 20,000 acre, with a total allocation of Rs.8 crore.

Under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), 150 new Organic Farming Clusters will be established at an outlay of Rs.3.12 crore during 2026-27 by mobilising farmers interested in organic farming.

To encourage farmers engaged in natural farming, National Mission on Natural Farming scheme will be implemented during 2026-27 with a financial allocation of Rs. 6 crore to establish natural farming clusters.

iii) Waiver of Organic Certification Registration and Renewal Fees

To encourage the farmers to involve in organic farming, registration fees for new farmers and farmers in the conversion period and renewal fees under the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) will be waived and "Scope Certificate" will be issued at free of cost.

iv) Subsidy for Residue Analysis of Organic Produce

To promote the marketing of organic products in domestic and international export markets, full subsidy will be provided towards the residue analysis testing charges of organic products certified under the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP), with a financial allocation of Rs. 25 lakh.

v) Distribution of Soil Health Cards

To provide necessary crop advisories on Integrated Nutrient Management, 2 lakh Soil Health Cards will be issued to one lakh farmers at free of cost during 2026–2027 with an allocation of Rs.4 crore.

Further, 3 lakh Soil Health Cards will be issued to 3 lakh farmers possessing Farmer Identification Number at a cost of Rs.6.16 crore.

vi) Awareness and Campaign on Soil Health enhancement

To enhance the farmers' capacity towards the resilience to climate change, 4,000 Soil Health Awareness Campaigns will be conducted with an allocation of Rs.2 crore.

vii) Establishment of Permanent Vermicompost Units

Permanent Vermicompost Units ensure the availability of quality vermicompost to farmers, reduce the use of chemical fertilisers and improve the soil fertility. This scheme will be implemented with at an outlay of Rs.10 crore.

viii) Distribution of Liquid Bio-Fertilisers and Crop Boosters of TNAU to Farmers

To reduce the use of chemical fertilisers, liquid bio-fertilisers will be distributed for one lakh acre at a cost of Rs.4.50 crore.

To improve the Crop nutrient use efficiency, crop boosters like "Cotton Plus" for Cotton,

"Sugarcane Booster" for Sugarcane and "Rice Bloom" for Rice will be distributed to farmers at a cost of Rs.12.38 crore.

ix) Reclamation of Problem Soils

In alkaline soils, the crop growth and yield will be reduced due to soil compaction and poor aeration. Hence, demonstrations on soil reclamation will be carried out in 2,000 acres, with a financial allocation of Rs.2 crore.

x) Demonstrations on Alternate Wetting and Drying Irrigation and Slow-release Fertilisers

To mitigate the impact of climate change and promote carbon sequestration, Farmers adopting Direct Seeded Rice (DSR), Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) and advanced nutrient management technologies will be enabled to access additional income through Carbon Trading

for which demonstrations will be conducted in 2,000 acre at an estimated cost of Rs.60 lakh.

The Tamil Nadu Soil Fertility Mission will be launched as a five-year mission in 2026-27 and implemented with a financial allocation of Rs.600 crore. In the current year, the mission will be implemented with a financial allocation of Rs.122.51 crore.

1.2.2. Special Scheme for providing subsidy for Paddy Seed Production and Distribution

To ensure uninterrupted supply and availability of quality Paddy seeds to farmers, a Special Scheme for Paddy Seed Production and Distribution will be implemented with State fund during 2026-27. Under this scheme, it is planned to distribute **14,570 MT** of certified seeds of less than 10 year and more than 10 year old Paddy varieties to farmers. By implementing this scheme, the usage of certified seeds gets

increased and thereby the Seed Replacement Rate is also increased. Further, the high yielding Paddy varieties will be extensively cultivated and the Paddy production and productivity of the State will be enhanced.

An incentive of **Rs.8 per kg** will be provided to seed ryots who establish seed farms in their fields and provide the certified seeds produced to the Tamil Nadu Seed Development Agency (TANSEDA). It is planned to produce **7,730 MT** of Paddy seeds.

During 2026-2027, the Special Scheme for providing subsidy for Paddy Seed Production and Distribution will be implemented at an outlay of **Rs.34.724 Crore**, benefiting **1,47,250** farmers.

1.2.3. Uzhavar Artificial Intelligence (AI) Scheme

With the objective of strengthening digital agriculture, the Uzhavar Artificial Intelligence Scheme will be implemented at an outlay of

Rs.2 Crore allocated from State fund to enable the farmers to easily access Agri based information services and technologies including technical advisories from sowing to harvest, marketing intelligence, pest, disease surveillance with advisory, weather forecasts, scheme benefits through their mobile phones by integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) technologies.

1.2.4. Tamil Nadu Millet Mission

This scheme will be implemented during 2026-27 with a financial allocation of Rs.63.81 crore. Various initiatives including Alternate cropping programme, backended subsidy for Ragi cultivation, Ragi minikit distribution, Cluster demonstration on Millets, distribution of certified seeds, certified seed production subsidy, formation of Millet farmer groups, training to farmers group, establishment of custom hiring centres and primary processing

centres will be implemented, benefitting 4.75 lakh farmers.

1.2.5. Tamil Nadu Minor Millet Mission

With the objective of doubling the cultivation area under Minor Millets i.e., Little Millet, Foxtail Millet, Kodo Millet, Barnyard Millet, Proso Millet and improving the livelihoods of millet farmers, Minor Millet Mission will be implemented in 29 districts during 2026-2027. Under this scheme components such as back-ended subsidy for Minor Millet cultivation, distribution of Minor Millet minikits will be implemented at a financial allocation of Rs.7.61 crore benefitting 14,000 farmers.

1.2.6. Introduction of Nutrient - Rich Quinoa, Buck Wheat and Brown Top Millet

Highly nutritious, high-protein, high-fibre and low-gluten content cereals crops viz., Quinoa, Buck Wheat and Brown Top Millet will be introduced in 11 districts viz., Dharmapuri,

Krishnagiri, Tiruvannamalai, Salem, Namakkal, Coimbatore, Erode, Dindigul, Theni, Karur and Tiruppur of Tamil Nadu through field demonstrations. This scheme, will enable the farmers to earn higher income, besides providing public to access highly nutritious grains. The demonstrations will be laid at a cost of Rs.30 lakh.

1.2.7. Construction of New Buildings for Integrated Agricultural Extension Centre

Integrated Agricultural Extension Centres (IAECs) facilitate farmers to access crop advisories, Government schemes and quality agricultural inputs under one roof. During 2026–27, 8 new IAECs with storage godowns will be established at an outlay of Rs.27.818 crore.

1.2.8. Distribution of TNAU Liquid Wild Boar Repellent to farmers at subsidised cost to prevent Crop Damages Caused by Wild Boars

In the recent years, incidence of damages caused by wild boars in agricultural and

horticultural crops has increased significantly across Tamil Nadu resulting in substantial reduction in yield and economic loss to farmers. To address this issue, an eco-friendly liquid wild boar repellent recommended by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) will be supplied to farmers at a subsidised rate.

Under this scheme, a subsidy of 75% will be provided, subject to a maximum of Rs.750/- per acre for one application in agricultural and horticultural crops and Rs.1,500 per acre for two applications in Sugarcane. This scheme will be implemented with an allocation of Rs.1.35 crore, benefitting farmers cultivating crops in an extent of about 14,000 acre.

1.2.9.Distribution of Tarpaulins for Prevention of Post - Harvest Loss

Tarpaulins will be provided to farmers of all districts, except Chennai and the Nilgiris, to

protect their agricultural produce from natural calamities and to prevent post-harvest losses due to inadequate storage facilities. The scheme will be implemented with a financial allocation of Rs.10 crore, benefitting 43,350 farmers.

1.2.10.Strengthening the Infrastructure of Liquid Bio-fertiliser Production Units

With the objective of ensuring the uninterrupted supply of quality liquid bio-fertilisers to farmers and promoting organic and sustainable agriculture, the infrastructure and production capacity of the 22 Liquid Bio-fertiliser Production Units functioning under the control of the Agriculture Department in Tamil Nadu will be strengthened with an allocation of Rs.3.56 crore.

1.2.11.Establishment of New Seed Processing Units

To process and strengthen seed storage and thereby ensuring the timely availability of certified seeds to farmers, modern Seed Processing Units

with 250 MT seed storage godown will be established at Gangavalli in Salem district, Killikulam in Thoothukudi district and Iruvelpattu in Villupuram district at an outlay of Rs.7.10 crore.

1.2.12. Agriculture Expo

An Agriculture Expo will be organised with a state fund allocation of Rs.3 crore to create awareness on modern agricultural technologies, best agricultural practices, value-added agricultural products, agricultural machinery and natural farming methods.

The Expo will showcase modern cultivation techniques and agricultural innovations, besides providing farmers with technical guidance to enhance crop productivity and increase farm income.

1.2.13. Agroforestry Scheme

With the objective of increasing the number of nurseries and enhancing the production of quality seedlings, 55 small, 21 large, and 23 high-tech nurseries have been established. Quality seedlings are produced in these nurseries, as well as in other nurseries located in government farms, and distributed to farmers by the Department of Agriculture and Horticulture.

To produce quality seedlings and distribute to farmers at free of cost, and to strengthen the nurseries, the scheme will be implemented during 2026–27 with a financial allocation of Rs.17.70 crore.

1.2.14. Anna Ambedkar Agricultural Assistance Scheme

With the objective of reducing the economic burden of small and marginal farmers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and improving their livelihoods, an additional

20 per cent subsidy, over and above the regular subsidy, is being provided for high-value agricultural schemes, including integrated farming, Greenhouses, shade-net houses, solar dryers, solar pump sets, value-addition machinery, and farm machinery. For this, an amount of Rs.32.72 crore has been allocated from the State fund.

Further, in the rainfed lands of 300 Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe farmers who do not possess irrigation facilities, borewells or tube wells with electric motors or solar-powered pump sets will be established with 100 per cent subsidy. A maximum subsidy of Rs.8 lakh per farmer will be provided for which an amount of Rs.24 crore will be allocated from the state Government fund.

1.2.15.Chief Minister's Farmers Service Centre

The Chief Minister's Farmers Service Centres were established in the state by engaging young graduates and diploma holders in Agriculture, Horticulture, and Agricultural Engineering with the objective of providing all Agricultural services under one roof.

Under this scheme, beneficiaries who have obtained bank loans ranging from Rs.10 lakh to Rs.20 lakh are provided with 30% subsidy ranging from Rs.3 lakh to Rs.6 lakh. In the current year, Rs.9.44 crore will be allocated to provide subsidy to 214 eligible beneficiaries.

1.3. Crop Cultivation Details

1.3.1. Paddy

Rice is the staple food of the people of Tamil Nadu. Paddy cultivation plays a vital role not only in ensuring food security but also in improving the

livelihood and employment opportunities of the rural farming community.

In Tamil Nadu, Paddy is cultivated during three cropping seasons, Viz., Kar / Kuruvai / Sornavari (April–July), Samba / Thaladi / Pishanam (August–November) and Navarai / Summer (December–March).

During 2026–27, it has been targeted to cover Paddy in an area of 20.80 lakh hectare, with a production target of 79.00 lakh metric tonne. Demonstrations on high-yielding paddy varieties, System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method of cultivation, Machine Planting and Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) technologies are being implemented under various Central and State Government schemes.

National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) – Rice

During 2026-27, the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) – Rice will be

implemented in **11 districts**, Viz., Pudukkottai, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore, Thoothukudi and Virudhunagar with a financial outlay of **Rs.14.13 crore**. Interventions such as Cluster Demonstrations on Direct Seeded Rice, Flood / Drought-Tolerant and Bio-fortified Rice Varieties, Cropping System-based Demonstrations (Rice-Pulses), distribution of Paddy Micronutrient Mixture, Liquid Bio-fertilizers, Plant Protection Chemicals and Green Manure Seeds and Bio-Control agents will be implemented benefiting 53,666 farmers.

Nel Jayaraman's Traditional Paddy Variety Conservation Mission

To conserve and revive the traditional Paddy varieties of Tamil Nadu, farmers will be encouraged to produce traditional Paddy varieties by establishing Seed Farms for which seed

production incentive will be provided for 110 MT at an outlay of Rs.16.50 lakh. Further, to encourage the cultivation of traditional paddy varieties by farmers, 150 MT of traditional paddy seeds will be distributed at 50 percent subsidized rate at an outlay of Rs.52.50 lakh. This mission will be implemented during 2026-27 with an outlay of Rs.69 lakh.

1.3.2 Millets

Due to the awareness created among the people in prevention of disease and maintenance of health, the demand for traditional Millets such as Sorghum(Jowar), Cumbu (Bajra), Ragi (Finger millet), Tenai (Foxtail millet), Samai (Little millet), Panivaragu (Proso Millet), Kuthiravaali (Barnyard Millet) and Varagu (Kodo Millet) and Maize which serves as a raw material for poultry feed, cattle feed, and bio-ethanol industries continues to rise steadily in Tamil Nadu.

On an average, Millets are cultivated in an area of 9.54 lakh ha, of which 5.13 lakh ha is cultivated during Kharif season and 4.41 lakh ha during the Rabi season with an annual production of 36.12 L.MT. An area of 2.16 lakh Ha is cultivated under irrigated condition and 7.38 lakh Ha under rainfed.

During 2026–27, schemes for Millet are implemented, with the objective of achieving a production target of 39.35 L.MT in an area of 10 lakh Ha.

The following schemes are implemented to increase the area and production of Millets and Minor Millets.

National Food Security and Nutrition Mission-Nutri cereals:

With the objective of increasing the area under cultivation, production, and productivity of Millets, this scheme will be implemented during

2026-27 with a financial allocation of Rs.43.94 crore in 26 districts.

Components such as cluster demonstration on Millets, distribution of certified seeds, certified seed production subsidy, distribution of bio-fertilizers and micronutrient mixtures, Millet Festivals will be implemented. This scheme will be implemented in an area of 4.69 lakh hectare, benefitting 4.56 lakh farmers.

Maize Production Enhancement Scheme

In Tamil Nadu, Maize is cultivated normally in an area of 4.5 lakh hectare, with a production of 29 L.MT.

Tamil Nadu houses a total of 54 poultry feed manufacturing units and 7 Ethanol production units. The annual requirement of Maize for poultry feed industries is 27 L.MT and 9 L.MT for ethanol production, accounting for an annual requirement of 36 L.MT.

As the requirement for Maize is steadily increasing in Tamil Nadu, to increase the Area, Production, Productivity in Maize, the **National Food Security and Nutrition Mission – Coarse cereals will be implemented in 1.35 lakh hectare** with a financial allocation of Rs.30.02 crore and **National Agriculture Development Programme – Maize** in an area of **5,200 hectare** at an outlay of Rs.6 crore in 35 districts.

1.3.3. Pulses

Pulses constitute a critical component of Tamil Nadu's agricultural strategy, offering significant ecological and economic benefits. In the State, normally Pulses are cultivated in an area of 7.31 lakh hectare, with a normal production of 4.32 Lakh MT and an average productivity of 590 kg/ha.

Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses is implemented in 33 districts of Tamil Nadu, with

the objective to achieve self-sufficiency in Pulses for ensuring affordable access to Pulses for a balanced diet while boosting farmers' income and supporting nutritional security through sustainable and resilient agriculture. During 2026–27, the mission will be implemented with a financial allocation of **Rs.52.41 crore**. Assistance will be provided to farmers for the production and distribution of certified seeds, conduct of block-level demonstrations and farmer training programmes and support for the establishment of Pulse processing and packing units.

Redgram Transplantation Technology using pro-trays is promoted under the National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) with an outlay of **Rs.5.60 crore**, covering 5,600 hectare across 13 districts. Assistance will be provided to farmers for seeds, bio-fertilizers, micronutrient mixtures and other productivity-enhancing inputs.

Distribution of certified seeds of Pulses scheme will be implemented with a financial allocation of **Rs.1.02 crore** in all districts except Chennai and the Nilgiris.

Conservation and distribution of seeds of traditional Millets and Pulse varieties.

Traditional Millet and Pulses varieties of Tamil Nadu are highly nutritive and build resistance to diseases. To encourage traditional millet and pulses producing seed growers, seed production incentive will be provided for 8 MT with a financial allocation of Rs. 1.20 lakh. Moreover, to promote the cultivation of traditional millet and Pulses varieties, 18 MT of seeds will be distributed at 50% subsidy with a financial allocation of Rs.10.80 lakh. During 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented at an outlay of Rs.12 Lakh.

1.3.4. Oilseeds

Oilseeds play a major role among the agricultural crops cultivated in Tamil Nadu.

At National level, Tamil Nadu is one of the leading states in Oilseeds production. Oilseeds are an important source of edible oils, providing dietary fats, energy and fat-soluble vitamins. As high-value cash crops, they play a significant role in enhancing farmers' income, supporting rural livelihoods and generating employment strengthening farmers' welfare.

In Tamil Nadu, Oilseed crops are normally cultivated in an area of 4.06 lakh hectare, with an annual production of about 9.28 lakh MT and average yield of **2,284 kg /ha**.

During 2026-27, an amount of **Rs.132.11 crore** has been allocated to implement the "National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds" scheme across 66,850 hectare in 26 districts. The mission aims to achieve self-sufficiency in edible oil production by increasing domestic edible oil production, reducing edible oil

imports and conserving foreign exchange, and enhancing farmers' income.

Under the Mission, assistance is provided for Oilseed cultivation through the distribution of high-yielding and improved varieties under Value Chain Clusters, supply of seeds and other critical inputs for Block Demonstrations, and support for certified seed production. In addition, financial assistance is extended to Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), co-operatives and industry stakeholders for the establishment and upgradation of post-harvest infrastructure, thereby improving processing efficiency and enhancing oil recovery from Oilseeds.

Alternate crop cultivation scheme will be implemented at an outlay of **Rs.12.50 crore** to mitigate crop damages caused by climatic changes to improve soil health, and promote the cultivation of Pulses and Oilseeds as an alternative to Paddy crop.

1.3.5. Cotton

With the objective of improving cotton productivity in Tamil Nadu, the Mission for Cotton Productivity has been introduced as a five-year mission from 2026–27 to 2030–31 with an allocation of Rs. 26.21 crore by the Union and State Government during 2026–27. Under this scheme, technologies such as High Density Planting, Closer Spacing, Extra Long Staple (ELS) Cotton cultivation, capacity building of farmers through training and Integrated Crop Management will be promoted.

Further, an amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has been allocated to promote the production and distribution of quality varietal Cotton seeds, nipping and intercropping with pulses under the National Agriculture Development Programme – Quality seed Production and Distribution varietal Cotton scheme. By integrating these two schemes, the **Cotton Renaissance Mission** will

be implemented in an area of 29,360 hectare with a total financial allocation of Rs.27.21 crore, benefitting 40,000 farmers.

1.4. Digital Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture is stepping up Digital Agriculture through AI (Artificial Intelligence), Machine Learning, and farmer-centric digital platforms. The Uzhavar App provides 24 essential services, benefiting over 20 lakh farmers with weather advisories, market prices, input availability, AI based pest and disease diagnosis, scheme information.

AgriStack forms the foundation of digital agriculture through the Farmer Registry (FR), Digital Crop Survey (DCS) and geo-referenced land records. The Farmer Registry creates a unique Farmer ID by integrating Aadhaar, land records, and demographic data to ensure transparent and targeted delivery of government benefits. Village camps, self-registration and

Common Service Centres facilitate free farmer enrolment.

The Digital Crop Survey captures real-time crop data using geotagged mobile applications and field verification. It enables accurate crop area estimation, production forecasting, crop insurance, disaster loss assessment, procurement planning, and reliable agricultural statistics. These digital initiatives improve transparency, eliminate duplication, strengthen evidence-based policy making and enhance administrative efficiency.

Together, they establish an integrated, technology-driven agricultural ecosystem for better governance and farmer welfare in Tamil Nadu.

1.5.Other Schemes in the Department of Agriculture

1.5.1.Tamil Nadu State Seed Development Agency (TANSEDA)

Quality certified seeds possess high genetic purity, better germination, and superior vigour,

contributing to 15–25% higher crop yields compared to farm-saved seeds.

Tamil Nadu State Seed Development Agency (TANSEDA) was established during 2015–16 to undertake seed planning, organize seed production, procurement, and distribution of quality certified seeds of Paddy, Millets, Pulses, Oilseeds, and Cotton at affordable prices. The Department maintains 33 State Seed Farms for Paddy, 6 State Oilseed Farms and 1 State Pulses Multiplication Farm. The Breeder seeds procured from Agricultural Research Institutions and Agricultural Universities are multiplied into foundation seeds in these farms and farmer's field and subsequently multiplied into certified seeds in farmer's fields and procured by TANSEDA for distribution to farmers.

During 2026–27, TANSEDA has planned to procure and distribute 43,400 MT of certified seeds which include 25,000 MT of Paddy,

2,857 MT of Millets, 6,358 MT of Pulses, 9,140 MT of Oilseeds, and 45 MT of Cotton seeds.

Table 1.3: State Seed Farms

S. No	District	Name of SSFs/SOSF/SPMF
1	Kancheepuram	Panjupettai
2	Thiruvallur	Kolandalur
3	Cuddalore	Vandurayanpattu
4		Miralur
5	Villupuram	Iruvelpattu
6		Kakkuppam
7		Vanur
8	Kallakurichi	Vadakkananthai
9	Tiruvannamalai	Athiyandal
10		Vazhavachanur
11	Salem	Mettur Dam
12		Danishpet
13	Dharmapuri	Papparapatti
14	Tiruppur	Pappankulam
15	Erode	Bhavani
16		Sathyamangalam
17	Tiruchirappalli	Pudurpalayam
18		Neikuppaipudhur
19	Karur	Inungur
20	Pudukottai	Annapannai
21	Thanjavur	Sakkottai
22	Mayiladuthurai	Nagamangalam

S. No	District	Name of SSFs/SOSF/SPMF
23		Thirukadaiyur
24	Thiruvarur	Nedumbalam
25		Kanchikudikadu
26		Keeranthi
27		Devambalpattinam
28		Moongilkudi
29	Madurai	Vinayagapuram
30	Theni	Keezhagudalur
31	Virudhunagar	Devadanam
32	Tirunelveli	karaiyiruppu
33	Kanyakumari	Thirupathisaram
	State Oilseeds Farm	
34	Kanchipuram	Musaravakkam
35	Krishnagiri	Agasipalli
36	Erode	Bhavanisagar
37	Pudukottai	Vellalaviduthi
38	Ranipet	Navlock
39	Cuddalore	Neyveli
	State Pulses Multiplication Farm	
40	Pudukottai	Vamban

1.5.2.Agricultural Extension Centres and Seed Processing Units

Out of 885 Agricultural Extension Centres, 386 centres are functioning at block level as main

centres. In order to provide all agriculture related services to the farming community, 245 Main Agricultural Extension Centres have been upgraded as Integrated Agricultural Extension Centres.

To monitor the functioning of IAECs and capture the daily attendance of Department officials, surveillance cameras and fingerprint based biometric attendance system are being installed in all the IAECs.

To facilitate easy access of quality agricultural inputs in the vicinity of farming community, Sub Agricultural Extension Centres with storage godowns are being established. At present, 499 centres are functioning at Firka level as sub-centres, of which 314 centres have been upgraded as new Sub Agricultural Extension Centres.

There are 105 Seed Processing Units functioning under Agriculture Department with an average seed processing capacity of 25,000 MT per year. Further, 23 new Seed Processing Units are under construction. One more new processing unit will be constructed at Athiyandal in Thiruvanamalai district.

Table 1.4: District wise Agricultural Extension Centres (AEC)

Sl. No.	District	Integrated Agricultural Extension Centres	Sub Agricultural Extension Centres	Total
1	Ariyalur	6	5	11
2	Chengalpattu	8	8	16
3	Coimbatore	12	14	26
4	Cuddalore	14	16	30
5	Dharmapuri	8	9	17
6	Dindigul	14	15	29
7	Erode	14	21	35
8	Kallakuruchi	9	10	19
9	Kancheepuram	5	8	13
10	Kanyakumari	9	11	20
11	Karur	8	4	12
12	Krishnagiri	10	7	17
13	Madurai	13	18	31
14	Mayiladuthurai	5	15	20
15	Nagapattinam	6	18	24

Table 1.4: District wise Agricultural Extension Centres (AEC)

Sl. No.	District	Integrated Agricultural Extension Centres	Sub Agricultural Extension Centres	Total
16	Namakkal	15	18	33
17	Perambalur	4	3	7
18	Pudukottai	13	20	33
19	Ramanathapuram	11	6	17
20	Ranipet	7	8	15
21	Salem	20	11	31
22	Sivagangai	12	9	21
23	Tenkasi	10	15	25
24	Thanjavur	14	47	61
25	Theni	8	13	21
26	Tirupathur	6	8	14
27	Thiruvallur	14	20	34
28	Thiruvannamalai	18	24	42
29	Tiruvavur	10	32	42
30	Tirunelveli	9	16	25
31	Tiruppur	13	13	26
32	Tiruchirappalli	14	10	24
33	Tuticorin	12	16	28
34	Vellore	7	7	14
35	Villupuram	13	17	30
36	Virudunagar	11	5	16
37	The Nilgiris	4	2	6
	Total	386	499	885

Table 1.5: Number of Seed Processing Units

S. No	District	Processing capacity wise number of seed processing unit			
		1.5-5 MT/hour	1 MT/hour	0.5 MT/hour	Total
1	Ariyalur		2		2
2	Chengalpattu		1	1	2
3	Coimbatore		1		1
4	Cuddalore	1	3		4
5	Dharmapuri		2		2
6	Dindigul	1	1		2
7	Erode	1	2	1	4
8	Kallakurichi		3		3
9	Kancheepuram	1	2		3
10	Kanniyakumari		1		1
11	Karur		1	1	2
12	Krishnagiri		1	1	2
13	Madurai	1	2		3
14	Mayiladuthurai		3	1	4
15	Nagapattinam			1	1
16	Namakkal		2		2
17	Perambalur		1		1
18	Pudukottai		4	2	6
19	Ramanathapuram		2	1	3
20	Ranipet		2	1	3
21	Salem		3	1	4
22	Sivagangai		2	1	3
23	Tenkasi			1	1
24	Thanjavore		5	3	8
25	Theni		1		1
26	Tirupathur				

S. No	District	Processing capacity wise number of seed processing unit			
		1.5-5 MT/hour	1 MT/hour	0.5 MT/hour	Total
27	Thoothukudi	1	1		2
28	Tiruchirapalli		4	2	6
29	Tirunelveli		2	1	3
30	Tiruppur		2		2
31	Tiruvallur		2	1	3
32	Tiruvannamalai	2	2	3	7
33	Tiruvarur		3	3	6
34	Vellore			1	1
35	Villupuram	1	2	1	4
36	Virudhunagar		2	1	3
TOTAL		9	67	29	105

1.6. Plant Protection

To promote sustainable agriculture and encourage farmers to adopt Integrated Pest Management technologies and use of bio-pesticides for effective management of pest and disease infestation in crops, Bio-pesticides are produced by the Department of Agriculture through 24 Bio Control Laboratories and 5 Sugarcane Parasitic Breeding Centres and distributed to farmers through Agricultural

Extension Centres under various schemes at subsidized cost.

The Target details of production and Distribution of Bio - control agents during 2026-27 are as follows

S. No.	Bio - Control Agents	Production and Distribution (Kg)
1.	<i>Trichoderma viride</i>	3,89,000
2.	<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	3,62,000
3.	<i>Metarhizium anisopliae</i>	1,49,000

1.7. Fertilizer

Tamil Nadu requires approximately 23 lakh metric tonnes of chemical fertilizers annually for agricultural production. Considering the needs of farmers during the Kharif season of 2026, the Government of India has allocated 5.06 lakh metric tonnes of urea, 1.40 lakh metric tonnes of DAP, 1.11 lakh metric tonnes of potash, 4.65 lakh metric tonnes of complex fertilizers and 0.74 lakh metric tonnes of superphosphate to Tamil Nadu.

To avoid the excessive use of chemical fertilizers and protect the fertility and productive capacity of the soil, integrated nutrient management practices are being promoted. As part of this, awareness are being created among farmers regarding the importance of using Green manure, Bio-fertilizers and organic fertilizers. Training programmes and demonstration activities are conducted for farmers at block level by which guidance are being provided to reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers and adopt sustainable agricultural practices.

Further, steps have been taken to procure and stock the required quantity of fertilizers in advance from fertilizer manufacturing companies, thereby ensuring that fertilizers are available to farmers without any interruption. Measures will be taken to ensure the distribution of fertilizers,

reduce farmers' production costs, and protect soil fertility on a long-term basis.

Table 1.6: Fertilizer consumption (in Lakh MT)

S. No	Fertilizer	2025-26	2026-27 (Anticipated)
1.	Urea	11.43	10.86
2.	DAP	2.69	2.56
3.	MOP	2.02	1.92
4.	Complex	7.89	7.50
5.	SSP	0.96	0.91
	Total	24.99	23.74

Ensuring Quality Fertilizer Supply

To ensure only quality fertilizers are supplied to farmers, the fertilizer samples taken by the Quality Control Officers available at district level are subjected to quality testing.

Annually, on an average, a target of about 31,040 samples is fixed for fertilizer testing.

Based on the deficiencies identified during laboratory testing, appropriate departmental and legal action as per rules in vogue are being taken against the concerned manufacturers.

Similarly, during 2026–27, it has been targeted to collect and test 31,040 fertilizer samples for quality standards.

1.8. Laboratories

There are 37 Soil testing Laboratories and 22 Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories functioning in Department of Agriculture to encourage farmers to cultivate crops in accordance to the soil fertility, reduce the use of fertilizers and enhance the soil fertility and to create awareness through the distribution of Soil Health Cards with fertilizer recommendations. Quality of agricultural inputs that are being distributed to farmers are ensured by 14 Fertilizer Control Laboratories, 15 Pesticide Testing Laboratories, 2 Organic Fertilizer Testing Laboratories, 1 Bio Fertilizer Quality Control Testing Laboratory and 1 Bio-Control Agent Testing Laboratory. Further, 12.10 lakh litres of Liquid Bio-fertilizers and 3,300 MT of Micro Nutrient Mixtures are being annually produced

and distributed by 22 Bio-Fertilizer Production Units and 1 Micro Nutrient Mixture Production Unit respectively.

Table 1.7. Sample Target

S.No	Details	2026-2027 Target (Nos)
1	Samples of Soil and water used for irrigation.	5.00 Lakh
2	Fertilizer Samples	28,000
3	Organic Fertilizer Samples	2,000
4	Bio-Fertilizer Samples	1,040
5	Pesticide Samples	21,850
6	Bio-Control Agent Samples	792
7	MN- Mixtures production	3,300 MT
8	Liquid Bio-Fertilizers production	12.10 Lakh Litres

Table 1.8 (a): Details of Laboratories in Tamil Nadu

S.No	District	Soil Testing Laboratories (37 Nos)	Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories (22 Nos)
1	Kancheepuram	Kancheepuram	
2	Tiruvallur	Tiruvallur	Tiruvallur
3	Cuddalore	Cuddalore	Cuddalore
4	Villupuram	Villupuram	Villupuram
5	Vellore	Melalathur (Kudiyatham)	Vellore
6	Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai
7	Salem	Salem	Salem

S.No	District	Soil Testing Laboratories (37 Nos)	Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories (22 Nos)
8	Namakkal	Namakkal	Tiruchengode
9	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	
10	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri
11	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	Coimbatore
12	Tiruppur	Tiruppur	Palladam
13	Erode	Erode	Erode
14	Tiruchirapalli	Tiruchirappalli	
15	Perambalur	Perambalur	Perambalur
16	Ariyalur	Ariyalur	
17	Karur	Karur	Karur
18	Pudukkottai	Kudumiyamalai	
19	Thanjavur	Aduthurai	Aduthurai
20	Nagapattinam	Nagapattinam	Nagapattinam
21	Tiruvarur	Tiruvarur	Tiruvarur
22	Madurai	Madurai	Madurai
23	Theni	Theni	
24	Dindigul	Dindigul	
25	Ramanathapuram	Paramakudi	Paramakudi
26	Sivagangai	Sivagangai	
27	Virudunagar	Virudhunagar	Aruppukkottai
28	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli
29	Thoothukudi	Kovilpatti	Kovilpatti
30	Kanyakumari	Nagercoil	Nagercoil
31	The Nilgris	Ooty	
32	Kallakurichi	Chinnasalem	
33	Tenkasi	Tenkasi	
34	Chengalpattu	Chengalpattu	
35	Ranipet	Ranipet	
36	Tirupathur	Tirupathur	
37	Mayiladuthurai	Mayiladuthurai	

Table 1.8 (b): Details of Laboratories in Tamil Nadu

S.No	District	Fertilizer Control Laboratories (14 Nos)	Pesticide Testing Laboratories (12 Nos)
1	Kancheepuram	Kancheepuram	Kancheepuram
2	Villupuram	Villupuram	
3	Vellore		Vellore
4	Salem	Salem	Salem
5	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri
6	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	Coimbatore
7	Tiruchirapalli	Tiruchirapalli	Tiruchirapalli
8	Thanjavur	Kumbakonam	Aduthurai
9	Nagapattinam		Nagapattinam
10	Tiruvarur	Tiruvarur	
11	Madurai	Madurai	Madurai
12	Dindigul	Dindigul	
13	Ramanathapuram	Paramakudi	
14	Sivagangai		Sivagangai
15	Tirunelveli		Tirunelveli
16	Thoothukudi	Kovilpatti	Kovilpatti
17	Kanyakumari	Nagercoil	
18	The Nilgris	Ooty	

Table 1.8 (c): Details of Laboratories in Tamil Nadu

S.No	District	Liquid Bio-Fertilizers Production Units (22 Nos)	Bio Control Laboratories (22 Nos)
1	Tiruvallur	Puzhal	Mathavaram
2	Cuddalore	Cuddalore	Panruti
3	Villupuram	Mugaiyur	Villupuram
4	Vellore	Gudiyatham	Vellore
5	Tiruvannamalai	Polur	Tiruvannamalai
6	Salem	Salem	Salem

S.No	District	Liquid Bio-Fertilizers Production Units (22 Nos)	Bio Control Laboratories (22 Nos)
7	Namakkal		Namakkal
8	Dharmapuri	Palacode	Papparapatti
9	Coimbatore		Coimbatore
10	Tiruppur	Avinashi	
11	Erode	Bhavani	Bhavani
12	Tiruchirapalli	Tiruchirappalli	Tiruchirapalli
13	Perambalur		Perambalur
14	Ariyalur	Jeyamkondam	Thirumanur
15	Karur		Karur
16	Pudukkottai	Kudumiyamalai	Annavasal
17	Thanjavur	Sakkottai	Kaattuthottam
18	Tiruvarur	Needamangalam	Mannaarkudi
19	Madurai	Thirumangalam	Melur
20	Theni	Uthamapalayam	
21	Dindigul	Palani	Natham
22	Ramanathapuram	Ramanathapuram	
23	Sivagangai	Manamadurai	
24	Virudunagar		Virudhunagar
25	Tirunelveli		Tirunelveli
26	Thoothukudi	Thoothukudi	
27	Kanyakumari		Kozhiporvilai
28	Tenkasi	Tenkasi	
29	Chengalpattu	Chengalpattu	

Table 1.8 (d): Details of Laboratories in Tamil Nadu

S.No	Laboratories	District
1	Organic Fertilizer Testing Laboratories (2 Nos)	Coimbatore,Tiruchirapalli
2	Bio - Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratory (1 No)	Tiruchirapalli
3	Bio - Control Agent Quality Control Laboratory (1 No)	Tiruchirapalli

4	State Pesticide Testing Laboratories and Coding Centres (3 Nos)	Cuddalore, Erode, Theni
5	Micronutrient Mixtures Production Unit (1 No)	Kudumiyamalai (Pudukkottai)
6	Central Control Laboratory (1 No)	Kudumiyamalai (Pudukkottai)
7	Integrated Pest Management Centre (2 Nos)	Kancheepuram, Vinayagapuram (Madurai)
8	Sugarcane Parasite Breeding Centres (5 Nos)	Villupuram, Mohanur (Namakkal), Udumalaipet (Tiruppur), Gopichettipalayam (Erode), Thanjavur.

1.8.1. Tamil Manvalam

Tamil Manvalam Portal is exclusively functioning to have a tab on the nutrient status of cultivable lands, fertilizer and crop cultivation recommendations. Since its launch, 4,65,570 Soil Health Cards have been downloaded and used by the farmers.

1.8.2. Laboratories with NABL Certification

Among the laboratories that are functioning under the Department of Agriculture, 36 Soil Testing Laboratories and 14 Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories have been recognised by NABL.

Further, 14 Fertilizer Control Laboratories, 6 Pesticide Testing Laboratories have acquired the NABL Accreditation. Accreditation of other Laboratories is currently under process.

1.9.Sub Mission on Agricultural Extension (SSEPERS-ATMA)

The Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE) is implemented through co-ordinated efforts of Agriculture and allied departments to disseminate improved crop practices and modern agricultural technologies among the farming community.

The Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMA) which operate in all districts, will undertake trainings, exposure visits, demonstrations, Kisan Mela, creation of farmers group and Farm Schools.

This scheme will be continued during 2026-27 with implementation of components such as technical training to farmers, exposure visits, demonstrations and Farm Schools.

1.9.1. Farmers Training Centres (FTCs)

There are 22 Farmers Training Centres (FTCs) across the State which provide seasonal training and conduct demonstrations for the benefit of farmers, including farm women and farmer discussion group leader on best practices and new technologies. These Centres will continue to function during 2026–27.

1.9.2. State Agricultural Extension Management Institute (STAMIN) - Kudimiyamalai

The State Agricultural Extension Management Institute (STAMIN) conducts training programmes on the latest technologies in agriculture, office administration, extension management and computer skills for extension functionaries and ministerial staff working in the Agriculture Department. The scheme will be continued during 2026–27.

1.9.3.State Agricultural Management and Extension Training Institute (SAMETI)

The State Agricultural Management and Extension Training Institute (SAMETI) strengthens the capacity of Agriculture, Horticulture, Agri Marketing, Agri Engineering, Seed Certification and Organic Certification, Veterinary, Fisheries, Forest and Silk Development Department personnel through specialized training on modern technologies and co-ordination of national programmes. It also provides consultancy service and online training programmes.

1.9.4.Water Management Training Centre (WMTC) Vinayagapuram – Madurai District

The Water Management Training Centre (WMTC), located at Vinayagapuram in Madurai district, conducts training programmes on water management, irrigation methodologies and water conservation technologies for field functionaries and farmers.

1.10. Disaster Management

In Tamil Nadu, natural calamities such as flood, drought, cyclone, and other extreme weather events occur frequently causing extensive damage to agricultural and horticultural crops, thereby affecting the production and productivity of crops. To safeguard the livelihood of farmers affected by these calamities and continue with the agricultural activities, the State Government provides Input subsidy as relief assistance from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). This assistance is extended as an immediate relief to support the farmers to recover from the losses and continue with their farming activities. This activity of redressing the farmers grievances will be continued.

1.11. Free electricity for Agriculture

The agriculture sector in Tamil Nadu largely depends on irrigation supported through wells and groundwater resources. In order to help farmers

to continue farming amidst natural disasters besides ensuring sustainable agricultural production and food security in the State, the Government of Tamil Nadu is providing free supply of electricity to farmers for the Agricultural service connections.

During 2026-27, a sum of Rs.7,432.58 crore has been allocated to provide free supply of electricity to the existing 23.98 Lakh Agricultural service connections.

1.12.Awards bestowed in Agriculture Department

1.12.1.Thiru. C. Narayanaswamy Naidu Paddy Productivity Award

"Thiru C. Narayanasamy Naidu Paddy Productivity Award" is presented every year to encourage farmers achieving the highest Paddy productivity at the State level adopting the System of Rice Intensification (SRI)/ Machine Transplanting technologies. The award is

conferred by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu during the Republic Day celebration. The award comprises of a cash prize of Rs.5.00 lakh, a gold-plated silver medal and a certificate of appreciation.

1.12.2. Makkal Sevagar Anjalai Ammal Award for Small and Marginal farmers

With the objective of encouraging the small and marginal farmers '**Makkal Sevagar Anjalai Ammal Award**' will be presented during 2026-27 to farmers who obtain highest yield in Millets, Pulses and Oilseeds based on the State-Level Crop Yield Competitions.

During 2026-27, an amount of Rs.50 lakh has been allocated for this scheme and an amount of Rs.2.50 lakh, Rs.1.50 lakh and Rs.1 lakh will be awarded to first three farmers. The Prize amount will be given to 30 farmers.

1.12.3. District-Level "Vetri Vivasayi" Award

The **Vetri Vivasayi Award** will be conferred at the district level to motivate and honour farmers who demonstrate excellence in crop production by adopting newly released varieties and modern scientific farming practices, resulting in higher productivity and setting a benchmark for other farmers.

The district Level Crop Yield Competition will be conducted in Paddy (Irrigated and Rainfed), Sorghum, Cumbu, Maize, Red Gram, Black Gram, Green Gram, Groundnut and Cotton crops. The top two farmers who had cultivated the crop in two acres and achieved the highest yield will be selected and awarded with the cash prize of Rs.50,000/- for the first place and Rs.25,000/- for the second place.

During 2026–27, an amount of Rs.67.50 lakh has been allocated for conducting the district-level crop yield competitions for the farmers.

1.12.4. Bharat Ratna Dr. M.G.R traditional Paddy variety conservator award

The cultivation and conservation of traditional Paddy varieties have been an integral part of agricultural practices of Tamil Nadu for many years. To encourage the farmers who cultivate and preserve these traditional varieties continuously, the Bharat Ratna Dr. M.G.R. Traditional Paddy Conservator Award is presented to these farmers.

During 2026-27, a State-level yield competition will be conducted for farmers cultivating traditional paddy varieties. The top five farmers obtaining the highest yield will be selected and awarded with a cash prize of Rs.1.00 lakh each.

An amount of Rs.5.00 lakh will be allocated during 2026-27 for the implementation of this scheme.

1.12.5.Nammazhvar Award for the best Organic Farmer

To encourage farmers who practise organic farming effectively and motivate other farmers to adopt organic farming, the “Nammazhvar Award” is awarded every year to 3 farmers.

In 2026–27 also, five farmers will be awarded with a cash prize of Rs.2 lakh each along with a certificate of appreciation, at a financial outlay of Rs.11 lakh.

1.13.Crop Insurance - Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

The Government of Tamil Nadu, with a strong commitment towards the welfare and livelihood security of farmers, is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) by tailoring the scheme to the cropping pattern and agro-climatic conditions prevailing in the State. The scheme is implemented on a voluntary basis for all farmers, including loanee and non-loanee farmers,

sharecroppers and tenant farmers cultivating notified crops in notified areas. The scheme has a bouquet of insurance coverage against risks like Prevented sowing / planting, failed sowing / planting, yield loss in standing crop, Mid-season adversities, Post harvest losses and localized calamities.

A wide range of Agricultural crops such as Food grains, Oilseeds, Cotton & Sugarcane and annual Horticultural Crops are covered. Reaffirming its unwavering commitment to the welfare and livelihood security of farmers, the Government has proposed to bring the entire cultivated area under the ambit of PMFBY, thereby ensuring universal access to crop insurance for all interested farmers cultivating notified crops across the State. During 2026-27, the scheme will be implemented at an outlay of Rs.648.55 crore.

1.14 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM -KISAN)

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), is implemented by the Union Government since 2019 with an objective to support the financial needs of farmers' families.

Under this scheme, the eligible farmers' families owning cultivable lands receive an income support of Rs.6,000 per year. The assistance is provided in three equal instalments through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) by the Union Government.

1.15. Staff Structure in Department of Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture is functioning with 4,817 technical officers, 5,514 Ministerial staff and other staff totalling to a strength of 10,331 staff.

Table: 1.9 – Technical Officers

S. No	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength
1	Director of Seed Certification and Organic Certification	1
2	Additional Director of Agriculture	6
3	Joint Director of Agriculture	42
4	Deputy Director of Agriculture	168
5	Assistant Director of Agriculture	424
6	Agricultural Officer	1,060
7	Deputy Agricultural Officer	337
8	Assistant Seed Officer	509
9	Assistant Agricultural Officer	2,267
10	Other Technical Officers	3
Total Technical Officers		4,817

Table: 1.10. - Ministerial and Other Staff

S. No	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength
1	Deputy Director (Administration)	2
2	Administrative Officer	34
3	Superintendent	185
4	Assistant	642
5	Junior Assistant	388
6	Typist	366
7	Superintendent (Security)	148
8	Assistant (Security)	249
9	Junior Assistant (Security)	572
10	Steno Typist (Grade -1)	1
11	Steno Typist (Grade - 2)	39
12	Steno Typist (Grade - 3)	95
13	Driver	294
14	Laboratory Assistant	135
15	Record Clerk	155
16	Office Assistant	586
17	Watchman	1,072

S. No	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength
18	Telephone Operator	2
19	Other Staff	549
Total Ministerial and other staff		5,514

2. Department of Sugar

“வான்பொய்ப்பினுந் தான்பொய்யா
மலைத்தலைய கடற்காவிரி
புனல்பரந்து பொன்கொழிக்கும்
விளைவறா வியன்கழனி
கார்க்கரும்பின் கமழாலைத்
தீத்தெறுவிற் கவின்வாடி
நீர்ச்செறுவி னீனெய்தற்
பூச்சாம்பும் புலத்தாங்கட்...”

-Pattinappalai (5-12),

The *Pattinappālai* provides significant evidence of the agricultural prosperity of the Chola country, particularly through its reference to “கார்க்கரும்பின் கமழாலை”, denoting fragrant sugarcane-processing mills. This reference indicates that sugarcane was cultivated extensively during the Sangam period and facilities for processing sugarcane were already in existence. Such literary evidence demonstrates that sugarcane cultivation and its associated

processing technology had a long and established history in ancient Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu Sugar Corporation and Tamil Nadu Co-operative Sugar Federation Limited are functioning under the Department of Sugar. The Department undertakes various activities such as establishment of new sugar mills, expansion of existing sugar mills, development of sugarcane cultivation, monitoring the functioning of Co-operative Sugar Mills, and allocation of sugarcane cultivation areas to sugar mills. Besides these, various measures are being taken to enhance sugarcane productivity and reduce the cost of cultivation.

In Tamil Nadu more than 1,10,000 farmers are engaged in sugarcane cultivation. Sugarcane production and the associated sugar industry make a significant contribution to the State's

agricultural economy and improvement of the livelihoods of rural people. By encompassing the industrial chain, the cultivation of sugarcane to sugar production, value added by products and various other related services provide employment opportunities and income to lakh of people, both directly and indirectly.

At National level Tamil Nadu ranks fifth in sugar production. To meet the State's annual sugar requirement of 18 lakh metric tonnes, efforts are being taken to improve the sugar production by increasing the productivity of Sugarcane, optimizing the utilization of cultivated area, promoting the adoption of modern agricultural technologies and enhancing the operational efficiency and performance of sugar mills.

Sugarcane is an important commercial and cash crop. Further, sugarcane also serves as a raw material for production of sugar, value-added

sugar products, rectified spirit, ethanol, paper, electricity, and organic manure. Tamil Nadu has 40 Sugar Mills, out of which 16 are Co-operative Sugar Mills, 2 are Public Sector Sugar Mills and 22 are Private Sugar Mills. During the 2025–26 crushing season, of 29 Sugar Mills, comprising of 12 Co-operative Sugar Mills, 2 Public Sector Sugar Mills, and 15 Private Sugar Mills, have commenced the crushing operations.

2.1. Sugarcane Cultivation

In Tamil Nadu, sugarcane is normally cultivated in an area of 1.29 lakh hectares with an average productivity of 113 Metric tonne per Hectare. About 65 to 75% of the sugarcane produced in the State is utilized as raw material for sugar mills.

Table 2.1: Top five sugarcane cultivating districts in Tamil Nadu

Sl. No.	District	Area under cultivation (Hectare)	Production (Lakh Metric tonne)	Productivity (Metric tonne / Hectare)
1	Kallakurichi	22,931	24.84	108
2	Erode	18,983	21.47	113
3	Villupuram	12,242	10.65	87
4	Cuddalore	12,169	11.60	95
5	Tiruvannamalai	11,707	11.86	101

(Source: Department of Economics and Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu)

2.2.Sugarcane Registered Area for Sugar Mills

During 2024–25 planting season, one lakh hectare of sugarcane area was registered by the Co-operative, Public Sector and Private Sugar Mills. During 2025–26 planting season, upto 31.07.2026, sugar mills have registered 0.82 lakh hectare under sugarcane cultivation.

2.3. Sugarcane Crushing (Crushing Season – October to September)

During 2024–25 sugarcane crushing season, a total of 83.74 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of

sugarcane was crushed. The current 2025–26 crushing season commenced on 01.10.2025 and is scheduled to conclude on 30.9.2026. As on 31.07.2026, 72.48 lakh metric tonnes of sugarcane had been crushed. The total sugarcane crushing during the current season is expected to reach approximately 85 lakh metric tonnes by the end of the season (upto 30.9.2026).

2.4. Sugar Recovery

During 2024–25 sugarcane crushing season, the sugar recovery rate was 8.75%. During the current 2025–26 crushing season, the sugar recovery rate stood at 8.93% as on 31st July 2026 and is expected to increase to approximately 9.50% by the end of the crushing season (till 30th September, 2026).

2.5. Capacity Utilization

During the 2024–25 crushing season, the 30 Cooperative, Public-Sector and Private Sugar

Mills that were operational achieved an average capacity utilization rate of 45%. During the current 2025–26 crushing season, the capacity utilization rate is expected to increase to approximately 48% by the end of the season. (till 30.9.2026).

2.6. Sugarcane Price

For the 2024–25 sugarcane crushing season, the Government of Tamil Nadu provided a Special Incentive of Rs.349 per metric tonne over and above the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of Rs.3,151 per metric tonne announced by the Government of India. Accordingly, sugarcane farmers received a total cane price of Rs.3,500 per metric tonne.

For the 2025–26 sugarcane crushing season, the Government of India has fixed the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane at Rs.3,290.50 per metric tonne.

With a view to promote and strengthen the sugar industry and safeguard the interests of sugarcane farmers, **the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu announced a Sugarcane Special Incentive of Rs.709.50/- per tonne** for the 2025–26 crushing Season to the farmers who have registered Sugarcane with sugar mills and supplied sugarcane, with the view of transforming the Sugarcane Farmers into **"Vetri Vivasayigal"**. Accordingly, the registered sugarcane farmers supplying cane to sugar mills achieving a sugar recovery rate of upto 9.50% will receive a total cane price of Rs.4,000 per metric tonne. Farmers supplying sugarcane to sugar mills achieving a sugar recovery rate above 9.50% will be eligible to receive a cane price in excess of Rs.4,000 per metric tonne, based on the applicable sugar recovery rate.

2.7. Pradhan Mantri-Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY)

With the objective of increasing the area under sugarcane cultivation and enhancing sugar recovery, an amount of Rs.9.00 crore has been allocated under the Pradhan Mantri-Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) for the year 2026–27 for extending subsidy support for various interventions, such as breeder seed cane of high-yielding and high-sugar-content sugarcane varieties, tissue culture seedlings, single-bud seedlings, single-bud setts, detrashing, establishment of shade-net houses, chopping and spreading of sugarcane trash, and supply of micronutrient mixtures and bio-fertilizers.

2.8. Seed cane Subsidy Scheme

To encourage mechanized harvesting in Sugarcane cultivation, farmers registered with Co-operative and Public Sector Sugar Mills willing to adopt a wider row planting system and Plant

high-yielding and high sugar recovery sugarcane varieties will be provided with bud chip seedlings and single budded setts cut 50% subsidy during 2026-27. The scheme will be implemented in an area of 17,315 acres, at an estimated cost of Rs.9.36 crore.

2.9. Co-generation Project

The Government of Tamil Nadu has ordered to implement 12 cogeneration projects with a total capacity of 183 MW through the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO), (now the Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited - TNGECL), with the objective of reducing the cost of production and improve the cash flow of Cooperative and Public Sector Sugar Mills.

Of the 12 sanctioned cogeneration projects in Cooperative and Public Sector Sugar Mills, seven projects (Chengalrayan, Vellore, Cheyyar, Dharmapuri, MRK, Arignar Anna and Perambalur

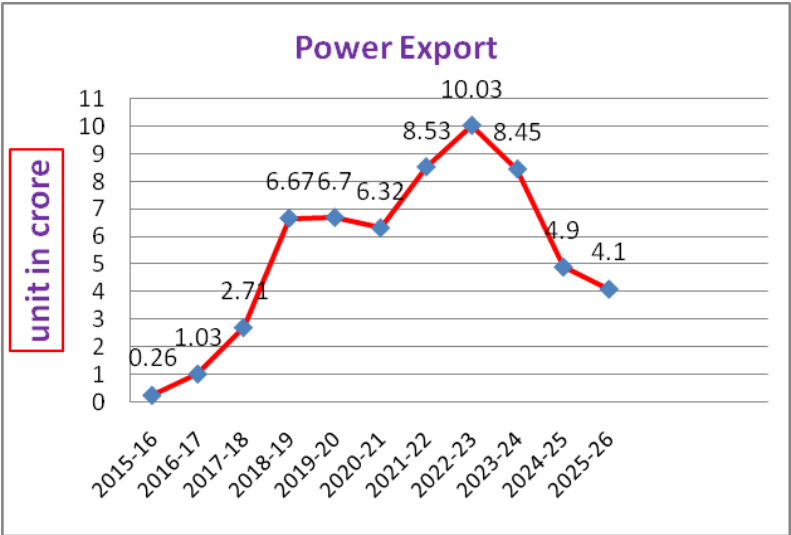
Sugar Mills) with a combined capacity of 108 MW are being commissioned and are in operation.

The cogeneration project at Kallakurichi-I Cooperative Sugar Mill is nearing completion and is expected to be commissioned shortly. In the remaining three Cooperative Sugar Mills (Kallakurichi-II, Subramania Siva and Mohanur) works relating to cogeneration projects with a total capacity of 75 MW have been expedited and will be commissioned shortly through TNGECL. The cogeneration project at the National Cooperative Sugar Mill will be taken up when the sugar mill recommences its operation.

The surplus power generated by the 7 operational co-generation plants is being exported to the TANGEDCO grid. During the crushing seasons from 2015-16 to 2025-26, a total of 59.69 crore units of electricity have been exported to the grid. Further, during the 2025-26

crushing season (upto 31.07.2026), 4.08 crore units of electricity have been exported to TANGEDCO.

Figure 1: Details of Power Export in 7 Co-generation Project



2.10. Ethanol Production

The Amaravathi and Mohanur Cooperative Sugar Mills, located in Tamil Nadu, were established with distilleries having an ethanol production capacity of 55 KLPD during the year

1993–94, and these distilleries are in operation since then. Further, 30 KLPD-capacity ethanol plants were established in these sugar mills during 2007, and ethanol production is being carried out in these plants since their commissioning.

2.10.1.Feasibility study for Ethanol production at Kallakurichi-I Cooperative Sugar Mill

To Produce sugarcane by products in sugar mills and develop the mills, Detailed Project Report(DPR) and a Feasibility Report for establishing a 100 Kilo Litre Per Day (KLPD) Ethanol distillery at the Kallakurichi-I Cooperative Sugar Mill under a Consortium arrangement with the Kallakurichi-II and Chengalrayan Cooperative Sugar Mills will be carried out at an outlay of Rs.20 Lakh.

2.11.Tamil Nadu Sugar Corporation

The Tamil Nadu Sugar Corporation was established in 1974 as a Government Company under the Companies Act, 1956. The Corporation had been established with the primary objectives of setting up new sugar factories, undertaking expansion of existing sugar factories, promoting the efficient utilisation and value addition of by-products generated by Cooperative and Public Sector Sugar Mills through various processing and value-addition activities, and providing technical consultancy and guidance to such sugar factories.

At present, two public sector sugar factories viz., Arignar Anna Sugar Mill at Kurungulam in Thanjavur District and the Perambalur Sugar Mill at Eraiyur in Perambalur District are functioning under the administrative control of the Tamil Nadu Sugar Corporation. The activities of these sugar factories are as follows:

Table 2.2: Operations of Tamil Nadu Sugar Corporation Mills

Sl. No.	Particulars	Arignar Anna Sugar Mills		Perambalur Sugar Mills	
		2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26
1	Cane Crush (LMT)	1.26	1.29	1.54	1.17
2	Recovery (%)	7.70	8.00	8.60	9.11
3	Sugar Production (LMT)	0.97	1.03	1.32	1.09
4	Capacity (%)	29	30	30	23

2.12.Tamil Nadu Cooperative Sugar Federation Ltd., (TNCSEF)

The Tamil Nadu Cooperative Sugar Federation was registered on 11.11.1961 and commenced its operations on 31.05.1962. The Federation functions with 16 Cooperative Sugar Mills and 2 Public Sector Sugar Mills in Tamil Nadu as its member mills. The primary functions of the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Sugar Federation include coordinating the activities of its member mills, providing technical guidance and consultancy, undertaking centralized procurement, marketing and sale of sugar and its

by-products, and representing the member mills in the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories and other relevant institutions and organizations. The Federation also periodically organizes training programmes, study meetings, seminars and other capacity-building initiatives with a view to enhance the operational efficiency, productivity and overall performance of its member mills.

2.13.Main Bio-Control Research Laboratory (MBRL)

A Biological Research Centre dedicated exclusively for sugarcane is functioning under the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Sugar Federation, Located in Chengalpattu. The Centre is engaged in the production of biological inputs essential for sugarcane cultivation, including bio-fertilizers and bio pesticides since 1982. These inputs are supplied to sugarcane farmers through Cooperative and Public Sector Sugar Mills.

In addition, with the objective of disseminating emerging agricultural technologies and advancements to sugarcane farmers, the Centre publishes a Tamil magazine titled **“Karumbukkarangal”**. The magazine is distributed to farmers who are members of the cooperative and public-sector sugar mills.

Table 2.3: Production of Bio – Fertilizer and Bio- Pesticides

Sl. No	Bio- fertilizers and Bio- pesticides	Production of bio-fertilizers			
		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	Acetobacter (Litre)	62300	39250	22502	47800
2	Phosphobacterium (Litre)	30600	19850	12950	24000
3	Trichoderma viride (Litre)	2630	2350	2350	1670
4	Pseudomonas (Litre)	2952	3095	2425	1550
5	Bio inoculum (kg)	7170	7650	4793	2924
6	Arbuscular mycorrhiza (kg)	7000	10510	-	2000
7	Metarhizium anisopliae (Litre)	3882	6239	3036	3967
8	Bacillus thuringiensis (Litre)	1109	1600	775	1076

Table 2.4: Quantity sold and value of Bio – Fertilizers and Bio- Pesticides

Sl. No	Bio- fertilizers and Bio-pesticides	Sale of bio-fertilizers				Value (Rs. in Crore)			
		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	Acetobacter (Litre)	62550	36785	22502	47800	1.26	0.73	0.51	0.93
2	Phosphobacterium (Litre)	30600	18953	12975	24000	0.62	0.37	0.28	.49
3	Trichoderma viride (Litre)	2630	2172	2350	1670	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.05
4	Pseudomonas (Litre)	2952	3034	2425	1550	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.04
5	Bio inoculum (kg)	7005	7706	4790	2920	0.09	0.07	0.05	0.03
6	Arbuscular mycorrhiza (kg)	7000	11805	1020	2000	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.01
7	Metarhizium anisopliae(Litre)	3382	6269	3010	3967	0.11	0.18	0.09	0.11
8	Bacillus thuringiensis (Litre)	1109	1597	775	1076	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02

2.14. Sugar Research Institute, Vellore

The Sugar Research Institute was established in Vellore in 1987 with the primary objective of providing certificate courses in Sugar Engineering and Sugar Boiling Technology.

In the past 34 years, a total of 705 students have successfully completed the Sugar Boiling Certificate Course (SBCC) and 207 students have successfully completed the Sugar Engineering Certificate Course (SECC) in the past 19 years.

The Institute also conducts refresher and skill-development training programmes for employees and technical officers working in sugar mills. Further, with an objective to provide technical and consultancy services to Sugar Mills, the institute undertakes activities such as systematic analytical testing, quality assessment, and quality-control activities to evaluate the quality, purity, and conformity of sugar and allied chemical products with prescribed standards and specifications and the preparation & supply of seed slurry to sugar mills, as and when required.

Other Activities

- Sugar analysis is carried out for all Cooperative and Public Sector Sugar Mills using ICUMSA-9 and ICUMSA-10 methods, as prescribed by the International Commission for Uniform Methods of Sugar Analysis (ICUMSA).
- The performance of Water Treatment Plants and Cooling Towers in cogeneration plants is

regularly monitored to ensure efficient operation and compliance with prescribed standards.

- Chemical analysis of the consumption of chemicals used in cogeneration plants is carried out. Based on the analytical results, the respective plants make the payments.
- Refresher training programmes are regularly conducted for technical personnel working in private sugar mills, with the objective of enhancing their technical competencies and keeping them updated with the latest developments and practices in the field.

2.15. TISSUE CULTURE LABORATORY

Production of Disease-Free Sugarcane Seedlings through Tissue Culture

The Tissue Culture Laboratory established at Kallakurichi-I Cooperative Sugar Mill is engaged in the production and distribution of high-quality tissue culture sugarcane seedlings for the benefit of sugarcane farmers associated with Cooperative and Public Sector Sugar Mills in Tamil Nadu.

The tissue culture technology offers the following key advantages:

- **Production of disease-free planting material:** The use of shoot apical meristems ensures the production of healthy, disease-free and high-quality tissue culture seedlings, thereby contributing to improved cane yield and quality.
- **Genetic purity:** The technique ensures the maintenance of genetic uniformity and varietal purity of the planting material.
- **Year-round availability:** Tissue culture seedlings can be produced continuously throughout the year, irrespective of the conventional sugarcane planting season.
- **Revival of traditional varieties:** The technology facilitates the restoration of the original vigour, productivity and desirable characteristics of old and deteriorated sugarcane varieties.

During the year 2026–27, the Tissue Culture Laboratory at Kallakurichi-I Cooperative Sugar Mill is envisaged to produce 1.50 lakh (1,50,000) tissue culture sugarcane seedlings for distribution to sugarcane farmers.

2.16. Sales Revenue

2.16.1. Sale of Sugar

The sugar produced by the Cooperative and Public Sector Sugar Mills is marketed by the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Sugar Federation in accordance with the monthly allocation prescribed by the Government of India.

During 2026–27, it is proposed to sell 2,16,000 MT of sugar, generating an estimated revenue of Rs.1,080 crore.

2.16.2. Sale of Bagasse

The surplus bagasse remaining after meeting the fuel requirements of the sugar mills and their

co-generation plants is sold through e-tender to the Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (TNPL) and other industrial establishments.

During 2026–27, it is anticipated that a revenue of Rs.12.25 crore will be generated by selling 35,000 MT of surplus bagasse.

2.16.3. Sale of Molasses

Molasses produced by the Cooperative and Public Sector Sugar Mills, after meeting the requirements of the distilleries at Amaravathi and Mohanur Sugar Mills, is sold through e-tender to private distilleries, cattle-feed manufacturers and other end-users.

During 2026–27, it is expected that a revenue of Rs.152.80 crore will be generated by selling 1,12,800 MT of molasses.

2.16.4. Revenue from Sale of Rectified Spirit

2.16.4.1. Amaravathi Cooperative Sugar Mill

The distillery of Amaravathi Cooperative Sugar Mill is expected to produce 10 lakh litres of

rectified spirit, generating an estimated revenue of Rs.5.50 crore during 2026–27.

2.16.4.2. Mohanur Cooperative Sugar Mill

The distillery of Mohanur Cooperative Sugar Mill is expected to produce 15 lakh litres of rectified spirit, generating an estimated revenue of Rs.8.25 crore during 2026–27.

2.16.5. Revenue from Sale of Ethanol

2.16.5.1. Amaravathi Cooperative Sugar Mill

The distillery of Amaravathi Cooperative Sugar Mill is expected to produce 5 lakh litres of ethanol, generating an estimated revenue of Rs.2.88 crore during 2026–27.

2.16.5.2. Mohanur Cooperative Sugar Mill

The distillery of Mohanur Cooperative Sugar Mill is expected to produce 5 lakh litres of ethanol, generating an estimated revenue of Rs.2.88 crore during 2026–27.

3. HORTICULTURE AND PLANTATION CROPS

In Tamil Nadu, Horticultural crops play an important role in improving the Agricultural economy and act as a driving force in increasing the economic growth. The cultivation of various horticultural crops, including fruits, vegetables, flowers, plantation crops, aromatic & medicinal crops and spice crops not only provides higher income to farmers but also ensures nutritional security, creates alternative employment opportunities in the agricultural sector and strengthens the economy.

The Horticulture Department is continuously focussing on increasing the area and production of Horticultural crops with high value and market demand by effectively utilizing the diverse agro-climatic zones and soil resources of Tamil Nadu. Emphasis is being given to achieve sustainable horticultural development through the promotion of micro-irrigation for efficient water use,

adoption of modern cultivation technologies, expansion of high-density cultivation, effective pest and disease management, post-harvest management and cold storage facilities. Further, the continuous availability of quality planting materials is essential for achieving higher productivity. To ensure this, action is being taken to produce high quality grafted plants, quality seeds and disease resistant planting materials to farmers, through the State Horticulture Farms and provide farmers with continuous supply.

Accordingly, the Government's primary objective is to adopt an integrated approach that focuses on improving farmers' livelihoods, ensuring nutritional security and contributing to the overall economic growth of the State.

As a new initiative to promote exports, a scheme for Good Agricultural Practices from planting to export, establishment of a mega nursery to ensure the timely availability of quality

planting materials, Tamil Nadu microgreens scheme to ensure nutritional security and schemes for enhancing coconut production through coconut tonic and effective pest and disease management have also been proposed for the year 2026-27.

3.1. Area Coverage of Horticultural Crops

Tamil Nadu recorded a total horticultural crop cultivation area of 16.14 lakh hectares during 2024-25, comprising 3.37 lakh hectares of fruits, 3.65 lakh hectares of vegetables, 7.45 lakh hectares of plantation crops, 1.06 lakh hectares of spices, 0.13 lakh hectares of medicinal & aromatic crops, and 0.48 lakh hectares of flowers, with a total production of 242 lakh metric tonnes.

Table: 3.1: Area, Production and Productivity of Horticulture crops in Tamil Nadu

S. No	Crop Category	2024-25 (Final)			2025-26 (II Advance estimate)			2026-27 (Proposed)		
		Area (Lakh Ha)	Production (Lakh MT)	Productivity (MT/Ha)	Area (Lakh Ha)	Production (Lakh MT)	Productivity (MT/Ha)	Area (Lakh Ha)	Production (Lakh MT)	Productivity (MT/Ha)
1	Fruit crops	3.37	77.35	22.98	3.40	78.59	23.12	3.67	84.96	23.12
2	Vegetable crops	3.65	98.17	26.89	3.56	96.45	27.03	4.48	121.02	27.03
3	Plantation crops	7.45	54.27	7.28	7.58	55.25	7.29	7.74	56.40	7.29
4	Spices & Condiments	1.06	4.13	3.90	1.06	4.37	4.11	1.25	5.12	4.11
5	Aromatic and Medicinal	0.13	0.94	7.32	0.13	0.98	7.56	0.15	1.16	7.56
6	Flower crops	0.48	6.72	13.87	0.49	6.84	13.91	0.57	8.00	13.91
Total		16.14	241.57	14.97	16.24	242.49	14.94	17.87	276.68	15.48

Chart 3.1: Area Coverage of Horticultural Crops in Tamil Nadu 2024-25

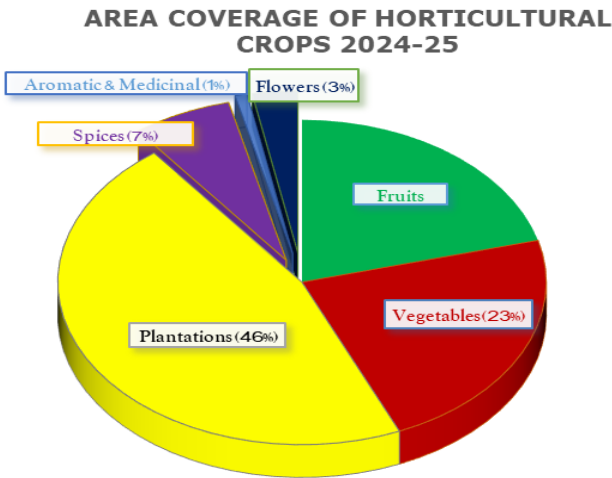


Table: 3.2: Tamil Nadu - Position in Area of Horticultural crops at National Level

First	Second	Third
1. Tapioca	1. Banana	1. Coconut
2. Jasmine	2. Cocoa	2. Aonla
3. Clove	3. Tuberose	3. Black pepper
4. Tamarind	4. Elephant foot yam	4. Watermelon
	5. Curry leaf	
	6. Nutmeg	
	7. Chrysanthemum	

Source: Final Estimates 2024-25, Horticulture Statistics Division, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, New Delhi

Chart 3.2: Production of Horticultural Crops in Tamil Nadu 2024-25

**PRODUCTION OF
HORTICULTURAL CROPS 2024-25**

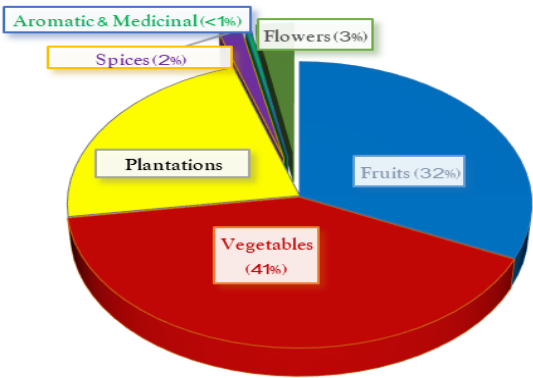


Table: 3.3: Tamil Nadu - Position in Production of Horticultural crops at National Level

First	Second	Third
1.Tapioca	1. Nutmeg	1.Aonla
2. Coconut	2.Elephant foot yam	2.Banana
3. Jasmine	3.Curry leaf	3.Watermelon
4. Clove	4.Turmeric	4. Chrysanthemum
5. Tamarind	5. Tuberose	
Source: Final Estimates 2024-25, Horticulture Statistics Division, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, New Delhi		

Table: 3.4: Tamil Nadu - Position in Productivity of Horticultural crops at National Level

First	Second	Third
1. Aonla	1. Nutmeg	1. Guava
2. Radish	2. Cloves	2. Chrysanthemum
3. Cabbage	3. Curry leaf	3. Jasmine
4. Turmeric	4. Tapioca	4. Coconut
	5. Jackfruit	5. Garlic

Source: Final Estimates 2024-25, Horticulture Statistics Division, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, New Delhi

3.1.1: Fruit Crops

Chart 3.3: Major Fruit crops in Tamil Nadu

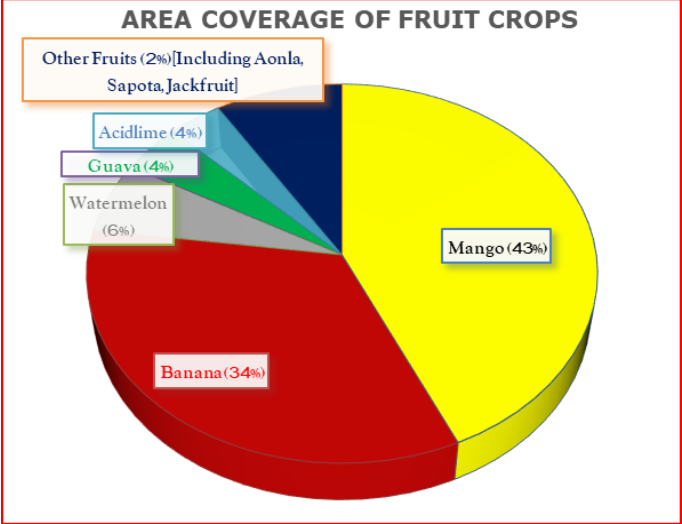


Table: 3.5: Major Fruit growing Districts of Tamil Nadu (2024-25)

S. No	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major fruit growing Districts
1	Mango	1,45,354	Krishnagiri (32887 Ha), Dindigul (15849 Ha), Dharmapuri (12467 Ha), Thiruvallur (11464 Ha), Theni (9137 Ha).
2	Banana	1,14,256	Erode (22140 Ha), Coimbatore (9397 Ha), Thoothukudi (8777 Ha), Theni (6698 Ha), Tirunelveli (5887 Ha).
3	Watermelon	20,341	Chengalpattu (6134 Ha), Villupuram (3589 Ha), Tiruvannamalai (2405 Ha), Thiruvallur (1929 Ha), Salem (820 Ha).
4	Guava	14,248	Dindigul (2184 Ha), Madurai (1817 Ha), Virudhunagar (1289 Ha), Cuddalore (1122 Ha), Villupuram (842 Ha).
5	Acidlime	12,507	Thenkasi (3163 Ha), Dindigul (2281 Ha), Thiruchirapalli (1001 Ha), Virudhunagar (849 Ha), Thoothukudi (844 Ha).
6	Other Fruits (including Aonla, Sapota, Jackfruit)	29,851	Dindigul (5507 Ha), Theni (2868 Ha), Salem (1853 Ha), Tirunelveli (1666 Ha), Namakkal (1617 Ha).
Total area under Fruits cultivation= 3,36,557 Ha			

3.1.2: Vegetable Crops

Chart 3.4: Major Vegetable crops in Tamil Nadu

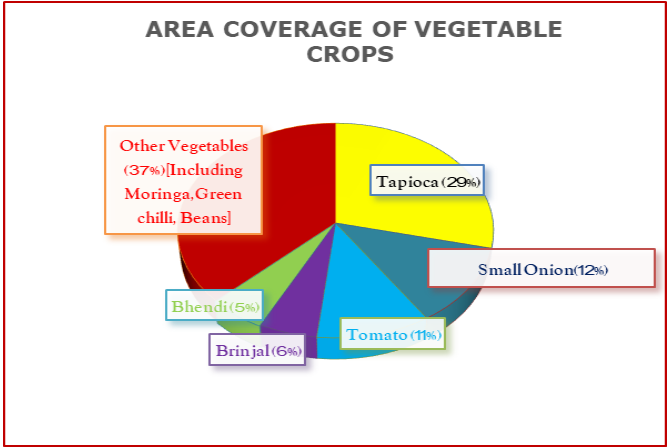


Table: 3.6: Major Vegetable growing Districts of Tamil Nadu (2024-25)

S. No	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major vegetable growing Districts
1	Tapioca	1,04,893	Kallakurichi (19826 Ha), Namakkal (19647 Ha), Salem (17227 Ha), Dharmapuri (14774 Ha), Erode (6801 Ha).
2	Small Onion	44,143	Perambalur (7385 Ha), Thiruchirapalli (6208 Ha), Thoothukudi (5503 Ha), Namakkal (4617 Ha), Dindigul(3292 Ha).

S. No	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major vegetable growing Districts
3	Tomato	39,941	Dharmapuri (12207 Ha), Krishnagiri (10260 Ha), Salem (3722 Ha), Dindigul (2377 Ha), Thirupur (2000 Ha).
4	Bhendi	19,995	Dharmapuri (3721 Ha), Salem (2776 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (1648 Ha), Thirupathur (1117 Ha), Krishnagiri (1015 Ha).
5	Brinjal	20,301	Dharmapuri (3488 Ha), Salem (2109 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (1805 Ha), Krishnagiri (1557 Ha), Kallakurichi (985 Ha).
6	Other Vegetables (including Moringa, Green chilli, Beans)	1,35,728	Krishnagiri (27363 Ha), Dindigul (15096 Ha), Dharmapuri (11794 Ha), The Nilgiris (8039 Ha), Salem (6905 Ha),
Total area under Vegetable cultivation = 3,65,001 Ha			

3.1.3: Plantation Crops

Chart 3.5: Major Plantation crops in Tamil Nadu

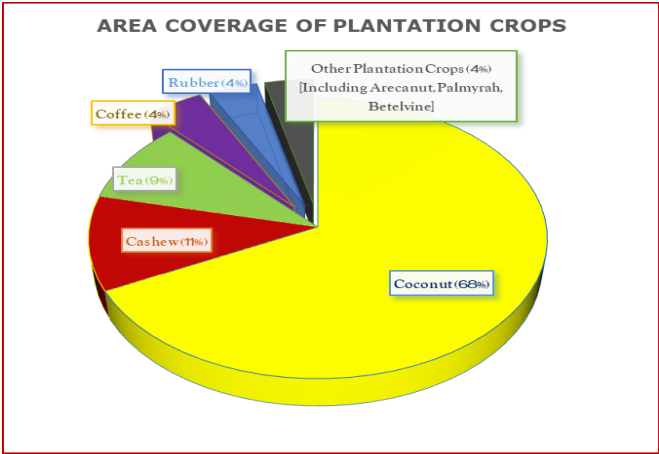


Table: 3.7: Major plantation crops growing Districts of Tamil Nadu (2024-25)

S. No.	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major plantation growing Districts
1	Coconut	5,03,976	Coimbatore (94047 Ha), Tiruppur (81311 Ha), Thanjavur (43429 Ha), Dindigul (31783 Ha), Theni (25864 Ha).
2	Cashew	81,895	Ariyalur (30437 Ha), Cuddalore (29261 Ha), Pudukkottai (5725 Ha), Villupuram (3181 Ha), Theni (2763 Ha).

S. No.	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major plantation growing Districts
3	Tea	69,667	The Nilgiris (55829 Ha), Coimbatore (11194 Ha), Theni (1629 Ha), Tirunelveli (804 Ha), Kanyakumari (208 Ha).
4	Coffee	33,369	Dindigul (11123 Ha), The Nilgiris (7406 Ha), Salem (7141 Ha), Theni (2720 Ha), Namakkal (2397 Ha).
5	Rubber	28,133	Kanyakumari (28042 Ha), The Nilgiris (46 Ha), Tenkasi (42 Ha), Coimbatore(3 Ha).
6	Other Plantation crops (including Arecanut, Palmyrah, Betelvine)	28,069	Salem (4129 Ha), Coimbatore (3761 Ha), Dharmapuri (2869 Ha), Ramanathapuram (2595 Ha), Thoothukudi (2589 Ha).
Total area under Plantation crops= 7,45,101 Ha			

3.1.4: Spices

Chart 3.6: Major Spice crops in Tamil Nadu

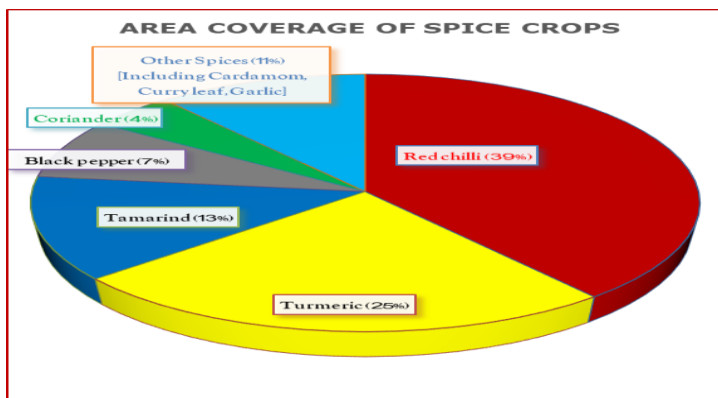


Table: 3.8: Major Spices growing Districts of Tamil Nadu (2024-25)

S. No.	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major spices growing Districts
1	Red chillies	41,268	Ramanathapuram (15343 Ha), Thoothukudi (14609 Ha), Sivagangai (2639 Ha), Virudhunagar (1545 Ha), Dharmapuri (1441 Ha).
2	Turmeric	26,375	Dharmapuri (8584 Ha), Salem (5815 Ha), Erode (4505 Ha), Kallakurichi (2224 Ha), Namakkal (1944 Ha).
3	Tamarind	13,855	Dindigul (3103 Ha), Theni (1875 Ha), Madurai (1054 Ha), Dharmapuri (990 Ha), Krishnagiri (848 Ha).
4	Black pepper	7,935	Namakkal (2758 Ha), Dindigul (1605 Ha), Salem (1509 Ha), The Nilgiris (978 Ha), Kanniyakumari (306 Ha).
5	Coriander	4,759	Thoothukudi (1849 Ha), Ramanathapuram (1303 Ha), Virudhunagar (1063 Ha), Dharmapuri (179 Ha), Thirupathur (82 Ha).
6	Other Spices (including Cardamom, Curry leaf, Garlic)	11,784	Coimbatore (2154 Ha), The Nilgiris (1871 Ha), Dindigul (1689 Ha), Theni (1683 Ha), Krishnagiri (960 Ha).
Total area under Spice crops = 1,05,976 Ha			

3.1.5: Medicinal and Aromatic Crops

Chart 3.7: Major Medicinal and Aromatic Crops in Tamil Nadu

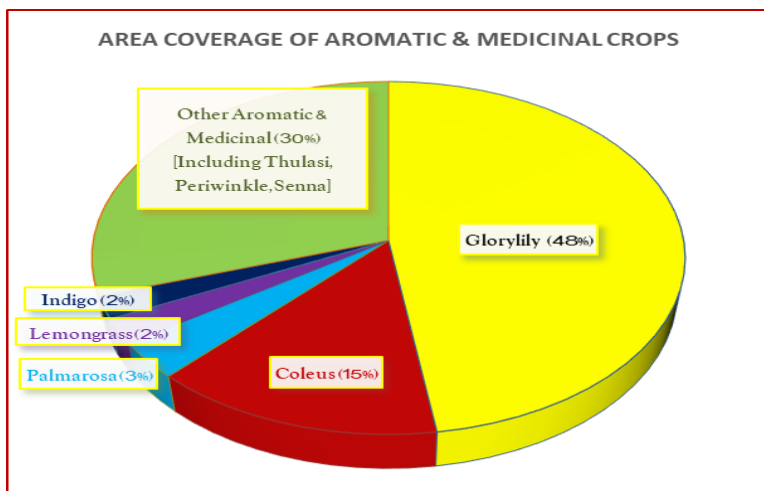


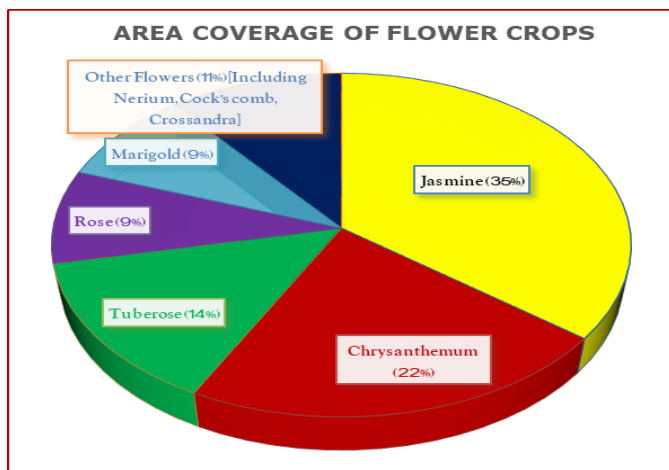
Table: 3.9: Major Medicinal and Aromatic crops growing Districts of Tamil Nadu (2024-25)

S. No.	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major medicinal and aromatic growing Districts
1	Glorylily	6,092	Dindigul (2864 Ha), Tiruppur (2627 Ha), Karur (547 Ha), Thiruchirapalli (30 Ha), Virudhunagar (10 Ha)
2	Coleus	1,858	Kallakurichi(795 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (640 Ha), Salem (244 Ha), Thiruchirapalli (51 Ha), Perambalur (35 Ha).

S. No.	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major medicinal and aromatic growing Districts
3	Palmarosa	441	Dharmapuri (234 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (133 Ha), Kallakurichi (62 Ha), Coimbatore (5 Ha), Salem (3 Ha).
4	Lemon grass	296	Tiruvannamalai (279 Ha), Tirunelveli (5 Ha), Tiruppur (4 Ha).
5	Indigo	269	Villupuram (221 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (9 Ha).
6	Other crops (including Thulasi, Periwinkle, Senna)	3,834	Virudhunagar (1177 Ha), Thoothukudi (433 Ha), Tirunelveli (290 Ha), Madurai (257 Ha), Dindigul (186 Ha).
Total area under Aromatic & Medicinal crops = 12,790 Ha			

3.1.6: Flowers

Chart 3.8: Major Flower crops in Tamil Nadu



**Table: 3.10: Major Flower crops growing
Districts of Tamil Nadu (2024-25)**

S. No	Crop name	Area (Ha)	Major flower growing Districts
1	Jasmine	17,172	Madurai (1893 Ha), Dindigul (1361 Ha), Thiruvallur (1219 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (1216 Ha), Erode (1178 Ha),
2	Chrysanthemum	10,792	Krishnagiri (4944 Ha), Dharmapuri (2651 Ha), Salem (1205 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (639 Ha), Villupuram (216 Ha).
3	Tuberose	6,764	Dharmapuri (2248 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (1661 Ha), Erode (516 Ha), Dindigul (497 Ha), Madurai (184 Ha).
4	Rose	4,265	Krishnagiri (1878 Ha), Dharmapuri (650 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (307 Ha), Salem (222 Ha), Namakkal (203 Ha).
5	Marigold	4,219	Krishnagiri (2401 Ha), Thiruvannamalai (540 Ha), Dharmapuri (372 Ha), Erode (105 Ha), Theni (102 Ha).
6	Other Flowers (including Nerium, Cock's comb, Crossandra)	5,222	Salem (1556 Ha), Krishnagiri (861 Ha), Namakkal (592 Ha) Dharmapuri (501 Ha), Dindigul (392Ha).
Total area under Flower crops= 48,434 Ha			

3.2: Schemes implemented with Union and State Government Funds

3.2.1: Per Drop More Crop under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.

Micro Irrigation technology plays a major role in the effective utilization of irrigation water to increase the production and productivity of crops and income of the farmers.

Water use efficiency can be improved by adopting micro-irrigation technology instead of conventional irrigation methods, to increase the cultivated area under agriculture in Tamil Nadu and also to reduce the irrigation water deficit.

As per Government of India guidelines 55% subsidy is being provided for Small/ Marginal farmers and 45% subsidy to other farmers, which is shared at 60:40 basis between Government of India and State Government.

On realising the importance of water conservation, State Government has extended

additional subsidy of 45% to Small/ Marginal farmers and 30% to other farmers thus ensuring 100% assistance to Small/ Marginal farmers and 75% to other farmers for installation of Micro Irrigation Systems. The 5% GST applicable on MI components is also incurred by the State Government for all categories of farmers.

During the year 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented to cover an area of 90,200 Ha at an outlay of Rs.788.37 Crore with the following components benefitting 95,000 farmers.

1. Micro Irrigation System: It has been proposed to install Micro Irrigation system in an area 90,000 ha with the financial outlay of Rs.782.44 Crore benefitting 94,730 farmers.

2. Installation of Micro Irrigation system for FRA Patta holders: It has been proposed to install Micro Irrigation system for FRA Patta holders at an outlay of Rs.2.60 Crore in 200 ha benefitting 270 farmers.

3. Other Interventions- Supplementary Water Management Activities (SWMA):

In order to encourage the farmers to adopt micro irrigation, 50% subsidy is being extended for creation of Water harvesting structures (Farm Ponds), Construction of tubewell / borewell in safe firkas, Water conveyance pipes and installation of Diesel / Electric motors. It is proposed to implement the above components at an outlay of Rs.3.33 Crore benefitting 1,700 farmers.

3.2.2: National Horticulture Mission (NHM)

National Horticulture Mission is a sub-scheme implemented under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture from the year 2014-15 with a fund sharing pattern of 60:40 between the Central and State Governments.

For the Financial year 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented with components like Area Expansion in Horticultural crops, Protected cultivation, Mushroom cultivation, Creation of

water harvesting structures, Pollination support through Bee keeping, Rejuvenation of senile orchards, Special interventions such as Removal of *Prosopis juliflora* and Cultivation of Chillies, Post harvest Management practices and Marketing infrastructure at an outlay of Rs. 150.00 Crore.

3.2.3: PM Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM- RKVY) DPR based projects

The Scheme aims to improve the production, productivity, and income of horticulture farmers through the provision of quality inputs and infrastructure facilities and by promoting the adoption of modern horticultural technologies.

During the year 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented at an outlay of Rs.20.50 Crore with components such as establishment of permanent pandal system and promotion of Good Agricultural Practices to produce export quality produces in Mango, Guava, Tomato, Moringa and Small onion.

3.2.4: Crop Diversification Programme (CDP)

The Scheme aims to reduce tobacco cultivation by promoting vegetable cultivation as an alternative crop, thereby improving agricultural production, enhancing farmers' income and supporting sustainable agricultural development.

During the year 2026-27, it is proposed to implement Crop Diversification Programme at an outlay of Rs.15 lakh.

3.2.5: Agro forestry

The objective of this scheme is to increase the area under agro forestry, enhance productivity, promote employment opportunities in rural areas, along with increased income and also to improve the production of quality planting materials by raising and distributing high-value tree saplings such as Teak, Mahogany, Sandalwood, Red sanders and Vengai, by establishing necessary modern nursery infrastructure for their production.

During the year 2026-27, Agroforestry Scheme will be implemented at an outlay of Rs.9.15 Crore.

3.2.6: Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)

The objective of the scheme is to promote resource-based, integrated and climate-resilient sustainable farming systems by conserving and enhancing soil health, ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources, promoting nutrient recycling in the soil and reducing dependence on external inputs. Further, the scheme promotes cluster-based organic farming by providing necessary support for organic production, certification and marketing of organic produce.

During the year 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented in 25 clusters at an outlay of Rs.51.07 Lakh.

3.2.7: National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)

The objective of the scheme is to promote alternative farming systems that reduce externally purchased inputs and the cost of cultivation, and thereby enhance the income of farmers. The scheme also aims to collect, validate and document the Natural Farming practices being followed in the State.

Similarly, the activities related to awareness creation on Natural farming, skill development and promoting demonstration of Natural Farming are carried out. This scheme aims to establish standards, certification procedures and branding mechanisms for Natural Farming products to facilitate their access to national and international markets.

During the year 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented with an allocation of Rs.2.087 Crore.

3.2.8 : National Bamboo Mission(NBM)

The main objective of this scheme is to increase the area under bamboo cultivation in non-forest areas on both Government and private lands. The scheme is also implemented to improve post-harvest management, skill development and awareness creation for the development of the entire bamboo sector.

During the year 2026–27, this scheme will be implemented at an area of 220 Ha at an outlay of Rs.1.66 Crore.

3.2.9: National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)

The main objective of this scheme is to increase the area under oil palm cultivation in order to boost domestic edible oil production. It also aims to provide assured income to farmers through Viability Price (VP) and Viability Gap Payment (VGP). In addition, this scheme supports

farmers by providing assistance for planting materials, irrigation facilities, maintenance, machineries and tools.

This scheme helps to increase the farmers income and also to meet for the country's oil demand.

During the year 2026–27, this scheme will be implemented in an area of 300 ha at an outlay of Rs.2.04 crore.

3.2.10. Coconut Special Scheme

Coconut is a perennial crop that provides income to farmers throughout the year. To enhance its production and productivity, various schemes are being implemented by the State Government and Coconut Development Board.

In Tamil Nadu, Coconut is cultivated over an area of 5.04 lakh ha, with an average annual

production of 670 crore nuts and productivity of 13,300 nuts per hectare.

Under the State Horticulture Development Scheme (SHDS), components such as Coconut area expansion, intercropping with Banana, Nutmeg and Bush Pepper in Coconut Plantations, distribution of Coconut Tonic, distribution of *Cococon* Microbial Mixture for the control of Root wilt disease and integrated Pest Management (IPM) for controlling Rugose Spiralling Whitefly will be implemented during the year 2026-27.

The State Government and Coconut Development Board assisted Scheme will continue to be implemented in the year 2026-27 for further enhancement of coconut production and productivity in the State.

3.2.11. Crop Insurance for Horticulture Crops

Horticulture crops are highly sensitive to climatic changes and face significant risks that

can lead to severe yield losses. Crop insurance scheme is implemented to provide financial support to farmers suffering from crop loss/damage arising out of natural disasters. It ensures credit worthiness of the farmers besides protecting the farmers from production risks and improves sustainability.

The scheme is being implemented in 3 seasons namely Kharif, Special season and Rabi by extending insurance coverage to 14 notified Horticulture crops namely Banana, Brinjal, Bhendi, Cabbage, Carrot, Coriander, Garlic, Ginger, Onion, Potato, Red Chilies, Tomato, Tapioca and Turmeric.

During the year 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented at an outlay of Rs.30.70 crore. Considering the Risk exposure of coconut plantations to climatic variations, natural calamities, pest infestation and disease incidence, the Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) will

be implemented for providing insurance protection to coconut palms.

The possibility of implementing the Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) is being explored to protect farmers from losses caused by weather changes.

3.3. State Schemes

3.3.1: State Horticulture Development Scheme (SHDS)

Under the State Horticulture Development Scheme components such as area expansion in traditional Horticultural crops, Medicinal crops, Flower crops, Spice crops, Coconut and Watermelon, distribution of rooftop garden kits, vertical garden kits, hydroponic garden kits, rooftop shade-net house structures, vegetable seed kits and fruit plant kits, promotion of microgreens cultivation; encouragement of intercropping in coconut plantations, need-based project components and promotion of organic

farming in Nilgiris district are being implemented with 100 percent State Government financial assistance.

In the year 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented at an outlay of Rs.65.0953 crore.

3.3.2: Palmyrah Protection Mission (PPM)

Palmyrah Protection Mission is being implemented with the components such as distribution of Palmyrah Seed Nuts, Palmyrah Seedlings and Value addition units for Palmyrah through the Department of Horticulture.

Further, providing equipments along with training to women for making products from Palmyrah leaves and distribution of equipment along with training for Production of Palmyrah Value-added products are being implemented by Tamil Nadu Palm Products Development Board.

In the year 2026-27, this scheme will be implemented at an outlay of Rs.2.1047 crore.

3.4. Horticultural Infrastructure Facilities

3.4.1. State Horticulture Farms (SHFs)

In Tamil Nadu, there are 74 State Horticultural Farms functioning in 37 Districts under the Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops.

Table: 3.11. List of State Horticulture Farms

S. No	District	Name of the Farm	Year of Establishment	Area of the farm (in Ha)
1.	Ariyalur	Keelapaluvur	2018	7.580
2.	Chennai	Madhavaram	1980	2.000
3.	Coimbatore	Anaikatty	1986	12.000
4.	Coimbatore	Kannampalayam	2001	11.200
5.	Cuddalore	Vridhachalam	1975	10.430
6.	Cuddalore	Neyveli	1985	39.525
7.	Dharmapuri	Polayampalli	2013	2.730
8.	Dharmapuri	Block Level Nursery, Dharmapuri	2020	0.250
9.	Dindigul	Sandhaiyur	2018	15.190
10.	Dindigul	Sirumalai	1980	56.400
11.	Dindigul	Thandikudi	1985	5.450
12.	Dindigul	Kodaikanal	1961	1.650
13.	Erode	Baguthampalayam	2018	10.000
14.	Chengalpattu	Attur	1961	12.240
15.	Kallakurichi	A.Sathanur	2018	10.000
16.	Kancheepuram	Vichanthangal	1982	23.250
17.	Kancheepuram	Melkadirpur	1982	42.630
18.	Kancheepuram	Melottivakkam	1982	20.600
19.	Kancheepuram	Pitchivakkam	1982	34.000
20.	Kanniyakumari	Kanniyakumari	1922	6.570
21.	Kanniyakumari	Pechiparai	1967	6.000
22.	Karur	Mudalaipatti	1978	24.250
23.	Krishnagiri	Thimmapuram	1952	9.620

S. No	District	Name of the Farm	Year of Establishment	Area of the farm (in Ha)
24.	Krishnagiri	Jeenur	1980	123.445
25.	Madurai	Poonjuthi	2012	5.765
26.	Nagapattinam	Vanduvancherry	2018	6.540
27.	Nagapattinam	Pushpavanam	2021	9.920
28.	Namakkal	Semmedu	1974	11.100
29.	Namakkal	Padasolai	1989	22.670
30.	Perambalur	Vengalam	2018	4.720
31.	Pudukkottai	Kudumianmalai	1974	118.680
32.	Pudukkottai	Vallathirakottai	1977	521.200
33.	Pudukkottai	Nattumangalam	1985	53.020
34.	Ramnad	Oriyur	2013	14.770
35.	Ranipet	Navlock	1981	85.400
36.	Salem	G.O Karumandurai	1981	419.770
37.	Salem	Maniyarkundram	1982	100.000
38.	Salem	Karumandurai	1981	39.350
39.	Salem	Mulluvadi	1985	48.400
40.	Salem	Sirumalai	1987	8.000
41.	Salem	Yercaud	1975	4.052
42.	Sivagangai	Devakottai	1985	81.190
43.	Sivagangai	Nemam	1979	38.770
44.	Sivagangai	Kilathari	2019	12.810
45.	Thanjavur	Aduthurai	1984	6.650
46.	Thanjavur	Marungulam	1966	10.770
47.	Theni	Periyakulam	1950	9.430
48.	Thoothukudi	Keelavalanadu	2019	2.668
49.	Tirunelveli	Vannikonenthal	2018	9.860
50.	Thiruppur	Sankaramanallur	2018	10.120
51.	Thiruvavur	Moovanallur	2018	5.825
52.	Thiruvallur	Ekkadukandigai	2020	3.620
53.	Tiruvannamalai	Pudurchekkadi	2018	12.760
54.	Tiruvannamalai	Jamunamarathur	2020	0.680
55.	Tiruvannamalai	Polur	2020	1.520
56.	Tirupattur	Kudappattu	1961	10.080
57.	Tirupattur	Thagarakuppam	1985	34.400
58.	Trichy	Thorakudi	2015	5.340
59.	Vellore	Agaramcheri	2020	34.530

S. No	District	Name of the Farm	Year of Establishment	Area of the farm (in Ha)
60.	Virudhunagar	Poovani	1967	9.460
61.	Virudhunagar	Srivilliputhur	1982	46.270
62.	Virudhunagar	Athithanendhal	2020	0.810
63.	Villupuram	Elavalapakkam	2021	7.000
64.	Nilgiris	Kallar	1900	8.820
65.	Nilgiris	Burliar	1871	6.250
66.	Nilgiris	Devala	1978	80.000
67.	Nilgiris	Pomological Station, Coonoor	1948	10.460
68.	Nilgiris	Thummunatty	1956	9.800
69.	Nilgiris	Nanjanad	1917	64.000
70.	Nilgiris	Colgrain	1989	20.400
71.	Nilgiris	Fruit Preservation Unit, Coonoor	1965	0.113
72.	Nilgiris	Kattery	1975	16.956
73.	Nilgiris	Doddabetta	1969	2.520
74.	Tenkasi	Naduvakurichi	2025	3.237
Total				2537.486

Quality and Pedigree planting materials of fruits, plantation crops, spices, flowers and medicinal plants are produced in state horticulture farms and provided to farmers in a timely manner through government schemes and direct sales. Furthermore, these farms serve as model farms for demonstrating modern technologies, while also functioning as employment hubs for landless agricultural labourers.

During the year 2026-27, it is programmed to produce 21.03 crore planting materials, including 17.69 crore vegetable seedlings. Further, it is targeted to produce 202.75 MT of Truthfully Labelled vegetable seeds, along with 774.30 MT of vermicompost, 63.45 MT of biological control agents, 41,500 litres of liquid bio-fertilizers and 16.30 MT of carrier based bio-fertilizers in State Horticulture Farms, Parks and Gardens.

3.4.2: Parks and Gardens

Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops maintains 24 parks across 8 districts. In the current era of busy lifestyle, spending time in these parks provides needed, relaxation, reduces stress and develop positive thoughts among the public. Furthermore, these parks act as beneficial learning and demonstration places for students to gain direct knowledge about various species of plants, flowers and other horticultural crops.

Table 3.12: List of Parks and Gardens

S. No	District	Name of the Park / Garden	Year of Establish ment	Area (Ha)
1	Chennai	Horticulture Park, Madhavaram	2018	8.928
2	Chennai	Semmozhipoonga, Teynampet	2010	3.614
3	Chennai	Horticulture Heritage Garden, Washermenpet	2021	1.560
4	Chennai	Kalaigñar Centenary Park, Teynampet	2024	5.218
5	Kanniyakumari	Eco-Park Kanyakumari	2018	6.070
6	Ramanathapuram	Palai-Heritage Garden, Achadipirambu	2015	10.117
7	Salem	Rose-garden, Yercaud	2005	2.000
8	Salem	Genetic-Heritage Garden, Yercaud	2012	9.608
9	Salem	Anna Park, Yercaud	1999	1.844
10	Salem	Lake view Park, Yercaud	2018	1.252
11	Salem	Government Botanical Garden, Yercaud	2012	8.520
12	Salem	Government Botanical Garden II, Yercaud	2012	7.600
13	Tenkasi	Eco Park Courtallam	2012	14.890
14	Thiruvannamalai	Kalaigñar Centenary Park, Thiruvannamalai	2024	3.640

S. No	District	Name of the Park / Garden	Year of Establishment	Area (Ha)
15	Dindigul	Rose Garden, Kodaikanal	2012	4.080
16	Dindigul	Bryant Park, Kodaikanal	1900	8.200
17	Dindigul	Chettiyar Park, Kodaikanal	1980	2.020
18	Nilgiris	Kattery Park, Kattery	2012	2.000
19	Nilgiris	Tea Park, Doddabedda	2015	1.600
20	Nilgiris	Sims Park, Coonoor	1874	11.340
21	Nilgiris	Government Rose Garden, Ooty	1995	14.400
22	Nilgiris	Government Botanical Garden, Udhagai	1848	22.000
23	Nilgiris	Arboretum, Ooty	2008	1.580
24	Nilgiris	John Sullivan Park, Kotagiri	2024	4.080
		Total		156.161

Establishment of Neythal Park at Nagore in Nagapattinam district, a horticulture park at Vadalur in Cuddalore district, and Mullai Park in Kanniyakumari district is currently under progress. The topiary garden works at the Yercaud Government Botanical Garden and upgradation works at the Ooty Government Botanical Garden are also under progress.

3.4.3: Centres of Excellence (CoE)

Seven Centres of Excellence have been established on a crop-specific basis with the objective to develop demonstration plots for high-tech cultivation practices, providing training to farmers on these techniques and providing high quality planting materials to farmers. Apart from these, two Centres of Excellence (COEs) are being established in Dharmapuri and Dindigul districts.

Table.3.13: Details of Centres of Excellence

S. No.	Centre of Excellence	Location
1.	Cut flowers	Thally, Krishnagiri District.
2.	Vegetables	Reddiyarchatram, Dindigul District.
3.	Hilly vegetables	Nanjanad, Nilgiris District.
4.	Tropical fruits	Kanchanaickenpatti, Trichy District.
5.	Traditional Flower crops	Tiruparankundram, Madurai District.
6.	Bee keeping	Pechiparai, Kanniyakumari District
7.	Post Harvest Management and Packaging Technologies for Flower crops	Thally, Krishnagiri District

3.5. State Coconut Nurseries

With the objective of producing and supplying quality coconut seedlings to meet farmers' demand, 23 State Coconut Nurseries and 16 Coconut Crossing Centres are functioning across Tamil Nadu.

It is programmed to produce 13.91 lakh Coconut seedlings during 2026-27.

Table 3.14. List of State Coconut Nurseries

Sl. No.	District	Name of The Farm	Year of Establishment	Area (Ha)
1	Kancheepuram	Pitchivakkam	1968	3.00
2	Thiruvallur	Madhavaram	1975	4.21
3	Cuddalore	Neyveli	1984	150.00
4	Ranipet	Navlock	1974	53.81
5	Tiruvannamalai	Vazhavachanur	2015	0.97
6	Salem	Danishpet	1977	9.66
7	Krishnagiri	B.G. Pudur	1970	2.31
8	Coimbatore	Aliyar Nagar	1995	8.12
9	Erode	Bhavani Sagar	1984	1.92
10	Pudukkottai	Vellalaviduthy	1985	2.00

Sl. No.	District	Name of The Farm	Year of Establishment	Area (Ha)
11	Thanjavur	Pattukkottai	1946	3.39
12	Mayiladuthurai	Malliyam	1962	1.51
13	Theni	Vaigai Dam	1964	6.72
14	Ramanathapuram	Devipattinam	1961	2.63
15	Ramanathapuram	Uchipuli	1960	5.31
16	Sivagangai	S.V. Mangalam	2004	0.55
17	Virudhunagar	Devathanam	1957	2.25
18	Tenkasi	Sengottai	1958	0.64
19	Tenkasi	Vadakarai	1964	1.74
20	Thoothukudi	Killikulam	1962	4.72
21	Kanniyakumari	Puthalam	1966	1.96
22	Thiruvavarur	Vaduvur	2019	6.07
23	Trichirapalli	Thorakkudi	2024	5.00
Total				278.49

3.5.1: Coconut Parasite Breeding Centres

In Tamil Nadu, *Braconid* and *Chrysoperla* parasitoids / parasites are being produced and supplied through Coconut Parasitoid breeding Centers functioning in Dharmapuri, Erode, Salem, Krishnagiri and Namakkal districts to control

black-headed caterpillars and rugose spiraling whiteflies that attack coconut trees.

In the current year, in addition to the existing centers, these parasitoids will also be produced in Thanjavur and Tirupathur districts.

In the year 2026–27, new *Chrysoperla* production centers will be established in Coimbatore, Theni and Virudhunagar districts and an *Isaria fumosorosea* production center will be established in Kanniyakumari district.

3.6. Horticulture Training Centres

The Department of Horticulture and Plantation crops runs four Horticulture Training Centres viz., Tamil Nadu Horticulture Management Institute, Madhavaram, Chennai District; Horticulture Training Centre, Kudumianmalai, Pudukottai District; Farmers Training Centre, Ooty, Nilgiris District and Horticulture Research & Training Centre, Thally, Krishnagiri District. The

objective of these training centres is to impart training on Hi tech Horticulture techniques to farmers.

3.6.1. Two years Diploma in Horticulture

The Department of Horticulture offers a two-year Diploma course in Horticulture in affiliation with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore to 50 students annually at each of the three training institutes, namely Tamil Nadu Horticulture Management Institute, Madhavaram, Chennai District; Horticulture Research and Training Centre, Thally, Krishnagiri District; and Centre of Excellence for Vegetables, Reddiyarchathiram, Dindigul District.

3.7. Staff Strength:

Under the Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, the following staff are working at Block, District and State levels.

Table 3.15 : List of Officers, Staff

S. No	Staff details	Total posting
A	Technical Staff	
1	Additional Director of Horticulture	2
2	Joint Director of Horticulture	6
3	Deputy Director of Horticulture	44
4	Assistant Director of Horticulture	397
5	Horticultural officer	443
6	Deputy Horticultural officer	123
7	Assistant Horticultural officer	1,674
8	Assistant Seed Officer	5
	Total(A)	2,694
B	Non-Technical Staff	
9	Non-Technical Staff – (Deputy Director (Admin), Chief Account Officer, Administrative officer, Accounts officer, Assistant Accounts officer, Superintendent, Assistant, Junior Assistant, other posts)	1,345
	Total (A+B)	4,039

4. Agricultural Engineering Department

The Agricultural Engineering Department was established in the year 1981 and has been functioning as an independent department. Agricultural Engineering Department is formulating and implementing various schemes related to Agricultural Engineering, namely Soil and Water Conservation, Water Management, Agricultural Mechanization, Solar Energy in Agriculture, Value Addition of Agricultural Produce and infrastructure works for the welfare of the farmers.

4.1. Soil and Water conservation

Importance is being given to rainwater harvesting schemes in Tamil Nadu. Accordingly, schemes on development of land resources, water resources and water management are being implemented by the Agricultural Engineering Department.

4.1.1. Creation and Desilting of Farm Ponds

With the objective of storing and utilizing the rainwater that would otherwise go waste during the rainy season, 100% assistance is to be provided to 500 farmers by creating new farm ponds in the lands of individual farmers through the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. To improve the rainwater storage capacity of the existing farm ponds in farmers' fields, desilting works in 500 farm ponds will be taken up at 75% subsidy capped at Rs.15,000 per farm pond using the machinery owned by the Agricultural Engineering Department with a total outlay of Rs.75 lakh from State fund.

4.1.2. Anna Ambedkar Agricultural Assistance Scheme

In the fields of 300 individual SC, ST farmers having no irrigation facilities, water source like Borewell or Tubewell is to be created along with energization through either electrical

or solar powered pumping systems. This scheme will be implemented at a total financial outlay of Rs.24 crore from the State fund with 100 percent subsidy assistance limited to a maximum ceiling of Rs.8 lakh per farmer.

4.1.3.Creation of Water Sources to bring 1,000 acres under Irrigation

For the creation of water sources such as Borewells or Tubewells in safe firkas, to other category farmers having no assured source of irrigation, subsidy assistance of 60 percent or a maximum ceiling of Rs.1.20 lakh for Women farmers, Small, Marginal farmers and 50 percent or a maximum ceiling of Rs.1 lakh to other category farmers will be provided as back ended assistance. Also, steps will be taken to implement this scheme by dovetailing the existing Solar Pumpsets scheme and Micro Irrigation scheme. Further, after the construction of borewell or tubewell, the farmer may install a water pumping

system operated either through an electricity connection or by using an oil engine at their own discretion. This scheme will be implemented with an allocation of Rs.6 crore from the State fund benefitting 500 farmers.

4.1.4.Scheme for removal of Prosopis Juliflora

The dense and widespread growth of Prosopis juliflora trees across most districts of Tamil Nadu has emerged as a major challenge to both agricultural production and ecological balance. As these dense trees serve as safe habitat for wild boars, the animals intrude into adjacent farmlands, continuously destroying standing crops and causing losses. Considering this, during the current year, a scheme will be implemented through the District Collectors concerned, with a fund allocation of Rs.4 crore from the State fund, for the removal of Prosopis juliflora trees from Government and private lands, thereby protecting

soil fertility and the environment in addition to controlling the intrusion of wild boars.

4.1.5. Special Area Development Programme

Special Area Development Programme is implemented in the catchment areas of the villages in Western and Eastern Ghats with the objective to conserve the soil and water resources by carrying out drainage line treatment works, landslide prevention works, livelihood improvement works and land development works.

This scheme is implemented in the villages of Western Ghats hilly areas in 11 districts viz., The Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Erode, Tiruppur, Dindigul, Theni, Madurai, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli, Tenkasi and Kanniyakumari and villages in Eastern Ghats hilly areas in 11 districts viz., Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Kallakurichi, Namakkal, Dindigul, Erode, Salem, Tirupattur, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruchirappalli and Vellore.

The Soil and Water conservation measures are taken up for individual farmers with 90 percent subsidy for ST category, 80 percent subsidy for SC category and 50 percent subsidy for other category farmers. Community based works are carried out with 100 percent subsidy.

4.1.6.Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project

To prevent siltation and to maintain their capacity, Soil conservation and Watershed management works like Field bunding with Vegetative covers, Gabion Check dams, Check dams, Silt Monitoring Stations, Gabion Stream bank protection walls are carried out in the catchment areas of multipurpose reservoirs, through Agricultural Engineering Department with the World Bank fund assistance. Under this scheme, in the current year, 478 Drainage line treatment works and 1,420 hectare of Soil

conservation works will be carried out at a cost of Rs.18.22 crore.

4.1.7. Coastal Horticulture Scheme

In the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, to facilitate the construction of skimming wells for utilizing the freshwater overlying saline groundwater for irrigation in agricultural fields, a back ended subsidy of 75% of the total estimated cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.1.50 lakh per farmer will be provided. In the current year, 10 skimming wells will be constructed on a pilot basis with a subsidy assistance of Rs.15 lakh. Under this scheme, besides construction of skimming wells, cultivation of horticultural crops such as Chilli and Coriander will be taken up in an area of 10 hectare. This scheme will be implemented in an integrated manner with the Solar Powered Pumpset Scheme and Micro Irrigation Scheme. For this, a total allocation of Rs.49.40 lakh has been made.

4.1.8. Creation and Maintenance of Rainwater Harvesting Structures using Agricultural Engineering Department owned Machinery

Bush clearance, necessary repair works and desilting in existing rainwater harvesting structures are to be carried out in addition to creation of new rainwater harvesting structures in feasible locations. During the current year, 300 existing rainwater harvesting structures will be maintained and 50 new water harvesting structures will be created by using Agricultural Engineering Department owned machinery at a cost of Rs.2 crore.

4.2. Water Management

Water management is essential for efficient irrigation. By adopting proper water management practices, crops can be cultivated over a larger area with less water, thereby increasing the income of farmers.

4.2.1. Providing Electric Motor Pumpsets to Farmers with Subsidy

This scheme is being implemented with Union and State Government funds to assist the farmers, who are unable to purchase new electric motor pumpsets and to enable the farmers using old inefficient electric motor pumpsets to replace them with new energy efficient four star rated electric motor pumpsets. For the purchase of one electric motor pumpset by a farmer, 50 percent of the total cost or Rs.15,000/-, whichever is less, will be credited to the farmer's bank account as back ended subsidy. During the current year, the scheme will be implemented to benefit 1,000 farmers with an allocation of Rs.1.50 crore.

4.2.2. Desilting of 'C' and 'D' Category Channels in Delta Districts

To ensure uninterrupted flow of irrigation water to farmers fields in tail-end areas through the 'C' and 'D' category channels in the ayacut areas of Cauvery, Vennar, Vellar and Grand Anicut

Canal in the Delta districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Cuddalore, Tiruchirappalli and Ariyalur, a total length of 2,535 kilometres has been desilted in the current year with a budget allocation of Rs.10 crore.

4.3. Agricultural Mechanization

The use of agricultural machinery has become indispensable for carrying out all farm operations, from sowing to harvesting, in a timely and efficient manner. Therefore, Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) scheme is implemented with financial assistance shared between the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 60:40. The following activities will be undertaken in this scheme.

4.3.1. Distribution of Farm Machinery and Implements to individual farmers with subsidy

Under the Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization scheme, subsidy assistance is provided to farmers for the purchase of agricultural machinery and implements required for various farming operations. The machinery and implements covered under the scheme include Tractor, Rotavator, Cultivator, Rotary Disc Harrow, Ridge Moulder, Power tiller, Paddy Transplanter, Seed cum fertilizer drill, Power Weeder, Drone, Power sprayer, Brush cutter, Chaff cutter, Paddy Combine Harvester, Multi Crop Thresher, Coconut Frond Chopper, Baler, Post hole digger, Tea harvester, Plastic Mulch laying machine, Turmeric Digger, Paddy Mobile dryer and other farm machinery and implements. Further, Solar dryers, Value addition machinery for post harvest management and value addition at the farm level and innovative agricultural

machinery and equipment like Portable cattle shed, Motorized portable grain loader, Engine operated sugarcane bunch elevator for loading in lorry etc., developed by the Agricultural Engineering Department are also provided with subsidy assistance to individual farmers.

Under this scheme, Small and Marginal farmers, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe farmers and Women farmers are provided with subsidy assistance at the rate of 50 percent and other farmers with 40 percent of the cost of machinery or the maximum subsidy amount fixed by the Government, whichever is less. In addition, Small and Marginal farmers belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe categories are provided with an additional 20 percent subsidy from State fund over and above the existing 50 percent subsidy, thereby enabling them to avail a total subsidy assistance of 70 percent. The required amount of

Rs.21.21 crore has been allocated for this purpose. Further, Small and Marginal farmers belonging to other category are provided with an additional 10 percent subsidy from State fund over and above the existing 50 percent subsidy for the purchase of Paddy Transplanters, Power Weeders and the Chaff Cutters newly included during this year, thereby enabling them to avail a total subsidy assistance of 60 percent. A sum of Rs.5 crore has been allocated for this scheme.

During this year, an amount of Rs.227.20 crore has been allocated for providing subsidy assistance to 24,000 farmers for the purchase of Agricultural machinery, Implements, Solar dryers and Value addition machinery.

4.3.2. Financial Assistance to individual Forest Rights Act (FRA) Patta holder farmers for the distribution of Farm Machinery and equipment

As the tribal farmers who have obtained land ownership under the Forest Rights Act are

predominantly Small and Marginal farmers, small agricultural machinery and equipment such as Power Tillers, Power Weeders and Brush Cutters will be distributed to them with 90 percent subsidy assistance at an outlay of Rs.1 crore under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization scheme.

4.3.3. Establishment of Agricultural Machinery Custom Hiring Centres

To promote agricultural mechanization in districts with low farm power availability, Village level Agricultural Machinery Custom Hiring Centres will be established for the benefit of Women Self Help Groups (DAY-NRLM), Farmer Producer Organizations, Panchayats and Cooperative Societies. Each centre will be established at a project cost of Rs.10 lakh with subsidy assistance of 80 percent subject to a maximum of Rs.8 lakh. Further, in view of the "International Year of Women Farmers 2026", 30

percent of the total allocation will be earmarked for Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) to promote agricultural mechanization through initiatives such as value addition of agricultural produce, thereby strengthening the role of women in the agricultural sector.

Also, subsidy assistance will be provided to Rural youth and Entrepreneurial Farmers, Women Self Help Groups (DAY-NRLM), Farmer Producer Organizations, Panchayats and Cooperative Societies. Each centre will be established at a project cost of Rs.25 lakh with subsidy assistance of 40 percent subject to a maximum of Rs.10 lakh.

During this year, 50 Village Level Agricultural Machinery Custom Hiring Centres and 5 Block Level Agricultural Machinery Custom Hiring Centres will be established with a subsidy assistance of Rs.4.50 crore.

4.3.4.Integrated Agricultural Machinery Hiring Business Centre for Crop cultivation and Value addition

To address the challenges of labour scarcity in agriculture and the inadequate returns from farm produce, 50 Integrated Agricultural Machinery Hiring Business Centres for Crop Cultivation and Value addition with a unit cost of Rs.25 lakh, will be established with State Government fund allocation of Rs.8.13 crore to provide subsidy to make agricultural machinery available for crop cultivation and value addition to farmers on rental basis.

This scheme will be implemented with a subsidy assistance of 75 percent for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Women entrepreneurs and Youth holding a Diploma or Degree in Agricultural Engineering and 50 percent for other entrepreneurs.

4.3.5.Establishment of Agricultural Machinery Service Centres

Service Centres for Agricultural Machinery and Solar Pumpsets will be established through rural youth and entrepreneurs at village level. Under this scheme, priority will be given to those who have already been trained and obtained the certificate for the operation, repair and maintenance of Agricultural Machinery training conducted at Government Tractor Workshops of the Agricultural Engineering Department. Under this scheme, during this year, subsidy assistance of 50 percent subject to a maximum of Rs.7.50 lakh per centre will be provided for establishing 15 Agricultural Machinery Service Centres with a subsidy assistance of Rs.1.12 crore.

4.3.6.End to End Mechanization in cultivation of crops

Promoting mechanization across all stages of crop cultivation will help to reduce cultivation

costs, ensure timely completion of farm operations and enhance farmers' income. Accordingly, demonstrations on the mechanization of all farm operations, from land preparation to crop residue management, in Maize, Groundnut, Blackgram and Coconut crops will be implemented through Agri-Tech Entrepreneurs over an area of 225 acres, with 100 percent subsidy assistance with a total allocation of Rs.46.37 lakh.

4.3.7.Mega exhibition of Modern Agricultural Machinery and Implements

To create awareness among farmers on the benefits of modern and innovative agricultural machinery, implements and equipment suitable for various crops and farming operations, a mega exhibition of modern agricultural machinery and implements will be organized in Thanjavur District during the current year.

4.3.8.Skill Development Programme for Operation of Tractor, Combine harvester, other Agricultural Machinery and Backhoe with front end loader

Under the skill development training programme, training is to be provided to rural youth and farmers on the operation and maintenance of various agricultural machinery such as Tractor, Combine Harvester, Backhoe with front end loader, Power Tiller, Power Weeder and Paddy Transplanter. To ensure quality training, training sessions will be conducted using driving simulators established at Government Tractor Workshops of Agricultural Engineering Department. During the current year, training will be provided to 448 rural youth and farmers at an outlay of Rs.51.50 lakh.

4.3.9.“Vetri Vaanmagal” Scheme

With the United Nations Organization having declared 2026 as the “International Year of

Women Farmers”, enabling women as drone entrepreneurs will ease performing agricultural activities such as fertilizer and pesticide spraying and crop monitoring.

Under this scheme, during the current year Drone operator training and Drone pilot licence will be provided to 500 eligible candidates including 100 women with State Government funds of Rs.1.50 crore. Further, drones will be distributed to 50 trained women at 50 percent subsidy, subject to a maximum subsidy of Rs.5 lakh per drone, with an allocation of Rs.2.50 crore from the State funds.

4.3.10.Hiring out of Agricultural Machinery and Implements through e-Vaadagai 2.0 platform in the Uzhavar App

To increase agricultural production, it is necessary to strengthen agricultural mechanization services across Tamil Nadu. Agricultural Engineering Department is hiring out

various agricultural machinery and implements such as Tractors, Bulldozers, Backhoe with front end Loaders, Paddy Combine Harvesters to farmers at Government fixed nominal hire charges. Tractor operated Paddy mobile Dryers are provided along with Tractors at Government fixed nominal hire charges of Rs.500/- per hour for drying and preserving the paddy grains soaked and damaged due to rain. The e-Vaadagai 2.0 platform in the Uzhavar App is helpful in facilitating the farmers to book the required agricultural machinery and implements conveniently from any location and to pay advance hire charges through online.

The details of agricultural machinery being hired out to the farmers by the Agricultural Engineering Department and their hire charges are furnished in the following table.

Table.4.1. Details of Agricultural Machinery and hire charges in the Agricultural Engineering Department

Sl. No.	Name of the Machinery	Number of Machinery	Details of Hire Charges
Land Development Machinery			
1	Bull Dozer	85	Rs.1,230/- per hour
2	Tractor	515	Rs.500/- per hour
3	Mini Tractor	6	Rs.460/- per hour
4	Tractor operated paddy mobile dryer	6	Rs.500/- per hour with Tractor
5	Tractor operated implements	3,130	Rs.500/- per hour with Tractor
6	Paddy Combine Harvester – Wheel Type	19	Rs.1,160/- per hour
7	Paddy Combine Harvester – Track Type	45	Rs.1,880/- per hour
8	Backhoe with Front end loader	70	Rs.890/- per hour
9	Mini Backhoe with Front end loader	10	Rs.650/- per hour
10	Crawler Excavator	10	Rs.1,910/- per hour
11	Sugarcane Harvester with infielders	6	Rs.5,120/- per hour
12	Truck Operated Coconut Hoist	20	Rs.450/- per hour
13	Heavy Duty Chain Saws	805	Rs.85/- per hour (Excluding fuel cost and Labour cost)

Sl. No.	Name of the Machinery	Number of Machinery	Details of Hire Charges
14	Tractor Operated Pumpsets	33	Rs.500/- per hour with Tractor
Minor Irrigation Machinery			
15	Rotary Drills	23	Rs.130/- per metre
16	Percussion Drill	1	Rs.300/- per day
17	Mini Drills	10	Rs.70/- per metre
18	Hand Boring Sets	9	Rs.30/- per metre
19	Rock Blasting Unit	1	Rs.250/- per blasting
20	Resistivity Meters	23	Rs.500/- per point
21	Electrical Loggers	2	Rs.1,000/-per bore hole

- The required cost of fuel (Diesel), labourers, pipes, pebbles and vehicle for transporting the materials required for the machinery from Sl.No.15 to 21, is to be borne by the farmers concerned.
- The fuel expenses for operating the burner of the Paddy Mobile Dryer and the wages for additional labourers required for its operation shall be met by the farmers concerned or Government organizations hiring the machinery.

**Table.4.2. District wise details of
Agricultural Machinery available for hiring
out to farmers**

Sl. No.	District	Bull Dozer	Tractor	Tractor operated Paddy mobile dryer	Paddy Combine Harvester	Crawler Excavator	Backhoe with front end loader	Sugarcane Harvester with infielders	Truck Operated Coconut Hoist
1	Kancheepuram	1	5		1		1		
2	Chengalpattu	3	9		3		2		
3	Thiruvallur	3	14	1	1		2	1	
4	Cuddalore	4	59	1	5	1	3	1	1
5	Villupuram	3	13			1	2	1	
6	Kallakurichi	2	10				2	1	
7	Vellore	1	7			1	1		
8	Ranipet	1	7				1		
9	Tirupattur	1	6				1		1
10	Thiruvannamalai	2	18		2		2	1	
11	Salem	5	20			1	3		1
12	Namakkal	3	15			1	2		
13	Dharmapuri	2	11				2		1
14	Krishnagiri	2	10				2		1
15	Coimbatore	3	12			1	2		2
16	Erode	3	16		2		2		2
17	Tiruppur	4	14				3		2
18	Tiruchirappalli	3	16		2	1	3		
19	Ariyalur	2	6		3		2		
20	Perambalur	1	4				1	1	
21	Karur	2	8				2		
22	Pudukottai	2	16				2		2

Sl. No.	District	Bull Dozer	Tractor	Tractor operated Paddy mobile dryer	Paddy Combine Harvester	Crawler Excavator	Backhoe with front end loader	Sugarcane Harvester with infielders	Truck Operated Coconut Hoist
23	Thanjavur	3	46	1	7		1		
24	Tiruvarur	2	38	1	12				
25	Nagapatinam	1	19	1	7				
26	Mayiladuthurai	1	18	1	7				
27	Madurai	4	13		3	1	2		1
28	Dindigul	3	13				2		2
29	Theni	3	8		1		2		1
30	Virudhunagar	2	11			1	2		1
31	Ramanathapuram	3	11		1		2		
32	Sivagangai	2	12		1		20		
33	Tirunelveli	2	10		3	1	2		1
34	Tenkasi	1	10		2		1		
35	Thoothukudi	4	12		1		3		1
36	The Nilgiris	1	1						
37	Kanniyakumari		3						
Total		85	521	6	64	10	80	6	20

Further, to enable farmers to easily hire and utilize agricultural machinery and implements owned by Primary Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies (PACCS) and private machinery owners, facilities have been provided in the

"e-Vaadagai 2.0" platform in the Uzhavar App. Through this platform, the Agricultural Engineering Department acts as a facilitator between farmers and Primary Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies (PACCS) and private agricultural machinery owners. As of now, 1,359 Primary Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies (PACCS) and 6,246 private agricultural machinery owners have registered in the platform, making the number of total service providers 7,605. These service providers have registered 7,931 agricultural machinery and 7,026 agricultural implements for hiring to farmers.

4.3.11. Disaster Management Machinery to carry out relief operations

During natural calamities like heavy rain and floods, to undertake flood relief operations such as removal of sand deposits formed in agricultural fields due to severe flooding, removal of trees

fallen due to storms, dewatering of stagnated rainwater in low lying areas, supplying food and essential commodities to the affected people and evacuating them to safer places, the Agricultural Engineering Department has 85 Bulldozers, 80 Backhoe with front end Loaders, 73 Tipping Trailers, 805 Heavy duty chain saws, Tractor operated 33 PTO Pumps and 5 Disaster Relief Vehicles, which are being deployed to carry out relief operations.

4.3.12.Strengthening Farm Machinery Hiring Services of the Agricultural Engineering Department

To strengthen the agricultural machinery hiring activity during the current year, a total of 343 Agricultural machinery and implements viz., 60 Tractors, suitable implements, Paddy Combine Harvesters and Carriers for Track Type Paddy Combine Harvesters will be procured for Agricultural Engineering Department at a cost of

Rs.18.62 crore under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation scheme.

4.3.13.Popularising the technology of Tractor Operated Ridge Moulder among farmers

The technology of bund sectioning and shaping in paddy fields will be popularized using the Agricultural Engineering Department owned Tractor operated Ridge Moulder in demonstration mode. The scheme will be implemented with an allocation of Rs.1.25 lakh to cover an area of 250 acres subject to a maximum of Rs.500/- per acre.

4.4. Solar Energy in Agriculture

Promotion of the renewable Solar energy in agriculture, through modern technologies, based on solar energy will enable the farmers to save the amount spent on fuel thereby increasing their income and also lead to sustainable agriculture by protecting the environment.

4.4.1. Solar Powered Fencing Systems

With the objective of preventing crop damage caused by wild animals such as Elephant, Deer, Wild boar, Bison and Stray cattle, Solar powered fencing systems will be installed in farmers fields with subsidy assistance. The Solar powered fencing systems will be provided with 5 line, 7 line and 10 line fences for animals other than elephants and with additional hanging provision in the Solar powered fencing system specifically designed to deter elephants.

In the current year, Solar powered fencing systems will be installed with 50 percent subsidy at a financial outlay of Rs.2 crore. An additional 20 percent subsidy will be provided from the State fund to Small and Marginal farmers belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe category.

4.4.2. Solar Powered Pumpsets Scheme

In order to meet the electricity requirement of farmers for irrigation needs and ensure sustainable agricultural production, in the current year, Solar Powered Pumpsets will be installed, with a total subsidy assistance of Rs.23.06 crore to benefit 10,000 farmers. Under the scheme, 80 percent subsidy will be provided to Small and Marginal farmers belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe categories; 70 percent subsidy will be provided to other farmers belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe categories and Small and Marginal farmers belonging to the General Category and 60 percent subsidy will be provided to other farmers for the installation of Solar Powered Pumpsets.

4.4.3. Solar Drying units

With the objective of reducing post harvest losses in agricultural produce and enhancing farmers' income through quality drying,

greenhouse type solar dryers made of polycarbonate sheets will be installed with subsidy assistance. Under the scheme, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Small, Marginal and Women farmers will be provided with a subsidy of 50 percent of the total cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.4.40 lakh, while other farmers will be provided with a subsidy of 40 percent of the total cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.3.52 lakh. In addition, Small and Marginal farmers belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe category will be provided with an additional 20 percent subsidy from State fund. During the current year, this scheme will be implemented with a total financial outlay of Rs.5.06 crore.

4.5.Provision of Threshing floors with subsidy assistance to farmers

In order to facilitate the farmers to thresh, dry and safely store the harvested grains and to

reduce the post harvest grain losses, during this financial year, back ended subsidy assistance of 50 percent subject to maximum amount of Rs.2.80 lakh, will be provided to 100 farmers for the construction of threshing floor in their fields, with a total outlay of Rs.2.80 crore.

4.6. Infrastructure works

4.6.1. Construction, Renovation and Development works

Agricultural Engineering Department is according Technical Sanction to the estimates for the construction, renovation and development works of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, Agricultural Engineering Department, Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, Department of Seed Certification and Organic Certification that are functioning under the Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Department.

Further, construction works and development works of Agricultural Engineering Department, Department of Agriculture, Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops are being implemented through the Agricultural Engineering Department. Agricultural machinery sheds are being constructed to safely house the Agricultural Engineering Department owned agricultural machinery and implements. During the current year, 5 Agricultural Machinery Sheds will be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.1.08 crore. Also, 5 Agricultural Engineering Extension and Training Centres will be established at Thirukoilur, Karaikudi, Musiri, Dharapuram and Kumbakonam at a total estimated cost of Rs.4.60 crore.

4.7. Establishment

During the current year, allotment orders have been issued to Assistant Engineers (AE) for 115 posts in the Agricultural Engineering

Department who have been recruited through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC).

**Table.4.3. Agricultural Engineering
Department Staff Details**

Sl. No.	Category of Post	Sanctioned Posts (Numbers)
1	Chief Engineer (AE)	1
2	Chief Engineer (AE), RVP	1
3	Superintending Engineer (AE)	14
4	Executive Engineer (AE)	42
5	Assistant Executive Engineer (AE)	103
6	Assistant Engineer (AE)/ Junior Engineer (AE)	755
7	Technical and Other Staff	1,490
8	Ministerial Staff	1,460
	Total	3,866

5. Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business

Agricultural marketing is the foundation of profitable agriculture. It serves as a vital bridge connecting production with markets, enabling farmers to obtain a fair and profitable price for their produce. The success of agriculture depends not only on increasing production but also on farmers' ability to sell their produce at right place, at right time and at fair price. Efficient agricultural marketing brings transparency to price determination, reduces post-harvest losses, promotes value addition and increases the farmers' share paid by consumers. Recognizing this importance, the Government of Tamil Nadu has developed infrastructure such as Uzhavar Sandhais, regulated markets, primary processing centres, cold storage facilities, food parks and export-oriented infrastructure to improve farmers' access to markets and ensure higher incomes.

The importance of agricultural marketing has been emphasized even in ancient Tamil literature. The world-renowned Tamil classic, Thirukkural, highlights that agriculture and trade served as the foundations of society. Furthermore, Sangam-era literary works such as Pattinappalai and Maduraikkanchi provide detailed accounts of the prosperous markets of ancient Tamil Nadu, organized trade practices, storage of agricultural produce and domestic as well as overseas trade activities.

New Initiatives to be implemented during 2026-27

The Department will plan and implement new strategies with the vision of "From Production to the Global Marketplace" to promote entrepreneurship in rural areas, create new employment opportunities for youth, and strengthen export growth.

With the objective of increasing the income of the farming community, the **“Tamil Nadu Farmers’ Income Enhancement Commission”** will be established in Chennai at an estimated cost of Rs.23 crore. Comprising experts from various fields, the Commission will work in coordination with relevant stakeholders, undertake field studies, and recommend strategies to the Government for enhancing farmers’ incomes through research, policy support, market interventions and data-driven approaches.

The **“Agricultural Intelligence and Market Excellence Centre”** will be established at an estimated cost of Rs.4 crore with the objective of integrating data related to agricultural marketing and developing a Geographical Information System (GIS)-based infrastructure mapping system. This Centre, forecasts on market prices and arrivals using Artificial

Intelligence (AI) and Predictive Analytics technologies. In addition, data relating to exports and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) will be analysed and real-time dashboards will be developed to facilitate data-driven decision-making.

During periods of price decline in perishable agricultural commodities such as tomato and onion, the **“Market Intervention Scheme – Price Stabilization Fund (MIS-PSRF)”** will be established by the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Marketing Board during 2026–27, with a State fund allocation of Rs.4.26 crore, to rapidly stabilize market prices.

To provide farmers, agricultural entrepreneurs and Farmer Producer Organisations with professional guidance on agriculture, information technology transfer and agricultural business advisory services, an **“Agricultural**

Business Guidance Centre” will be established with a State fund allocation of Rs. 50 lakh.

During the current year, a **Farmer Producer Company Management Cell (FPC Management Cell)** will be established to ensure the sustainable development of Farmer Producer Organisations. Financial assistance of up to Rs.10,000 will be provided to FPOs for submitting financial and administrative reports. In addition, a subsidy equivalent to 50 percent of the Chief Executive Officer’s salary, subject to a maximum of Rs.12,500 per month, will be provided. Capacity-building programmes and regional exhibitions will also be conducted on best practices, market linkages, value addition and sustainable income generation. This scheme will be implemented during the current year with a State fund allocation of Rs. 5 crore.

Further, the **“Tamil Nadu Coconut Processing Corporation”** will be established to

create sustainable market opportunities for coconut farmers and enhance their incomes by integrating and implementing services relating to value addition, processing, branding, marketing and export promotion of coconut products.

5. 1. Agri Marketing

5.1.1. Regulated Markets

Regulated Markets are functioning in Tamil Nadu to regulate the sale of agricultural produce and ensure that farmers receive a fair price without the involvement of intermediaries. These markets have been established under the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1987 and the Rules, 1991. At present, 285 Regulated Markets are functioning under the control of 27 Market Committees.

Regulated Markets serve as a common platform where farmers can sell their produce

directly. Here, farmers participate in the closed bidding and obtain better prices for their produce.

At Regulated Markets, farmers receive a fair price as their produce is accurately weighed and prices are determined according to quality. No fee is collected from farmers for this service. A market fee of 1 percent of the sale value of the produce is collected from traders.

Pledge loans are provided to farmers up to a maximum of Rs.5 lakh and to Farmer Producer Companies up to Rs.10 lakh at an interest rate of 5 percent for a period of up to 6 months (one year for Turmeric). Traders are provided pledge loans up to a maximum of Rs.2 lakh at an interest rate of 9 percent.

During the current year, action is being taken to regulate the trade of 56 lakh metric tonnes of agricultural produce through Regulated Markets

and to provide pledge loans amounting to Rs.77 crore.

A total of 322 storage godowns with a capacity of 4.55 lakh metric tonnes in Regulated Markets have obtained accreditation from the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority. Farmers and traders can store their agricultural produce in these storage godowns and obtain loans from scheduled commercial banks, up to 80 percent of the value of the produce, against electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipts.

**Table 5.1 District and Market Committee
wise Regulated Markets and e-NAM markets**

(Unit in Nos.)

S. No	District	Market Committee	Total No. of Markets	Electronic National Agricultural Markets (e-NAM)	Non-Electronic Agricultural Markets
1	Kancheepuram	1. Kancheepuram	3	Kancheepuram, Uthiramerur, Sunguvarchathiram (3)	-
2	Chengalpattu		4	Madhurantakam (1)	Thirukalukundram, Acharapakkam, Chengalpattu (3)
3	Tiruvallur		8	Tiruvallur, Sengundram, Tiruttani, Uthukottai (4)	Ponneri, Pallipattu, Gummidipoondi, Nazarathpet (4)
4	Cuddalore	2. Cuddalore	11	Virudhachalam, Cuddalore, Panruti, Kattumannarkoil, Kurinjipadi, Sethiyathope, Srimushnam, Vepur (8)	Thittakudi, Bhuvanagiri, Chidambaram (3)
5	Villupuram	3. Villupuram	11	Tindivanam, Tirukovilur, Villupuram, Gingee, Avalurpet, Marakkanam, Vikravandi, Valathy (8)	Tiruvannainallur, Ananthapuram, Melchittamur (3)
6	Kallakurichi	4. Kallakurichi	8	Manalurpet, Ulundurpet, Chinnasalem, Kallakurichi, Thiagadurgam, Sankarapuram (6)	Moongilthuraipattu, Tirunavalur (2)

7	Vellore	5. Vellore	3	Vellore, Gudiyatham (2)	Katpadi (1)
8	Tirupathur		3	Tirupathur, Vaniyambadi (2)	Ambur (1)
9	Ranipet		6	Arcot, Kaveripakkam, Kalavai, Ammooor (4)	Timiri, Arakkonam (2)
10	Tiruvannamalai	6. Tiruvannamalai	18	Tiruvannamalai, Arani, Vandavasi, Chetpet, Cheyyar, Polur, Chengam, Pudupalayam, Vanapuram, Vettavalam, Mangalamamandoor, Desur, Thusi, Kilpennathur, Adhamangalamputhur (15)	Peranamallur, Thellar, Naidumangalam (3)
11	Salem	7. Salem	14	Salem, Attur, Mecheri, Vazhapadi, Thammampatti, Omalur, Gangavalli, Karumanthurai, Edappadi, Konganapuram (10)	Thalaivasal, Sankagiri, Kolathur, Kadayampatti (4)
12	Namakkal	8. Namakkal	7	Tiruchengode, Paramathi Velur, Namagiripettai (3)	Namakkal, Rasipuram, Solakkadu, Sendamangalam (4)
13	Dharmapuri	9. Dharmapuri	7	Dharmapuri, Palacode, Pennagaram, Harur (4)	Pappireddipatti, Kambainallur, Papparapatti (3)
14	Krishnagiri		9	Krishnagiri, Hosur, Uthangarai, Pochampalli (4)	Kelamangalam, Kaveripattinam, Bargur, Rayakottai, Denkanikottai (5)
15	Coimbatore	10. Coimbatore	10	Annur, Karamadai, Coimbatore, Sulur, Anaimalai, Pollachi, MalaiyadiPalayam, Negamam, Kinathukadavu, Thondamuthur (10)	-

16	Tiruppur	11. Tiruppur	15	Kunnathur, Kangeyam, Vellakoil, Dharapuram, Mulanur, Alangiyam, Muthur, Tiruppur, Avinashi, Sevr, Palladam, Udumalpet, Madathukulam, Pethappampatti, Pongalur (15)	-
17	Erode	12. Erode	18	Erode, Avalpoondurai, Kodumudi, Sivagiri, Sithode, Bhavani, Boothapadi, Anthiyur, Mayilambadi, Kavundapadi, Gobichettipalayam, Nambiyur, Vellankovil, Sathyamangalam, Punjai Puliampatti, Thalavadi, Perundurai, Elumathur (18)	-
18	Tiruchirappalli	13. Tiruchirappalli	10	Manapparai, Thuraiyur, Lalgudi, Tiruchirappalli, Manachanallur, Thuvarankurichi, Thathaiyangarpettai, Kattuputhur (8)	Thottiyam, Pullambadi, (2)
19	Karur		4	Karur, Irumbuthipatti (2)	Kulithalai, Chinnadharapuram (2)
20	Perambalur	14. Perambalur	2	Perambalur (1)	Poolambadi (1)
21	Ariyalur		4	Ariyalur, Jayankondam, Andimadam (3)	Melanikkuzhi (1)

22	Pudukkottai	15. Pudukkottai	10	Alangudi, Aranthangi, Iluppur (3)	Pudukkottai, Gandarvakottai, Avudaiyarkoil, Keeranur, Keeramangalam, Ponnamaravathi, Karambakudi (7)
23	Thanjavur	16. Thanjavur	13	Thanjavur, Vallam, Orathanadu, Pattukkottai, Papanasam, Budalur, Kumbakonam (7)	Adirampattinam, Ammapettai, Madukkur, Peravurani, Tiruppanandal, Papanadu (6)
24	Tiruvarur	17. Tiruvarur	8	Kodavasal, Valangaiman, Tiruthuraiipoondi, Mannargudi, Tiruvarur, Poondottam, Vaduvur (7)	Koradacheri (1)
25	Nagapattinam	18. Nagapattinam	4	Keevalur, Vedaranyam, Tirupoondi (3)	Nagapattinam (1)
26	Mayiladuthurai		4	Kuthalam, Mayiladuthurai, Sembanarkoil, Sirkazhi (4)	-
27	Madurai	19. Madurai	6	Tirumangalam, Usilampatti, Melur, Madurai, Vadipatti (5)	T. Kallupatti (1)
28	Theni	20. Theni	7	Theni, Cumbum, Bodinayakanur, Chinnamanur, Andipatti (5)	Uthamapalayam, Periyakulam (2)

29	Dindigul	21. Dindigul	8	Dindigul, Oddanchatram, Palani, Natham, Vathalagundu, Gopalpatti, Vadamadurai (7)	Vedasandur (1)
30	Ramanathapuram	22. Ramanathapuram	6	Ramanathapuram, Paramakudi, Kamuthi, Tiruvadanai, Rajasingamangalam, Mudukulathur (6)	-
31	Virudhunagar	23. Virudhunagar	7	Virudhunagar, Rajapalayam, Sattur, Aruppukkottai (4)	Srivilliputhur, Watrap, Vembakottai (3)
32	Sivagangai	24. Sivagangai	7	Sivagangai, Manamadurai, Singampunari, Karaikudi, Devakottai (5)	Tiruppuvanam, Ilayangudi (2)
33	Tirunelveli	25. Tirunelveli	4	Ambasamudram, Valliyur, Tirunelveli, Thisayanvilai (4)	-
34	Tenkasi		7	Tenkasi, Sankarankoil, Pavoorchathram, Tiruvengadam, Alangulam, Kadayanallur (6)	Sivagiri (1)
35	Thoothukudi		9	Kovilpatti, Thoothukudi, Pudur, Kadambur, Kalugumalai, Srivaikuntam, Vilathikulam, Ettayapuram, Sathankulam (9)	-

36	Nilgiris	26. Nilgiris	4	Coonoor, Udhagamandalam (2)	Kotagiri, Gudalur (2)
37	Kanniyakumari	27. Kanniyakumari	6	Vadasery, Kaliyakkavilai, Thingal Sandhai, Kulasekaram, Thoduvatti (5)	Eathamozhi (1)
	Total		285	213	72

During this financial year, as part of efforts to improve infrastructure facilities works are being undertaken to establish storage godowns with a capacity of 1,000 metric tonnes each at the Polur Regulated Market in Tiruvannamalai District and the Ammoor Regulated Market in Ranipet District, where arrivals are high, at an estimated cost of Rs.4.80 crore.

5.1.2.e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)

The electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is a digital platform that integrates

agricultural markets across India and creates a unified national agricultural market.

Of the 285 Regulated Markets in Tamil Nadu, the e-NAM scheme is currently being implemented in 213 Regulated Markets. Through e-NAM, 253 agricultural commodities, including coconut, can be traded. By making the auction process online, farmers are able to obtain a fair price for their produce based on its quality. The sale proceeds for the produce are directly credited to the farmers' bank accounts through this online platform.

At the National level, Tamil Nadu ranks first in the number of e-NAM markets, Inter-Mandi trade, and disbursement of payments to farmers through the electronic payment (e-Payment) system.

The number of regulated markets integrated with the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) has

been designated as a National-level indicator under the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG – Goal 2).

Unified Single Licence (USL) has been issued to 9,955 traders to undertake online trading across all Regulated Markets in the State.

Infrastructures created in Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business – Annexure-I

5.2 Agri Business

5.2.1 Uzhavar Sandhai

“Uzhavar Sandhais” (Farmers’ Markets) serve as important platforms that enable farmers to sell their produce directly to consumers without intermediaries and obtain a fair price, while also helping the general public purchase quality fresh vegetables and fruits. Accordingly, out of the 194 Uzhavar Sandhais currently functioning in Tamil Nadu, 93 Uzhavar Sandhais have obtained

certification from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

To ensure that the prices of produce sold by farmers in Uzhavar Sandhais are higher than the wholesale market prices while remaining lower than the retail prices for consumers, daily prices are fixed for vegetables and fruits. To make these prices transparent to everyone, electronic price display boards have been installed in 50 Uzhavar Sandhais. During the current year, electronic price display boards will be installed in another 59 Uzhavar Sandhais at a cost of Rs. 2.04 crore.

In Uzhavar Sandhais, an average of 8,200 farmers sell around 2,500 metric tonnes of vegetables and fruits worth Rs.11 crore per day to 3 lakh consumers. The daily price details of commodities sold at Uzhavar Sandhais are made available to the public through the 'Uzhavar' mobile application and the website of the

Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri
Business: www.agrimark.tn.gov.in.

**Table: 5.2 District wise Uzhavar Sandhai
details**

S. No	District	Nos	Uzhavar sandhai
1	Ariyalur	2	Ariyalur, Jeyankondam
2	Coimbatore	8	R.S.Puram, Singanallur, Pollachi, Mettupalayam, Kurichi, Sulur, Vadavalli, Sundarapuram
3	Cuddalore	6	Cuddalore, Chidambaram, Viruthachalam, Panruti, Vadalur, Kattumannarkoil
4	Dharmapuri	6	Dharmapuri, Pennagaram, Palacode, A.Jattihalli, Harur, Karimangalam
5	Dindigul	6	Dindigul, Palani, Chinnalapatti, Kodaikkanal, Batlagundu, Vedasanthur
6	Erode	6	Sampath Nagar, Gobichettipalayam, Sathiyamagalam, Periyar Nagar, Perundurai, Thalavadi
7	Kancheepuram	4	Kancheepuram, Padappai, Sunguvarchatram, Kundrathur

S. No	District	Nos	Uzhavar sandhai
8	Chengelpet	9	Pallavaram, Chengalpet, Medavakkam, Nanganallur, Madhuranthagam, Keelkattalai, Jameenrayapettai, Guduvancheri, Thirukalukundram
9	Kanniyakumari	2	Vadaseri, Myladi
10	Karur	6	Karur, Kulithalai, Velayuthampalayam, Pallapatti, Vengamedu, Gandhigramam
11	Krishnagiri	5	Hosur, Krishnagiri, Kaveripattinam, Denkanikottai, Avallapalli
12	Madurai	7	Annanagar, Chokkikulam, Palanganatham, Usilampatti, Thirumangalam, Melur, Anaiyur
13	Nagapattinam	2	Nagapattinam, vedharanyam
14	Mayiladuthurai	2	Mayiladuthurai, Sirkali
15	Namakkal	6	Namakkal, Tiruchengode, Rasipuram, Kumarapalayam, Paramathivelur, Mohanur
16	Nilgiris	4	Udhagamandalam, Coonoor, Kothagiri, Gudalur

S. No	District	Nos	Uzhavar sandhai
17	Perambalur	2	Perambalur, Veppanthattai
18	Pudukottai	7	Pudukottai, Aranthangi, Alangudi, Gandarvakottai, Karambakkudi, Viralimalai, Ponnamaravathy
19	Ramanathapuram	3	Ramanathapuram, Paramakudi, Kamuthi
20	Salem	13	Sooramangalam, Ammapet, Athur, Thathakapatti, Mettur, Attayampatti, Hasthampatti, Elampillai, Thammampatti, Jalagandapuram, Edappadi, Vazhapadi, Mecheri
21	Sivagangai	5	Sivagangai, Devakottai, Karaikudi, Tirupatthur, Singampunari
22	Thanjavur	6	Thanjavur, Kumbakonam, Pattukottai, Tirukattupalli, Papanasam, Peravurani
23	Theni	7	Theni, Cumbum, Bodinayakanur, Periyakulam, Devaram, Andipatti, Chinnamanur
24	Tirunelveli	5	Palayamkottai, Kandyaperi, Melapalayam, Ambasamudram, NGO colony
25	Tenkasi	2	Sankarankoil, Tenkasi

S. No	District	Nos	Uzhavar sandhai
26	Tiruppur	6	Udumalpet, Tiruppur (North), Tiruppur (South), Palladam, Kangeyam, Dharapuram
27	Tiruvallur	6	Tiruthani, Tiruvallur, Ambattur, Paruthipattu, Naravarikuppam, Perambakkam
28	Tiruvannamalai	8	Tiruvannamalai, Polur, Arani, Cheyyar, Chengam, Vandavasi, Keelpennathur, Tamarainagar
29	Tiruvarur	7	Tiruthuraiipoondi, Mannargudi-1, Tiruvarur, Needamangalam, Muthupetta, Mannargudi-2, Valangaiman
30	Tiruchirappalli	8	Anna Nagar, K.K.Nagar, Thuraiyur, Manapparai, Musiri, Thuvakudi, Lalgudi, Manachanallur
31	Thoothukudi	2	Thoothukudi, Kovilpatti
32	Vellore	6	Vellore, Katpadi, Gudiyatham, Kagithapattarai, Peranampattu, Pallikonda
33	Ranipet	2	Ranipet, Arcot

S. No	District	Nos	Uzhavar sandhai
34	Tirupathur	3	Tirupathur, Natrampalli, Vaniyampadi
35	Villupuram	4	Tindivanam, Villupuram, Gingee, Vikravandi
36	Kallakurichi	3	Sankarapuram, Ulundurpet, Kallakurichi
37	Virudhunagar	8	Aruppukottai, Rajapalayam, Srivilliputhur, Virudhunagar, Sivakasi, Sathur, Kariyapatti, Thalavaipuram
	Total	194	

Shops are also allotted in Uzhavar Sandhais to Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Self-Help Groups (SHGs), the Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, and the Cooperative Department, where agricultural produce, value-added products, and horticultural inputs are sold. Provision has also been made for the sale of agricultural produce, including millets and pulses, in the 37 Uzhavar Sandhais that operate during the evening hours.

During the current year, works will be undertaken at an estimated cost of Rs.20 crore to redevelop the Pallavaram and Avadi Uzhavar Sandhais in Chennai as modern integrated farmers' markets, relocate the Veppanthattai Uzhavar Sandhai in Perambalur district to Elambalur, relocate the Mannargudi-I Uzhavar Sandhai in Tiruvarur district back to its original location and construct a new building, and improve basic infrastructure facilities in 10 Uzhavar Sandhais.

Further, to ensure that a larger quantity of produce cultivated through organic farming methods reaches consumers directly, and to enable farmers to sell such produce conveniently and obtain remunerative prices, necessary facilities will be provided in Uzhavar Sandhais for the sale of organic agricultural produce once a week.

5.2.2. Farmer Producer Organisations

Various initiatives are being undertaken by the Tamil Nadu Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (TNSFAC) to bring farmers together and register them as Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) under the Companies Act, 1956/2013, enabling them to market their produce, obtain better prices, and transform themselves into entrepreneurs and traders.

Table 5.3 District wise details of Farmer Producer Organizations formed by the Department and other implementing agencies.

Sl. No.	District	Agri Marketing Department (Nos)	Other Agencies (Nos)	Total
1	Ariyalur	11	12	23
2	Coimbatore	12	44	56
3	Cuddalore	18	40	58
4	Chengalpattu	8	16	24
5	Dharmapuri	14	42	56
6	Dindugul	12	46	58
7	Erode	16	61	77
8	Kallakuruchi	10	24	34

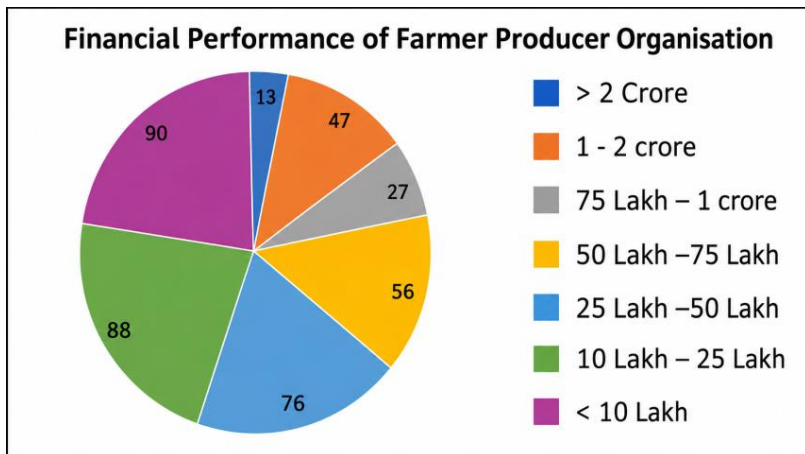
Sl. No.	District	Agri Marketing Department (Nos)	Other Agencies (Nos)	Total
9	Kancheepuram	8	10	18
10	Kanniyakumari	5	31	36
11	Karur	9	28	37
12	Krishnagiri	14	52	66
13	Madurai	15	40	55
14	Myladuthurai	5	18	23
15	Nagapattinam	7	11	18
16	Namakkal	12	51	63
17	Nilgris	9	23	32
18	Perambalur	8	18	26
19	Pudukottai	12	39	51
20	Ramanathapuram	10	47	57
21	Ranipet	10	13	23
22	Salem	14	79	93
23	Sivagangai	10	39	49
24	Tenkasi	7	23	30
25	Thanjavur	17	34	51
26	Theni	9	37	46
27	Thirupattur	6	19	25
28	Tiruvannamalai	20	50	70
29	Tiruvavarur	11	40	51
30	Thoothukudi	7	35	42
31	Tiruchirappalli	15	56	71

Sl. No.	District	Agri Marketing Department (Nos)	Other Agencies (Nos)	Total
32	Tirunelveli	8	34	42
33	Tiruppur	8	36	44
34	Tiruvallur	12	36	48
35	Vellore	6	19	25
36	Villupuram	11	35	46
37	Virudhunagar	11	51	62
	Total	397	1,289	1,686

5.2.2.1. Tamil Nadu Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium

Through the Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, 397 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) have been formed and are being promoted under the Tamil Nadu Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (TNSFAC) and the Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization Project (TN-IAMP). Of these, 50 FPOs have been formed under the Central sector scheme, "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)".

The financial performance of the 397 Farmer Producer Organisations formed through this Department is as follows:



5.2.2.2. Formation of New Farmer Producer Organizations

To bring together small and marginal farmers, improve market opportunities for their produce, and increase their incomes, new Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) will be formed. Steps will be taken to provide an equity grant of

Rs.5,000 in total over three years to each shareholder.

During the current year, an equity grant of Rs.2,000 per shareholder for the first year will be provided, with a state fund allocation of Rs.12 crore.

5.2.3. Supply Chain Management Scheme

The Supply Chain Management Scheme is being implemented to reduce post-harvest losses of agricultural produce, connect farmers with consumers, processors, and exporters, and increase farmers' incomes by converting not only fruits and vegetables but also millets, pulses, and oilseeds into value-added products and ensuring their uninterrupted supply to consumers.

In Tamil Nadu, 84 Primary Processing Centres have been established across 20 districts. These centres are equipped with pack houses, cold storage facilities, storage godowns, grading

units, and processing machinery. The centres are operated by Market Integration Partners, including Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), agricultural entrepreneurs, cooperative societies and private companies.

Table 5.4 Details of Primary Processing Centres (Phase –I) - 64 Nos.

S. No.	District	Primary Processing Centres
1.	Krishnagiri (10)	Hosur, Kamandoddi, Denkanikottai, Thattiganapalli, Rayakottai, Alapatti, Kundarapalli, Krishnagiri, Kaveripattinam, Pochampalli.
2.	Dharmapuri (5)	Palacode, Dharmapuri, Harur, Papparapatti, Pennagaram (Co-operative Marketing Society)
3.	Coimbatore (7)	Sulur, Pooluvapatti, Pichanur, Vadakkipalayam, Pollachi, Anaimalai, Chikkadasampalayam.
4.	Nilgiris (9)	Hosahatty, Anikorai, Dhavanai, New Allanji, Sullikoodu, Uppatti, Aiyyankolli, Nilgiris (Co-operative Marketing Society), Ooty Rose Garden.
5.	Tiruchirappalli (12)	Lalgudi, M.Puthur, Mannachanallur-I, Mannachanallur – II,

S. No.	District	Primary Processing Centres
		Thiruchendurai, P.K.Agaram, Arasalur, Pidaramangalam, Uppiliapuram (South), Thathaiyangarpettai, Kallikudi, Thuraiyur (Co-operative Marketing Society).
6.	Dindigul (5)	Palani, Gopalpatti, Kavunji, Vedasanthur, Palani (Co-operative Marketing Society).
7.	Theni (5)	Theni, Chinnamanur, Cumbum – I, Cumbum – II, Periyakulam.
8.	Ramanathapuram (3)	Paramakudi, Mudhukulathur, Kamuthi (Co-operative Marketing Society).
9.	Thoothukudi (3)	Srivaikundam, Pudur, Vilathikulam
10.	Tirunelveli (2)	Ramayanpatti, Valliyoor
11.	Tenkasi(3)	Sankarankovil, Kadayanallur, Pavorchatram.

Table 5.5 Details of Primary Processing Centres (Phase-II) - 20 Nos.

S. No.	Districts	Primary processing Centres
1.	Salem (5)	Uthamasolapuram, Thalaivasal, Valapadi, Edappadi, Kolathur.
2.	Erode (2)	Alukkuli, Anthiyur

S. No.	Districts	Primary processing Centres
3.	Thiruvallur (2)	Thiruvallur, Arani
4.	Chengalpet (1)	Madhuranthagam
5.	Kancheepuram (1)	Sunguvarchatram
6.	Tiruvannamalai (2)	Padavedu, Kuppanatham
7.	Cuddalore (2)	Panruti, Kurinjipadi
8.	Villupuram (2)	Olakkur, Vanur
9.	Karur (3)	Aravakurichi (Kodaiyur), Mettu Mahadanapuram, Velayuthampalayam

Special Infrastructure Facilities

- i) **APEDA-certified Pack house:** Pack houses are functioning at five locations viz., Pochampalli, Hosur, Sulur, Chinnamanur and M. Puthur.
- ii) **Gamma Irradiation Unit:** It is functioning at the Pochampalli Primary Processing Centre. Under a service-fee-based model, 320 metric tones of products, including chilli, turmeric powder, papad, coriander, fenugreek, mustard, finger millet flour, moringa leaf powder, lactose powder, tea bags, groundnuts, cashews, and jaggery, have been processed and supplied.

iii)**Individually Quick Freezing (IQF) Unit:** It is functioning at the Pochampalli Primary Processing Centre. A total of 1,784 metric tones of produce, including small onions, Bellary onions, tomatoes, carrots, coconut, radish, drumstick, mangoes, and lemons, have been processed through the IQF unit and supplied for domestic consumption.

At the APEDA-certified pack house at Pochampalli, 115 metric tones of mangoes, vegetables, and spices have been processed, of which 90 metric tonnes have been exported to the United Arab Emirates, Germany, France, Ireland, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.

Further, to strengthen special infrastructure for agricultural exports, works are being undertaken at the Primary Processing Centres at Sunguvarchatram, Sular, Chinnamanur, M.Puthur, and Hosur, at an estimated cost of Rs.5.20 crore.

Works Underway for Upgradation of Primary Processing Centres during 2026–27

1. In Pochampalli, Krishnagiri district, steps are being taken to establish additional facilities,

including a hot-water treatment plant, grading unit, and cold storage facility, with a financial allocation of Rs. 1.94 crore. Farmers, processors, and exporters will be able to utilize these facilities to export mangoes, pomegranates, and vegetables to China, South Korea, Japan, and the European Union countries.

2. An allocation of Rs.3 crore has been made to improve the efficiency of four existing Primary Processing Centres and two Special Market Complexes, by undertaking necessary civil works and installing machineries to upgrade them into secondary and tertiary processing centres to enhance value addition. The details are as follows:

S. No	Infrastructure	Location
1	Primary Processing Centre - Banana	M.Puthur, Tiruchirappalli
2	Primary Processing Centre – Onion	P.K.Agaram, Tiruchirappalli
3	Primary Processing Centre – Tamarind	Gopalpatti, Dindigul
4	Primary Processing Centre – Moringa	Vedasandur, Dindigul

S. No	Infrastructure	Location
5	Specialized Market Complex- Onion	Chettikulam, Perambalur
6	Specialized Market Complex- Coconut	Rajendrapuram, Pudukkottai

5.2.3.1 Cold Storages

Cold storage facilities play a crucial role in reducing post-harvest losses, preserving the quality of food products, and promoting agricultural exports. Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business have created 279 cold storage facilities with a total capacity of 41,705 MT. These facilities are being utilized by farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, and exporters.

Table: 5.6 Details of cold storages available in the State and their capacity.

Capacity range (MT)	Nos	Total Capacity (MT)
5000	3	15,000
1001-2000	11	15,000

201-1000	15	6,150
101-200	17	1,855
51- 100	12	650
10— 50	113	2,571
<10	108	479
Total	279	41,705

Further, based on the request of farmers, cold storage facilities with a total capacity of 1,700 MT are being established at six locations at a cost of Rs.13.31 crore for the storage of fruits and vegetables.

1. Erode District – Chithode
2. Tirunelveli District – Thisayanvilai
3. Sivagangai District – Ilayangudi
4. Tiruvannamalai District – Naidumangalam
5. Ramanathapuram District – Kamuthi
6. Pudukkottai District – Keeramangalam

In addition, during the current year, cold storage facilities with a capacity of 500 MT each will be established under the Public–Private Partnership (PPP)

model in Kancheepuram, Tiruchirappalli, and Thoothukudi districts, which are located close to seaports and airport terminals. This will help to enhance the export opportunities for agricultural produce.

5.2.3.2. Value Addition Centres for Agricultural Commodities

With the objective of adding value to agricultural produce and marketing, increasing farmers' income and enhancing export opportunities, Value Addition Centres have been established and are being utilized by farmers, entrepreneurs, and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs).

Table: 5.7 Details of Value Addition Centres

S.No	Value Addition Centres	Location/ District
1	Coconut	Shenbagaramanpudur/ Kanniyakumari
2	Coconut	Pattukottai/ Thanjavur
3	Maize Market Promotion Centre	Thozhudur/Cuddalore
4	Minor Millet Processing Centre	Kothagiri/ Nilgiris
5	Banana Auction Centre	Kalakkad/ Tirunelveli
6	Modern Packing unit & Market Promotion Centre for Edible Oils	Thellanandal/ Tiruvannamalai
7	Coffee Huller cum Grader and Pepper Grader and Pulverizer unit	Ayyankolli, Nilgiris
8	Pepper Processing Unit	Kollimalai/ Namakkal
9	Turmeric Polishing machineries & Boilers	Erode, Dharmapuri & Kallakurichi

Further, works are under progress for establishing Facilitation Centre for trading Onion in Perambalur district at a cost of Rs.3.65 crore, Jackfruit Value Addition Centre in Cuddalore

district at a cost of Rs.16.13 crore and Integrated Tamarind Marketing Centre in Dharmapuri district at a cost of Rs. 9.25 crore.

5.2.3.3.Encouraging agripreneurs in agri Processing and Value Addition

To encourage entrepreneurs who come forward to establish modern value-addition centres for agricultural and horticultural crops, the scheme to establish 100 Value Addition Centres, with a financial allocation of Rs.50 crore, will continue to be implemented during the current year.

5.2.3.4.Establishment of Millet Processing Centres under the Tamil Nadu Millet Mission

In Tamil Nadu, it is proposed to establish 25 millet processing centres with the objective of increasing the consumption of millets among the people, adding value to millets, and thereby enhancing the income of farmers.

5.2.4. Providing Financial Assistance under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme

Under the Union Government's Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) Scheme, credit assistance is being provided to farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), agricultural entrepreneurs, and Primary Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies (PACS) for creating agricultural infrastructure. For loans of up to Rs.2 crore, interest subvention at 3 percent per annum and credit guarantee are provided for a period of seven years. The loan component of other capital subsidy schemes can also be converged with this scheme to avail the benefits.

5.2.5. AGMARK Grading Scheme

The quality and purity of agricultural and food products are ensured through appropriate testing, following which the AGMARK certification is issued by the Government. Since samples are collected and tested at the place of production

itself, adulteration is prevented and safe food products are made available to consumers. This also creates opportunities for farmers to obtain better market prices for their produce.

The Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, Tamil Nadu, in collaboration with the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI), Government of India, is implementing the AGMARK Grading Scheme through 30 State AGMARK Quality Control Laboratories and one principal Laboratory at the State headquarters. The scheme has statutory recognition under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937 (amended in 1986) and provides quality specifications for 248 agricultural commodities.

In Tamil Nadu, grading is currently carried out for 26 agricultural commodities, including ghee, edible oils, cereals, pulses, honey, whole and ground spices, butter, tamarind, health-mix flour, asafoetida, and others.

Under the AGMARK Scheme, 1,130 packers have obtained AGMARK licences. With the objective of helping to increase the marketability of products manufactured by Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), 250 organisations have been registered under the AGMARK scheme.

During the current year, it is proposed to grade 42.95 lakh quintals of food products, with a financial allocation of Rs.1.04 crore.

Table 5.8 District wise location of Agmark laboratories

S.No.	District	Location of the 31 Laboratories
1	Chennai	Principal Laboratory
2	Kanchipuram (2) (Present at Chennai)	Chennai (North), Chennai (South)
3	Vellore	Vellore
4	Cuddalore	Panruti
5	Thanjavur	Thanjavur
6	Tiruchirappalli (2)	Tiruchirappalli I, Tiruchirappalli II
7	Karur	Karur
8	Madurai (2)	Madurai (North), Madurai (South)

S.No.	District	Location of the 31 Laboratories
9	Theni	Theni
10	Dindigul	Dindigul
11	Virudhunagar	Virudhunagar
12	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli
13	Tenkasi	Tenkasi
14	Thoothukudi	Thoothukudi
15	Kanniyakumari (2)	Nagercoil, Marthandam
16	Salem	Salem
17	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri
18	Coimbatore	Coimbatore
19	Erode (4)	Perundurai, Erode I, Erode II, Chithode
20	Tiruppur (5)	Tiruppur, Palladam, Kangeyam I, Kangeyam II, Vellakoil

5.2.6 Department Staff Details

A total of 1,329 posts have been sanctioned in the Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri-Business, while 1,674 posts have been sanctioned in the Market Committees.

Table: 5.9- Department Staff details

S. No	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Post
1	Director	1
2	Additional Director of Agriculture	1
3	Joint Director of Agriculture	2
4	Deputy Director of Agriculture (AB)	40
5	Assistant Director of Agriculture	5
6	Agricultural Officer	170
7	Deputy Agricultural Officer	47
8	Assistant Agricultural Officer	627
9	Administrative Officer	1
10	Assistant Accounts Officer	1
11	Other non-technical staff	434
	Total	1,329

Table: 5.10- Market Committee Staff details

S. No	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Post
1	Senior Secretary / Deputy Director of Agriculture	4
2	Secretary	22
3	Superintendent / Inspector of licensed premises(ILP) / Manager	202

S. No	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Post
4	Supervisor	346
5	Engineering Supervisor	9
6	Cine operator	1
7	Junior Assistant	296
8	Typist / Steno	21
9	Propaganda Inspector	3
10	Overseer	2
11	Driver	28
12	Maistry	94
13	Record Clerk	42
14	Office Assistant	345
15	Watchman	225
16	Gardener	4
17	Sweeper	10
18	Lab helper	20
	Total	1,674

5.3. TAMIL NADU STATE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD (TNSAMB)

Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board was established in 1970 with the objective to regulate the activities of Market Committees. Later, it was amended and reconstituted as a

Statutory Board in accordance with the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1987.

5.3.1.Source of Income

Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board receives 15% of the revenue collected as license fee and market fee by the Market Committees as its contribution for Market Development activities as per the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1987.

5.3.2. Activities of TNSAMB

1. Project Implementation Agency for Mega Food Parks and Agro-Processing Clusters
2. Promotion of Agricultural Exports
3. State-level Agency for implementing the Price Support Scheme
4. Operation and Management of the International Flower Auction Centre

5. Training for Farmers and Officials
6. Management of Board Funds and Market Development Funds
7. Creation and Maintenance of Market Infrastructure Facilities through the Engineering Wing

5.3.2.1. Establishment of Food Parks

To promote food processing in Tamil Nadu and to provide common infrastructure facilities for aspiring agricultural entrepreneurs to establish food processing industries, Food Parks and Agro-Processing Clusters have been established.

i) Mega Food Park

A Mega Food Park has been established at the SIPCOT Industrial Estate in Gangaikondan, Tirunelveli district, over an area of 50 acres, at an estimated project cost of Rs. 77.02 crore.

Basic and Core infrastructure facilities, including storage godowns, cold storage, ripening chamber, effluent treatment plant, parking bay,

road facility and a farmers service centre have been established over 22 acres. The remaining 28 acres of plots are being leased out to entrepreneurs for establishing food processing industries.

ii) Agro-Processing Clusters

Agro-Processing Clusters have been established at seven locations—Cuddalore, Theni, Dindigul, Krishnagiri, Tiruvannamalai, Salem, and Madurai. Basic and Core infrastructure facilities including storage godowns, cold storage facilities, ripening chambers, grading and sorting halls, and pack house are created. Steps are being taken for leasing out the plots to entrepreneurs for establishing food processing industries.

5.3.2.2.Agricultural Export Promotion Initiatives

The Government of Tamil Nadu is undertaking various initiatives to promote the export of agricultural and allied products. As part

of these efforts, steps are being taken to obtain Geographical Indication (GI) tags and Authorized User Registration for eligible agricultural and allied products.

5.3.2.2.1. Obtaining Geographical Indication (GI) Tags

To enhance the market demand and create export opportunities for unique agricultural products possessing distinctive characteristics, quality, and traditional significance associated with a particular geographical region, applications have been submitted for Geographical Indication (GI) tags for 41 agricultural products in Tamil Nadu. So far, Geographical Indication (GI) registration has been obtained for 9 agricultural products namely Sholavandhan Betel Leaf, Panruti Cashew, Panruti Jackfruit, Virudhunagar Samba Vathal, Puliyanakudi Acid Lime, Chettikulam Small Onion, Ramanathapuram Chithiraikar Rice, Thooyamalli Rice and Kavundapadi Nattu sakkarai.

**Table: 5.11.Details of the products filed
for GI**

S.No	District	Agricultural products
1	Salem	Salem Kannadi Kathiri
2	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri Arasampatti Coconut
3	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri Panneer rose
4	Thanjavur	Thanjavur Peravurani Coconut
5	Tiruppur	Mulanur Kuttai Moringa
6	Thoothukudi	Thoothukudi Vilathikulam Chillies
7	Virudhunagar	Sathur Cucumber
8	Cuddalore	Cuddalore Kotimulai brinjal
9	Thanjavur	Thanjavur Veeramangudi Jaggery (Achuvellam)
10	Madurai	Madurai Sengarumbu
11	Sivagangai	Sivagangai Karuppukavuni rice
12	Kanniyakumari	Kanniyakumari Andarkulam Katharikkai
13	Virudhunagar	Virudhunagar Athalaikai
14	Villupuram	Tindivanam Panipayaru

S.No	District	Agricultural products
15	Karur	Karur Sengal Thuvarai
16	Thiruvannamalai	Jawathu Malai Samai
17	Erode	Sathayamangalam Red banana
18	Namakkal	Kolli Hills Pepper
19	Ranipettai	Meenambur Seeraga Samba
20	Dindigul	Ayyampalayam Nettai thennai
21	Karur, Salem	Sencholam
22	Cuddalore	Bhuvanagiri Mithi paharkai
23	Krishnagiri	Urigampuli
24	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli senna Leaf
25	Theni	Odaipatti Seedless grapes
26	Karur, Dindigul, Tiruppur	Gloriosa superba (Senkanthal seed)
27	Cuddalore	Nallur Varagu
28	Nagapattinam	Vedaranyam Mullai
29	Dindigul	Natham Puli
30	Dindigul	Aayakudi koyya
31	Dindigul	Kappalpatti Karumbu Murungai
32	Coimbatore	Pollachi Nutmeg and mace

With the objective of enhancing the marketing of Geographical Indication (GI)-tagged products, appropriate steps are being taken to obtain Authorized User Registration for farmers from the notified geographical areas.

So far, the Department has facilitated the submission of applications to the Geographical Indications Registry (GI Registry) for 1090 farmers to obtain Authorized User Registration. This will enable them to market their produce with the registered GI tag and gain access to improved market opportunities.

5.3.2.3. Price Support Scheme

With the objective of protecting farmers from price declines during the harvest season, the “Price Support Scheme” is being implemented for agricultural commodities such as pulses and copra.

Under this scheme, when the market price of commodities such as pulses (blackgram, greengram, and redgram) and copra falls below the Minimum Support Price (MSP), procurement is undertaken at the MSP for produce meeting the Fair Average Quality (FAQ) standards. The Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board (TNSAMB) functions as the State-level agency, while the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF) function as the Central procurement agencies. Regulated Markets serve as the Primary Procurement Centres.

In 2026, 974.80 metric tonnes of greengram worth Rs.8.55 crore were procured from 1,098 farmers.

5.3.2.4. International Flower Auction Centre

An International Flower Auction Centre has been established at Moranapalli in Krishnagiri District. The centre is equipped with facilities including a cold storage facility, auction hall, grading and sorting facilities, handling, packing facilities, training hall, and shops. Cut flowers such as roses, chrysanthemums, carnations and gerberas, along with various types of cut foliages, are traded at the centre. During the current year, so far, 83,870 stems have been traded, with a total value of Rs.9.30 lakh. All measures will be taken to enhance the operational efficiency of this center.

5.3.2.5. Capacity-Building Training

At the State-Level Training Centre in Salem District, various capacity-building training programmes are being provided to officers and staff of the Department of Agricultural Marketing

and Agri-Business on topics including marketing of agricultural commodities, e-commerce, post-harvest management, and quality control through AGMARK laboratories.

Training programmes are also being provided to farmers on food processing, value addition, and agricultural exports.

During 2026-27, 39 training programmes are planned to be conducted with an allocation of Rs.25.22 lakh, and the programmes are being implemented accordingly.

5.3.2.6.Construction / Maintenance Works

Through the Engineering Wing of the Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board, construction works are being undertaken to create and strengthen infrastructure facilities such as renovation of Uzhavar Sandhais, establishment of new Regulated Markets, construction of storage godowns and cold storage facilities, modernization

of laboratories, and establishment of Agri-Business Centres. These works will continue to be implemented during 2026–27.

5.3.2.7.Promotion of Marketing of Organic Agricultural Products

With the objective of expanding the market and export opportunities for organic agricultural products and thereby enhancing farmers' income, initiatives such as buyer seller meet, participation in National and International agricultural exhibitions, and market promotion activities will be undertaken. During the current year, a dedicated cell comprising experts will be established to undertake marketing activities for organic agricultural produce such as traditional rice, chilli, pepper and turmeric. These activities will be implemented during 2026–27 with an allocation of Rs.3 crore.

ANNEXURE-I

Infrastructures created in Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business

(Unit in Nos)

S.No	District	No. of Regulated Markets	Godowns	Total Capacity of Godowns (MT)	Transaction Shed	Traders Shop	Drying Yard	Cold Storages (No)	Cold Storages Capacity(MT)	Specialised Market Complex
1	Kancheepuram	3	9	13800	2	--	6	3	15	--
2	Chengalpattu	4	2	2600	1	--	2	1	5	--
3	Tiruvallur	8	9	18000	5	--	7	3	7005	--
4	Cuddalore	11	20	31600	29	88	13	11	1602	--
5	Villupuram	11	22	53100	22	26	12	4	50	--
6	Kallakuruchi	8	20	20300	12	13	6	3	55	--
7	Vellore	3	7	5800	3	27	3	5	39	--
8	Ranipet	3	8	7400	14	16	6	1	5	--
9	Thiruppathur	6	6	6850	3	4	3	2	30	--
10	Tiruvannamalai	18	40	49000	52	54	27	11	195	--
11	Dharmapuri	7	6	6400	5	14	9	10	6320	1
12	Krishnagiri	9	7	7800	6	16	11	25	1567	2
13	Salem	14	19	17200	20	40	26	16	1275	1
14	Namakkal	7	12	10600	6	0	8	6	84	1
15	Erode	18	56	74050	59	22	54	19	3010	3
16	Tiruppur	15	60	84725	32	16	60	8	162	2
17	Coimbatore	10	34	30405	18	43	30	23	6304	3
18	Nilgiris	4	0	0	0	0	0	10	597	2
19	Perambalur	2	2	2500	1	0	1	4	85	1
20	Ariyalur	4	5	5500	14	0	5	1	25	--
21	Tiruchirappalli	10	17	18375	11	5	11	15	3312	4

S.No	District	No. of Regulated Markets	Godowns	Total Capacity of Godowns (MT)	Transaction Shed	Traders Shop	Drying Yard	Cold Storages (No)	Cold Storages Capacity(MT)	Specilaised Market Complex
22	Karur	4	2	1500	4	0	1	1	25	--
23	Thanjavur	13	28	41250	22	47	15	8	155	2
24	Thiruvavar	8	24	27600	7	0	15	3	15	--
25	Nagapattinam	4	5	6000	3	0	0	-	-	--
26	Mayiladuthurai	4	11	12520	7	0	5	-	-	--
27	Pudukottai	10	7	5100	4	10	7	5	140	1
28	Madurai	6	15	16800	8	41	8	5	42	2
29	Dindigul	8	19	24400	6	100	16	14	2135	1
30	Theni	7	13	13500	5	0	10	12	722	2
31	Virudhunagar	7	16	17400	7	54	6	11	190	--
32	Sivagangai	7	17	16850	3	0	8	2	30	--
33	Ramanathapuram	6	13	17100	2	126	10	7	2160	1
34	Tirunelveli	4	10	12600	5	15	8	9	310	1
35	Tenkasi	7	13	22000	4	50	11	7	1755	1
36	Thoothukudi	9	23	24500	8	15	13	12	2257	1
37	Kanniyakumari	6	9	7500	5	83	5	2	27	2
	Total	285	586	7,32,625	415	925	438	279	41,705	34

6. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) is a leading institution in India in developing highly proficient students in agricultural education, advancing impactful research and providing extension services to the farmers. By developing scientific technologies and disseminating them directly to the farmers, the university not only plays a vital role in improving the livelihood of farmers by promoting scientific agricultural practices across the state, but also make a significant contribution to the agricultural development in Tamil Nadu.

6.1. Agricultural Education

TNAU offers 15 Undergraduate, 34 Postgraduate, and 29 Doctoral degree programs in agriculture and allied sectors through its 18 constituent colleges and 28 affiliated colleges. It offers 4 diploma programs in

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Agricultural Engineering through four constituent institutes. Over 2,000 farmers and public are pursuing certificate and diploma courses through the Directorate of Open and Distance Learning. In the current year, 5 new online certificate programs have been introduced.

6.1.1. Nammalvar Diploma College for Organic Agriculture at Sakkottai, Thanjavur District

To satiate the Government's vision of promoting organic farming, it is imperative to create human resources and technologies tailored for organic agriculture. Considering this, a new "Organic Agriculture Diploma College" in the name of Natural farming scientist 'Nammalvar' will be established at Sakkottai near Kumbakonam of Thanjavur district under the Hon'ble Chief Minister's visionary plan.

6.1.2. Infrastructure Development in Agricultural and Horticultural Colleges

Earnest efforts are being taken to create necessary infrastructure for the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Keezhvelur, Nagapattinam District using state funds and at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Manavasi, Karur District with financial assistance from NABARD. Further, steps have been taken to expedite the construction works at the Horticultural College and Research Institute, Paiyur, Krishnagiri District with funds provided by NABARD.

6.1.3. Student Welfare

6.1.3.1. Expansion of Student Hostel Facilities

Every year, the student enrollment at TNAU increases approximately by 10%. In the total admission strength, more than 70 % are female

students. To encourage rural male and female students to pursue their agricultural education without any hassles, the hostel facilities at the TNAU Coimbatore campus will be expanded at an estimated cost of Rs. 10 Crore.

6.1.3.2. Provision of New Buses for Student Field Visits

In the Coimbatore campus of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, more than 3,000 students are currently pursuing Agricultural education. As part of their curriculum, students visit agricultural farmlands, cooperative banks / societies, agricultural markets, research institutions and various agro-climatic zones across Tamil Nadu. To ensure a safe and hassle free field and visits by the students, the transportation facilities will be strengthened by providing six new buses, during the current year.

6.1.3.3. Student Welfare Centre

The Student Welfare Centre of TNAU functions with the objective to create employment opportunities for the students through campus interviews. The centre will invite agricultural enterprises, banks, seed companies, fertilizer companies, NGOs, financial service agencies, industrial guidance centres and smart management firms to conduct recruitment drive through campus interviews.

6.1.3.4. Student Educational Scholarships

“Puthumai penn Scheme” will be continued during the current year to encourage female students who had studied 6th to 12th standard in Government schools to pursue their higher education. Similarly, “Tamizh Pudhalvan Scheme” will be implemented during this year to encourage all boy students who had studied 6th to 12th standard in Tamil medium to pursue their higher

education. Necessary assistance will be provided to 3,916 eligible students who had been admitted in TNAU till 2026 to receive social welfare scholarship.

6.2. Agricultural Research

TNAU through its 18 constituent colleges and 42 research stations conducts research to resolve field specific problems faced by the farmers in various agro-ecological zones and converts the research findings into viable Agricultural technologies and ensures the state's food grain production and farmers' income. In the past 55 years, TNAU through research has released 965 new crop varieties, developed more than 1,500 crop management practices and 171 farm implements for the farmers of the state.

6.2.1. Agricultural Technology Research Centre at Ooty, The Nilgiris District

The existing Horticultural Research Station, Ooty in the Kurinji (hilly) region will be upgraded into a new Agricultural Technology Research Centre at a cost of Rs. 10 crore to cultivate high quality Tea, hill vegetables, aromatic crops and flowers to meet out the international market standards, promote chemical free Agricultural practices and create better market opportunities for the produce.

6.2.2. Technology Centres for Export Oriented Horticultural Crops

To directly connect the growers of export oriented crops such as mango, turmeric, and chili with international export markets, technology centers will be established with a budget outlay of Rs. 6 Crore. These centers will provide technical support, advanced training, and systematic guidance to the farmers. Accordingly, Mango

Technology Centre will be newly established at Paiyur, Krishnagiri District; Chilli Technology Centres in Ramanathapuram and at Kovilpatti of Thoothukudi District and Turmeric Technology Centre at Bhavanisagar, Erode District.

6.2.3. Manure Production from Poultry Waste for enhancing Soil Fertility

An extensive research will be conducted by the KVK, Sandhiyur, Salem district at an outlay of Rs.1 crore on technologies by drying, powdering and pelleting the poultry waste collected from the poultry farms in Namakkal, Salem, Karur and surrounding districts into nutrient rich fertilizer pellets to enhance soil fertility.

6.2.4. District Agriculture Contingency Plans (DACP)

Considering the ongoing El Niño-driven climate shifts, District Agriculture Contingency Plans (DACPs) have been updated for all

38 districts in collaboration with the line departments. To combat the impending changes due to sessional rainfall in Tamil Nadu and resultant impact on crops besides eventualities like drought, flood, heat waves and cyclone. Based on the soil, climate, water availability, and major crops of a district, recommendations have been given on a three-pronged strategy: *"Pre-disaster planning – Rapid action during disaster – Post-disaster agricultural recovery."*

6.2.5. Agro Climate Research Centre

The Agro Climate Research Centre provides daily, village-level medium-range weather forecasts for the next 6 days at one hour intervals. This village level forecast which is 70 to 80% accurate helps to have a tab on heavy unusual weather even such as rainfall, whirl wind, high temperature. In collaboration with the India Meteorological Department (IMD), weekly advisories are disseminated on Tuesdays and

Fridays through text and voice messages across 385 WhatsApp groups. About 6.15 lakh farmers have been registered in the TNAU's automated weather-based agro-advisory app and provided with farm-level advisories. These climate-based agricultural advisories will be effectively implemented to reach a large number of farmers.

6.2.6. Research Publications

In the last academic year, TNAU scientists and research scholars published 1,983 research papers in internationally recognized Scopus Indexed Journals, due to which TNAU stands first among the Central and State Agricultural Universities under research publication category.

6.2.7. Newly Released Crop Varieties

During 2026, **17 new varieties** spanning agricultural and horticultural crops were approved and released by the State Crop Variety Release Committee of Tamil Nadu.

Table 6.1: Crop Varieties Released in 2026

S. No.	Variety Name	Duration	Key Characteristics
1.	Rice ADT 61	135–140 days	• Extra-fine grain; 1,000-grain weight: 12.5 g • Superior cooking quality • Protein content: 10.5% • Non-lodging, low input requirement; ideal for organic cultivation
2.	Rice ADT 62	145 days	• Non-lodging and uniform maturity • Fully exerted panicle • Short-bold grain; 1,000-grain weight: 24.3 g • Ideal for Idli making
3.	Rice Improved CO 51 HT	105–110 days	• Suitable for direct-seeded rice (DSR) • Shows 98.8% tolerance/control efficiency against Imazethapyr herbicide • Excellent cooking qualities
4.	Maize Improved CO6 Pro-Vit	105–110 days	• Single-cross hybrid; suitable for irrigated conditions • Biofortified with Beta-Carotene (9.60 µg/g). (10 times higher than CO 6) • Ideal for cakes and bakery products
5.	Redgram CO 10	120–130 days	• Short duration variety • Photo-insensitive

S. No.	Variety Name	Duration	Key Characteristics
6.	Chickpea CO 5	80–85 days	• Desi type (brown seeds) - indigenous variety • Bold seeds (30-35 g/100 seeds)
7.	Horsegram Paiyur 3	110–115 days	• Indeterminate growth habit; retains greenness at maturity • Small, glossy light-brown seeds with a white hilum • High protein content: 26.2%
8.	Sesame VRI 7	85–90 days	• Brown-seeded sesame variety • High branching capability • Oil content: 49.4%
9.	Cotton VPT 3	150 days	• Long staple cotton (32.3mm) • High fiber strength (31.5/g/tex) • 60s count spinning capability • Suitable for modern spinning mills
10.	Sugarcane Cauvery	12 months	• High sugar and cane yield • High tillering capacity • Erect, thick, non-lodging canes • Moderately drought-tolerant
11.	Cumbu Napier Hybrid Grass CO 7	Perennial	• High dry matter yield (77.54t/ha/year) • Crude protein content: 12.50% • High leaf-to-stem ratio (From 0.48 to 0.52) • 7 harvests per year

S. No.	Variety Name	Duration	Key Characteristics
12.	Papaya CO 9	Year-round	• Dioecious variety (one seed per pit is sufficient) • No need to rogue out male plants • Suitable for papain production • Total Soluble Solids (TSS): 13-14°Brix
13.	Custard Apple APK 2	Perennial	• Yields 15-25 fruits during off-seasons • Medium-sized fruits (285 g and Sugar level: 23°Brix) • Drought tolerant • Ideal for processing into jam, jelly, milkshakes, and ice creams
14.	Banana Cauvery Poovan	12-13 months	• Quality banana free from episomal pararetrovirus DNA (PRV) • Tolerant to saline-alkaline soil
15.	Brinjal TRY 1	180 days	• Oval-shaped, purple fruits with white tip. • Average 35 fruits/plant; single fruit weight: 55-60g • Thin skin and quick-cooking; ideal for South Indian traditional cuisine
16.	Sweet Potato CO 6	135-150 days	• Long, smooth tubers • Pink skin with white flesh • Moderately sweet taste

S. No.	Variety Name	Duration	Key Characteristics
17.	Mullai Jasmine CO 3	Perennial	• Long flower inflorescence (42.28 cm) bearing high bud counts (331.98) • Long flower buds (3.11cm) and pedicels (2.04cm) • High shelf-life (buds remain unopened for 37.55 hrs at room temperature and 116.34 hrs under refrigeration)

Plans are underway to bring these newly released crop varieties, in gazette notification, multiply nuclear/breeder seeds and schemes will be implemented to integrate them into the seed supply chain at the earliest. Field trials will be conducted to popularize the new varieties among farmers till which efforts will be taken to ensure the availability of truthfully-labeled seeds to the farmers.

6.3. Agricultural Extension

Agricultural extension is to disseminate scientific techniques among farmers to increase

crop productivity and thereby enhance the farmers' income. The 15 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of TNAU serve as a bridge to transfer these technologies to farmers through front-line demonstrations, on-farm testing, and outreach programs. The Directorate of Extension Education conducts training programs for extension officers, farmers and line department officials.

6.3.1. TNAU TV YouTube : Educational Media Centre

The TNAU TV YouTube Channel serves as an effective visual medium to deliver farm technologies in a simple, rapid and visually appealing manner to the farming community. A total of 712 video programs have been uploaded for the benefit of farmers and public and approximately 48 lakh individuals have watched these videos.

6.3.2. Agricultural Technology Portal

TNAU's Agri Tech Portal (agritech.tnau.ac.in) encompasses 12 lakh pages of Agricultural technologies both in Tamil and English. The information available on the portal is currently being updated with Artificial Intelligence (AI).

6.3.3. Seed Production

The Foundation, certified, and truthfully-labeled seeds are produced by TNAU and distributed to farmers, seed producers, and state seed farms. During 2026 - 2027, targets have been set to produce and distribute 904.90 tonnes of foundation seeds, 227.60 tonnes of certified seeds, 1,553.90 tonnes of truthfully labelled seeds and 19.19 lakh seedlings.

6.3.4. Agribusiness Development

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, through six agribusiness incubators at its Agribusiness development Center, provides various services to farmers, entrepreneurs, and students. Schemes such as commercialization of technologies / hybrid varieties / machinery, business advisory services, venture capital schemes, student entrepreneurship programs, and the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0 are implemented by the Directorate of Agribusiness Development. Further, the Directorate creates agribusiness consortia and entry level entrepreneurs and provides business consultancy services.

6.3.5. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

TNAU has successfully secured **80 patents** and filed applications to secure **115 patents**.

6.4. Ranking and Awards

1. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has secured 2nd rank among State Agricultural Universities, 6th rank in Agriculture and Allied Sectors, 88th rank in the Overall category, 73rd rank in the Universities category and 42nd rank among State Public Universities in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) rankings of the Ministry of Education, Government of India.
2. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has been placed by position in the 201–250 band under the Agriculture and Forestry subject category of the QS World University Rankings, 2026.
3. The Agri Business Incubation Centre, functioning at the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai, was conferred the “Best Environmental Agri-Business Incubation Centre Award of Tamil Nadu” by

the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu during the World Environment Day event held on 07.06.2025.

4. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Aruppukottai, received the NABARD Award for 2025-2026 in recognition of its significant contribution in implementing special initiatives related to the Geographical Indication (GI) tagged "Virudhunagar Samba Chilli."
5. The Department of Food Processing Engineering, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, received "Award for Post-Harvest Engineering and Technologies" from the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) for the financial year 2025-2026.
6. In recognition of outstanding contribution to physiological research in rice during 2025, the Indian Institute of Rice Research conferred the "Best Rice

Physiological Centre Award” to Coimbatore Centre on 20.04.2026.

6.4.1. Staff Details

Table 6.2: University Staff Breakdown

S. No.	Staff Category	Current Strength
A. Professors - Teaching		
1.	Professors	403
2.	Associate Professors	293
3.	Assistant Professors	264
	Total (A)	960*
B. Administrative / Support Staff		
1.	Other Supporting Staff	1,150
	Total (B)	1,150
	Grand Total (A + B)	2,110

** Includes 110 faculty members deputed on foreign service from Annamalai University.*

7. DEPARTMENT OF SEED CERTIFICATION AND ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

"Vennel vithin araimisai unangum"

(Akananuru 211)

"வெண்ணெல் வித்தின் அறைமிசை உணங்கும்"

(அகநானூறு 211)

These lines depict an early practice of seed preservation, where farmers carefully dried their paddy seeds on clean surfaces to remove moisture before storing them for the next sowing season. This shows the importance of quality seed in agriculture.

Quality seed plays a vital role in enhancing agricultural productivity and improving farmers' livelihoods. The use of high-quality certified seeds with assured genetic purity, germination capacity and physical purity is essential for achieving higher crop yields, increasing farm income and promoting sustainable agricultural development.

The functioning of the Department is guided by three major pillars—**Assurance, Availability and Affordability**.

The Department implements various programmes in Seed Certification, Seed Quality Control, Seed Testing and Organic Certification to ensure the timely supply of quality seeds and organic produce. Through Seed inspection, testing, certification and regulatory measures, it ensures the quality, purity and reliability of seeds and organic produce while supporting farmers and stakeholders with dependable certification services.

7.1. Seed Certification

The Seed Certification wing operates within the framework of The Seeds Act, 1966, The Seeds Rules, 1968 and Seeds (Control) Order, 1983. It undertakes the certification of notified crop varieties in strict conformity with the Indian Minimum Seed Certification Standards (IMSCS).

Seed farms established by Government agencies and private seed producers undergo a series of systematic certification activities, including verification of seed source, field inspections, seed processing operations, seed quality testing and affixing certification tags to seed lots, thereby ensuring the supply of quality certified seeds to the farming community.

Breeder seed plots established in Agricultural Research Stations are inspected by the Breeder Seed monitoring Team comprising an Assistant Director of Seed Certification as one of the members to ensure compliance with the prescribed field standards and maintenance of Genetic Purity.

Every year, on an average, seed farms covering 68,000 hectares are registered, and 1,25,000 metric tonnes of quality seeds are certified. During 2026–2027, it is targeted to

register 70,000 hectares of seed farm area and to certify 1,30,000 metric tonnes of quality seeds.

7.1.1 Activities:

The following measures are proposed to strengthen the seed certification system:

- Introduction of QR code enabled certification tags at an outlay of Rs.1.00 crore during 2026-27, by enabling farmers to readily verify the Seed source, authenticity, certification status, thereby enhancing transparency, accountability and trust. This measure will also ensure complete seed traceability from the point of production to the point of sale.
- Establishment of a fully integrated certification system through the Government of India's SATHI (Seed Authentication Traceability and Holistic Inventory) portal, providing end-to-end

digital traceability covering seed source, production, field inspection, processing, testing, certification, tagging and distribution so that every certified seed lot remains traceable throughout the seed chain.

- As the present level of seed certification in vegetable crops is limited, it is proposed to increase the area covered using certified vegetable seeds by stocking sufficient breeder seeds, creating awareness among farmers and by focusing on the varieties released by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and other research Institutes and notified for cultivation in Tamil Nadu.
- Promotion of systematic multiplication and maintenance of traditional varieties of paddy, pulses, millets and vegetables, to preserve their genetic purity and unique characteristics while ensuring availability of

quality seed for future generations and climate-resilient agriculture.

- Promotion and certification of new, high-yielding, well-performing and farmer-preferred varieties through seed multiplication, along with enhanced awareness among farmers regarding their advantages, performance and suitability.

7.2. Seed Quality Control:

The Seed Inspection wing is responsible for ensuring the quality of seeds marketed by Government agencies and Private seed sellers, thereby safeguarding the interests of farmers. The wing enforces various seed related legislations including the Seeds Act, 1966, Seeds Rules, 1968, Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to regulate seed quality standards across the State.

Under the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983, the Department has issued 17,351 Seed Selling Point Licences state wide which are periodically inspected by Seed Inspectors at least once in every three months. Official seed samples are drawn from seed lots available for sale and tested in notified Seed Testing Laboratories. Based on the reports received from Seed Testing Laboratories, departmental and legal actions are initiated against sub-standard seed lots.

Every year, on an average, 80,000 inspections are carried out at Seed Selling Points, from which 50,000 official seed samples and 20,000 service seed samples are drawn and tested for seed quality. During 2026–2027, it is proposed to conduct 81,000 inspections at Seed Selling Points and to draw 76,500 seed samples, comprising 50,000 official samples and 26,500 service samples, for quality analysis.

7.2.1. Activities:

Through systematic inspection and enforcement, the Department ensures the availability of quality seeds to farmers. In addition to that, the following measures are proposed:

- Full digitalisation of the seed-selling licensing process with integration of an online payment gateway, so as to enhance efficiency and transparency.
- Implementation of the enrolment process to the State-owned VITHAI (Variety Identification Trial and Holistic Agricultural Interface) Portal, enabling faster and more effective online registration and monitoring of private seed varieties and hybrids.
- Introduction of seed movement (Form D) on the SPECS (Seed Production Enforcement and Certification System) portal, to enable

effective monitoring of seed movement by private seed companies.

- Effective monitoring of horticultural nursery units, to ensure the supply of quality planting materials of vegetable and fruit crops to the farming community.

7.3. Seed Testing:

The Department of Seed Certification and Organic Certification administers 34 notified Seed Testing Laboratories functioning across the State. These laboratories play a vital role in ensuring seed quality standards by analysing certified seed samples received from the Seed Certification wing, official seed samples received from the Seed Quality Control wing and service seed samples submitted by farmers, seed dealers and seed producers.

All seed samples are tested in accordance with the Indian Minimum Seed Certification

Standards (IMSCS) to ensure supply of quality seeds for cultivation.

On an average, annually 1,12,000 seed samples are tested at seed testing laboratories. In 2026–27, it is proposed to test 1,20,000 seed samples.

7.3.1. Activities:

- Already, six seed testing laboratories in Kancheepuram, Dharmapuri, Tiruchirappall, Tirunelveli, Thanjavur, and Madurai have obtained accreditation from the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL). In 2026–27, NABL accreditation will be obtained for eight seed testing laboratories located in Nagapattinam, Theni, Namakkal, Tiruvallur, Erode, Ramanathapuram, Dindigul, and Krishnagiri, at an estimated cost of Rs.40 lakh. Steps will be taken to obtain NABL

accreditation for the remaining 15 seed testing laboratories in the coming years.

- The existing system of paying testing fees for service seed samples will be replaced with an online payment system.

7.3.2 International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) Accredited Seed Testing Laboratory, Coimbatore.

The Seed Testing Laboratory at Coimbatore became a member of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) in 2006 and obtained ISTA accreditation in the year 2014 with International Accreditation Number INML1600.

The laboratory is accredited for seed sampling, purity analysis, other seed determination, germination and moisture analysis. It is authorised to test export seed samples of cereals, pulses and vegetable crops.

The Coimbatore Seed Testing Laboratory is also authorised to issue Orange International Seed Lot Certificates and Blue International Seed Sample Certificates. So far, the laboratory has issued 115 International seed testing certificates to seed exporters in Tamil Nadu.

7.3.3 State DNA Finger Printing Laboratory

The State DNA Finger Printing Laboratory at Coimbatore facilitates rapid detection and confirmation of genetic purity in seed lots. While conventional Grow out Test requires two to three months for completion, DNA Finger Printing technology enables confirmation of genetic purity within three to five days, thereby facilitating timely distribution of quality seeds to farmers.

This laboratory was notified as the “State DNA Finger Printing Laboratory” by the Government of Tamil Nadu in 2014. The laboratory has the capacity to verify the genetic purity of 27 notified paddy varieties cultivated in

the State. On an average, 250 paddy seed samples are analysed annually. In 2026–2027, it is proposed to analyse 300 paddy seed samples.

Upgradation of the analysing capacity through the introduction of SNP (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) marker technology is under progress and upon completion of this project, the laboratory will be able to undertake highly accurate genetic purity analysis in major crops such as paddy, maize, cotton and vegetables.

7.3.4 Grow Out Test Farm

The Grow Out Test is a method used for evaluating the genetic purity of crop varieties. Seed samples collected by the Seed Certification and Seed Law Enforcement wings are periodically tested in the Grow Out Test Farm located at Kannampalayam, Coimbatore.

Grow Out Test plots are monitored throughout the crop growth period based on the

morphological characteristics of the plants to evaluate their genetic purity. On an average, 3,000 seed samples are subjected to genetic purity testing every year. In 2026–27, it is proposed to test 3,500 seed samples for genetic purity.

7.3.5 Referral Seed Testing Laboratory

The Referral Seed Testing Laboratory at Coimbatore oversees and ensures the accuracy and consistency of seed analysis carried out by the 30 notified Seed Testing Laboratories.

On an average, about 2,800 referral samples from notified Seed Testing Laboratories are analysed annually in the Referral Laboratory.

7.3.6 Bt Seed Testing Laboratory

Bt Cotton Testing Laboratory at Coimbatore is in operation to monitor and verify the quantification of Bt toxin in cotton seeds. Official samples of cotton seeds from across the State are

submitted to this laboratory for Bt toxin quantification. Every year, an average of 2,000 cotton seed samples are tested in the laboratory.

7.4. Organic Certification

7.4.1 Scope and Functions

The Tamil Nadu Organic Certification Department was established by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the year 2007 as a certification body for organic farming systems.

The Department is accredited by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for certification under the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP). This Department is authorised to offer certification for organic crop production, processing and trading activities intended for export under this scheme and issues Scope Certificates to Organic farmers, Processors

and traders. The certification standards followed by the Department are equivalent to the standards prescribed by the European Union and the Swiss Organic Farming Ordinance. The NPOP certification system facilitates marketing of organic produce both within India and abroad.

Organic farming standards ensure avoidance of synthetic inputs like chemical fertilisers, pesticides, weedicides and genetically modified seeds.

Further, the Department has also been authorised by the National Centre for Organic and Natural Farming under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for implementation of the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)-India Organic and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)-Natural Farming. The PGS system functions on the principles of participation, transparency, shared vision, trust and horizontality. Through these certification systems, organic farmers are

enabled to market their produce in domestic markets.

7.4.2 Status of Organic Certification

A total of 35,369 farmers have been registered across the state through the Tamil Nadu Organic Certification Department. This includes 1,291 individual farmers, 6 processors, 4 wild produce collection groups comprising 387 tribal farmers and 1,298 farmer groups comprising 33,685 farmers.

Organic produce to the tune of 63.22 metric tonnes valued at Rs.57.02 lakh have been certified for sale through issue of Transaction Certificates to the operators. Major export-certified products included coconut, coconut oil, traditional paddy and sesame.

7.4.3 Activities:

- During 2026–2027, it is planned to register 1.26 lakh acres under the National

Programme on Organic Production (NPOP), Participatory Guarantee System (PGS - India Organic) and PGS-Natural Farming. It is also proposed to expand the area under organic and natural certification to 2.47 lakh acres in the next five years.

- In order to ensure the quality and reliability of certified organic produce, the government has allocated a fund of Rs.25.00 lakh for Pesticide residue analysis of organic produces. The average analysis fee required for analysis of one sample is Rs. 10,000/-. Since certified organic produce which are free of residues fetches higher prices through this test, the government is encouraging organic farming by providing 100% subsidy on the analysis fee and thus providing a way for farmers to increase their income.

- Last year, under the National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP), the registration fee for new farmers registering for organic certification was completely waived. However, organic farmers in the conversion period could not bear the financial burden of continuing organic farming. Therefore, in order to encourage farmers to continue practicing organic farming practices even during the transition period, from this year onwards, along with the registration fee waiver for new farmers registering, the renewal fee for farmers in the transition period will be completely waived and the organic "Scope Certificate" will be provided free of cost. This will increase the number of farmers registering under organic certification.
- To facilitate traceability and transparency, and to improve market linkages by

connecting certified natural and organic farmers with consumers, an integrated database containing data of farmers registered under the National Programme on Organic Production, PGS-India Organic and PGS-Natural Farming will be created at a cost of Rs. 20 lakh.

- In the current year, it is proposed to provide a special incentive of Rs.4,000/- per acre for 20,000 acres through the Department of Agriculture to farmers who have obtained organic certification. Along with this area, it is also proposed to certify 7,500 acres of fields registered by the Department of Agriculture and Horticulture under the Parampargat Krishi Vikas Yojana(PKVY) and 3,125 acres of fields newly registered under the National Mission on Natural Farming in the current year.

7.5. IT Initiatives:

The Department is harnessing the full potential of Information Technology to the maximum extent possible with the objective of making its systems more efficient, transparent, and citizen-centric. One of the key initiatives in this direction is the **SPECS (Seed Production Enforcement and Certification System)**, an in-house developed software application being used across all wings of the Department. Through SPECS, a wide range of departmental activities have been brought online, thereby facilitating streamlined processes, improved monitoring, transparency and efficient service delivery.

Further, following the introduction of the **SATHI (Seed Authentication Traceability and Holistic Inventory)** Portal by the Government of India, the Department has migrated its seed certification activities to the portal. Other integration activities are also under progress, with

the objective of ensuring seamless interoperability between the Department's systems and the national platform.

Further, as a pioneering initiative, the Department is developing a dedicated web portal called **VITHAI (Variety Identification Trial and Holistic Agricultural Interface)** for managing TFL (Truthfully Labelled) seeds of private seed companies. The New registration system incorporates online payment facilities. This will enable the registration-related activities of Private seed companies to be carried out in a transparent and efficient manner.

7.6. Staff Strength

The Department of Seed Certification and Organic Certification is functioning with a sanctioned strength of 345 technical staff and 500 ministerial staff.

Table 7.1: Details of Staff Strength

Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Position	Vacant
A. Technical Staff – Sanctioned Strength	345	339	6
Director of Seed Certification & Organic Certification	1	-	1
Joint Director of Seed Certification	1	1	-
Joint Director of Seed Inspection	1	1	-
Deputy Director of Seed Inspection	15	14	1
Quality Manager (Organic Certification)	1	1	
Assistant Director Seed Certification (Seed Analyst)	1	1	-
Assistant Director Seed Certification & Organic Certification	29	28	1
Evaluator (Organic Certification)	1	1	-
Seed Testing Officer	7	7	-
Seed Certification Officer	119	118	1
Seed Certification Officer & Organic Certification Inspector	26	26	-
Agricultural Officer	63	63	-
Seed Inspector	70	68	2
Organic Certification Inspector	10	10	-
B. Ministerial Staff – Sanctioned Strength	500	289	211
Total Staff Strength	845	628	217

8. Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA)

Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency was registered as a society in 2002, to improve the natural resources like land and water in the watershed area. Towards implementing various Watershed Development Projects in the State, a State Level Nodal Agency was established in the year 2009. This Agency acts as implementing Agency for two Major projects and State Level Nodal Agency for nine projects.

8.1. Major projects implemented by TAWDEVA:

- i. Watershed Development Component under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana 2.0 (WDC-PMKSY 2.0) - a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 60:40 sharing pattern
- ii. Climate Proofing of Rainfed Watersheds in Salem and Virudhunagar Districts of Tamil Nadu" under National Adaptation Fund for

Climate Change (NAFCC) – 100% grant scheme of Government of India.

8.1.1. Watershed Development Component under Pradhan Mantri

Krishi Sinchayee Yojana 2.0 :

This Project is implemented in seven Districts namely Perambalur, Thoothukudi, Dindigul, Krishnagiri, Ramanathapuram, Dharmapuri and Virudhunagar covering 1.66 lakh hectare under 34 projects in 357 watersheds for a five year period from 2021-22 with an allocation of Rs.368.66 crore by Government of India and executed by Tamil Nadu. So far 27 Projects have been completed and project period extended upto September 2026 for implementation of remaining Projects in all Districts except Perambalur where all Projects are completed. Under this project an amount of Rs.358.08 Crore has been financially sanctioned till August 2026 and works are under progress.

8.1.1.1. Objectives of the Project:

- i. **Economy** – Enhancing Crop Productivity and income of village community in the watersheds by integrated, sustainable, optimal and efficient use of water, land and other natural resources.
- ii. **Ecology** – Conservation, utilization and development of natural resources by building community organizations and promoting simple, affordable technologies and practices with the Watershed people and Groups.
- iii. **Equity** – Undertaking Agriculture activities by utilising upgraded land and water resources. Involving poor, landless, physically challenged and women of the project area with various community institutions and groups thereby improving the socio-economic conditions and ensuring equitable accessibility of land, water resources.

8.1.1.2. Institutional set up for Project implementation:

The Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency is acting as the State Level Nodal agency and implementing PMKSY WDC 2.0 at the State level. At District level, the District Watershed Development Agency constituted with technical experts from Agriculture and Agricultural Engineering Departments headed by the District Collector is responsible for implementation. At project level, Watershed Development Team is formed with members as Agronomist, Sociologist and Engineers for execution of field works. Works are being executed by Watershed Committees at village level as per GoI Guidelines.

8.1.1.3. Project Activities:

The scheme is being implemented with the following components:

Natural Resource Management Works:

Under this component, construction of Minor, Medium and Major Check dams, Gabion structures, Loose Boulder Check Dams, Percolation Ponds, Farm Ponds, Village Ponds, Desilting of Village Tanks and Supply Channels, Recharge Shafts, Rejuvenation of Wells, Sunken Ponds, Spring Storage Tanks, Sub-surface Dykes, Water Absorption Trenches are the works being carried out.

Farm Production Activities:

Under this component, Agro forestry, Horticultural Crops, Cultivation of Fodder, Flower Crops and Crop demonstrations, supply of Power Sprayer, Hand Sprayer, Battery Sprayer, Power Weeder, Chaff Cutter, Tarpaulin, Brush cutter and Vermicomposting are executed.

8.1.1.4. Spring shed Development

Government of India have sanctioned Spring shed Development Program to rejuvenate and develop springs located in hill area in Dharmapuri District. During the year 2023-24 under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana 2.0, Rs.14.00 Crore was sanctioned by GoI for the development of Springs in Pikkili and Sittilingi Hill clusters in Pennagaram and Harurblocks of Dharmapuri District. Springs located in Hilly areas support the local people, live stock, Agricultural operations. By rejuvenating and developing the springs, water need of the area can be adequately fulfilled. Additional Springs 9 nos. also have been sanctioned in the same project area at a cost of Rs.63 lakhs and a sum of Rs.12.91 crore have been released so far and works are under progress.

8.1.1.5. Achievements:

A sum of Rs.358.08 crore has been released so far. A total of 381 works have been implemented under Entry Point Activity, 8,741 works under Natural Resource Management, 11,716 ha covered under Farm Production System and 36,809 nos of other Production System works, 9,368 works have been executed under livelihood activities and 729 trainings, exposure visits were undertaken to Watershed Committee members, SHGs and individuals. The scheme will be continued till September 2026.

8.1.2."Climate Proofing of Rainfed Watersheds in Salem and Virudhunagar Districts of Tamil Nadu" under National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC)

This scheme is being implemented with grants provided by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of the Government of

India, with NABARD as the National implementing agency and Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency as the State implementing agency.

8.1.2.1. Objective of the project:

Adaptation to the impacts of climate change through effective soil and water conservation management, promoting crop diversification, enhancing the livelihoods to attain sustainable livelihoods and building the capacity of the community.

8.1.2.2. Project Components:

Entry point activities such as construction of drinking water storage tanks have been undertaken to meet out the essential requirement of the watershed people in order to establish a harmonious relationship with the villagers. Water and soil resource management activities such as construction of Check Dams, farm ponds, percolation ponds, Recharge Shafts, besides

promoting the livelihood through Micro and Small scale entrepreneurial activities such as vermicomposting and backyard poultry. Climate protection activities such as alternate cropping, climate-resilient crop varieties, afforestation in public and private lands, solar-powered water pumpsets, Bio-composting are also encouraged.

In Salem and Virudhunagar Districts the scheme is being implemented with an allocation of Rs.23.80 crore to cover 15,990 ha. in 4 years from 2019-20. Till 2022-2023, a sum of Rs.11.52 crore has been released and Rs.10.82 crore has been incurred as expenditure. Third instalment of Rs.12.26 crore has been received during 2026-27 from Government of India and works are under progress.

8.2. Projects implemented as Nodal Agency:

The Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency has been established as a Nodal agency for implementing the following nine schemes with

the financial assistance of the Government of India and in coordination with Government of India and various project implementing departments of the State Government.

These projects are approved by the Government of India every year since 2008 and are being implemented through various project implementation departments.

8.2.1. Seven Schemes implemented under the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY):

1. Detailed Project Reports (DPR) based projects
2. Rainfed Area Development (RAD)
3. Soil Health and Fertility (SHF)
4. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)
5. Agro Forestry (AF)
6. Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM) and
7. Per Drop More Crop (PDMC).

8.2.2. Two schemes implemented under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana:

1. Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP) and
2. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP).

In addition to developing watersheds, the Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency plays a significant role in ensuring coordination for the effective implementation of Union and State Governments' schemes.

**DEMAND 05 AGRICULTURE – FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT**

**ESTIMATE OF THE AMOUNTS REQUIRED FOR EXPENDITURE IN
2026 – 2027**

**REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATE 2026 – 2027
(Rs. in Thousands)**

	Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
DEMAND FOR GRANT - Voted	14,780,71,16	201,74,69	2,00,02	14,984,45,87
APPROPRIATION - Charged	14,88	---	---	14,88

Net Expenditure

(Rs. in Thousands)

HEAD OF ACCOUNT		2024 -2025	2025 – 2026	2026 – 2027	2026-2027
		Accounts	Revised Estimate	Interim Budget Estimate	Revised Budget Estimate
2059	PUBLIC WORKS	4,12,81	4,34,05	4,34,05	4,34,05
2401	CROP HUSBANDRY	10,964,14,13	11,587,75,33	13,950,85,41	13,341,73,25
2402	SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION	102,86,59	90,49,37	102,44,74	202,44,72
2408	FOOD STORAGE AND WAREHOUSING	---	50,35,02	50,35,02	50,35,01
2415	AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION	662,27,00	750,68,29	765,01,72	775,01,72
2435	OTHER AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMMES	253,20,49	287,14,72	299,47,89	325,97,95
2501	SPECIAL PROGRAMMES FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT	39,79,37	60,88,12	52,65,50	52,65,53
2551	HILL AREAS	41,85	59,74	1,25,87	1,25,87
2702	MINOR IRRIGATION	5,36,99	4,94,52	5,26,58	5,26,58

HEAD OF ACCOUNT		2024 -2025	2025 – 2026	2026 – 2027	2026-2027
		Accounts	Revised Estimate	Interim Budget Estimate	Revised Budget Estimate
2705	COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT	---	1	1	1
3054	ROADS AND BRIDGES	---	1	1	1
3451	SECRETARIAT – ECONOMIC SERVICES	18,30,18	20,59,09	21,81,35	21,81,34
4070	CAPITAL OUTLAY ON OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	---	---	6	6
4401	CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CROP HUSBANDRY	87,80,49	44,80,38	120,00,04	83,34,55
4402	CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION	3,96,66	1,38,22	18,22,37	55,82,84
4408	CAPITAL OUTLAY ON FOOD STORAGE AND WAREHOUSING	-2,55,00	---	---	---
4415	CAPITAL OUTLAY ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION	52,62,77	67,48,95	40,00,00	40,00,00
4435	CAPITAL OUTLAY ON OTHER AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMMES	25,18,37	16,57,91	14,89,26	22,57,24
6401	LOANS FOR CROP HUSBANDRY	120,00,00	115,00,00	1	1
6425	LOANS FOR COOPERATION	109,70,41	142,29,00	---	---
6435	LOANS FOR OTHER AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMMES	12,68,47	1	1	1
7610	LOANS TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS ETC.,	2,18,32	1,80,00	2,00,00	2,00,00

DEMAND 05 AGRICULTURE - FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT

REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATE 2026-2027

Rupees in Thousands (Gross)

Sl. No	Head of Department			Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
1.	005 01	Agriculture – Farmer's Welfare Department - Secretariat	Voted	21,81,34	6	2,00,00	23,81,40
2.	005 02	Directorate of Agriculture	Voted	11,029,80,31	83,34,55	1	11,113,14,87
3.	005 03	Directorate of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business	Voted	300,11,53	22,57,24	1	322,68,78
4.	005 04	Directorate of Seed Certification	Voted	78,41,43	---	---	78,41,43
5.	005 05	Directorate of Horticulture and Plantation Crops	Charged	2,85	---	---	2,85
			Voted	1,739,72,34	37,60,47	---	1,777,32,81
6.	005 06	Agricultural Engineering Department	Charged	12,03	---	---	12,03
			Voted	604,98,97	18,22,37	---	623,21,34
7.	005 07	Agro Engineering Services	Voted	46,21	---	---	46,21
8.	005 08	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	Voted	741,79,28	40,00,00	---	781,79,28
9.	005 09	Directorate of Organic Certification	Voted	1,85,75	---	---	1,85,75
10.	005 10	Directorate of Sugar	Voted	261,74,00	---	---	261,74,00
Total			Charged	14,88	---	---	14,88
			Voted	14,780,71,16	201,74,69	2,00,02	14,984,45,87

Conclusion

**“நீர்விழாக் கொளவளர்ந்த நிலமெல்லாந் தம்முடைய,
சீர்விழாக் கொளவிளக்குந் திருவிழாப் பெருக்காளர்,
ஏர்விழாக் கொளினன்றி யெறுழ்க்கரிதேர் மாப்படையாற்,
போர்விழாக் கொளமாட்டார் போர்வேந்த ரானோரே”**

(ஏரெழுபது)

“Agriculture is the foundation of the nation; the farmers labour is the evidence for the king’s governance and military strength.” As per the saying of the eminent Tamil poet Kambar that, farmers and people can prosper by resorting to agriculture, the Agriculture -Farmers’ Welfare Department, under the surpassing guidance of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, who is deeply committed to the welfare and advancement of the farming community, will work with utmost dedication and determination to ensure that the plethora of schemes announced in the Agriculture Budget, 2026-27 reaches the

farmers and contributes to their continued progress and prosperity.

Government of Tamil Nadu, through the Agriculture – Farmers Welfare Department is determined to implement special schemes comprising various agricultural initiatives such as expansion of area under cultivation, increasing crop productivity, soil health management, distribution of certified seeds, irrigation water management, providing three-phase electricity, use of high-yielding varieties and hybrids, crop diversification, food and nutritional security, encouraging organic and natural farming practices, Integrated Crop Management, micro-irrigation, encouraging agroforestry, farm mechanisation, value addition and food processing.

The present Government strives to improve the livelihood of farmers by continuing with presenting an exclusive Agriculture Budget in

Tamil Nadu through the Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Department. The Government of Tamil Nadu which is steadfast and committed in safeguarding the welfare of farmers and assuring food security to the people through agricultural production will work to transform the farmers as **“Vetri Vivasayigal”**.

The Government also remains resolute in protecting farmers against the uncertainties arising from natural calamities and climate-related risks by providing them with crop insurance compensation. Further, all out efforts will be taken to provide relief assistance immediately to affected farmers for the crop loss incurred at the time of natural disasters.

**“குடிபுறங் காத்தோம்பிக் குற்றம் கடிதல்
வடுவன்று வேந்தன் தொழில்”**

-திருக்குறள் 549

As eloquently expressed by the poet Thiruvalluvar "It is the foremost duty of a ruler to protect the people, eradicate injustice, uphold righteousness, and ensure good governance through impartial administration." Guided by these enduring principles of good governance and inspired by the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the Government of Tamil Nadu will implement all the special schemes announced in the Agriculture Budget, 2026-27 earnestly.

R. Vinoth
Minister for Agriculture – Farmers
Welfare



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. C. Joseph Vijay,
chaired the meeting to review the schemes and activities of the
Agriculture – Farmers Welfare Department on 16.07.2026.



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. C. Joseph Vijay, presented "Nammazhvar Award" to the best Organic Farmers for the year 2025 - 2026, on behalf of the Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Department, on 27.08.2026, at Secretariat.



A consultative meeting for the preparation of Agriculture Budget for the year 2026-27 was held on 02.07.2026, at Salem in District Collector's office and was presided over by **the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Thiru. R. Vinoth. The Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms, Textiles and Khadi Thiru M. Vijay Balaji and the Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes Welfare Thiru V. Sampath Kumar** participated.

Members of Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly, the Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Salem District collector, Heads of all Departments under the Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Department, officials, farmers and representatives of farmers associations also participated in the meeting.



A consultative meeting for the preparation of Agriculture Budget for 2026-27, covering eight districts of Tamil Nadu was held on 09.07.2026 at Vellore in District Collector's office. The meeting was presided over by the **Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture - Farmers Welfare, Thiru R. Vinoth** and in the presence of the **Hon'ble Minister for Human Resources Management, Thiru D. Sarathkumar**. Members of Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly, the Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Vellore District Collector, Heads of all Departments under the Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Department, officials, farmers and representatives of farmers associations also participated in the meeting.



Under the able guidance of **the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. C. Joseph Vijay**, **the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture - Farmers Welfare, Thiru R. Vinoth**, presented the Agriculture Budget for the year 2026-2027 in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 06.08.2026.



In Salem District, field inspections in Groundnut fields affected by insufficient rainfall were carried out jointly by officials of the Agriculture Department and KVK scientists. Farmers have been advised to undertake foliar application of PPFM (Pink Pigmented Facultative Methyloph) solution to mitigate crop withering caused by moisture stress and sustain crop growth under prevailing moisture-deficit conditions.



National Horticulture Mission - Area Expansion -
Tuberose - Subsidy Rs.1 lakh/Ha-Ariyalur District



National Horticulture Mission - Polyhouse-
Subsidy - Rs. 600/Sq.mt - Krishnagiri District



National Horticulture Mission - Small Scale Mushroom Production Unit -
Subsidy Rs.1 lakh/Unit - The Nilgiris District



National Horticulture Mission – Permanent
Vermi-compost Unit – Subsidy Rs.50,000/Unit –
Nagapattinam District



National Horticulture Mission –
Cold Storage Unit – Subsidy Rs. 3,360/MT-
Krishnagiri District



PMRKVY- DPR based Projects – Permanent Pandal System –
Subsidy - Rs. 3 lakh / Ha



Palmyrah Protection Mission-
Palm Leaf Value-Addition Training



Government Botanical Garden, Ooty



Sim's Park, Coonoor



Government Rose Garden, Ooty



Regulated Market, Ammor
Vellore District



Ragi flour processing at Gamma Irradiation Unit,
Pochampalli, Krishnagiri district



The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture – Farmers Welfare, Thiru. R. Vinoth, visited the 114-year-old Rice Breeding Station located at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in Coimbatore on 10.06.2026.



The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture – Farmers Welfare, Thiru. R. Vinoth, inspected the drone operation facility at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University on 10.06.2026.



ADT 61, a new ultra-fine-grain rice variety developed and released by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.



The Assistant Director of Seed Certification, Tiruvallur, conducted an inspection at a Breeder seed production field along with the Breeder Seed Monitoring Committee members.



The Seed Testing Officer, Thanjavur, conducting germination test at the Seed Testing Laboratory.



The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture - Farmers Welfare, Thiru. R. Vinoth, inaugurated the Special Crushing Season of the Kallakurichi-1 Cooperative Sugar Mill, Moongilthuraipattu, Kallakurichi District.



The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture - Farmers Welfare, Thiru. R. Vinoth and the Hon'ble Minister for Minorities Welfare, Thiru. A. M. Shahjahan viewing the Agricultural machinery displayed during the Farmers' Consultative Meeting held at Thanjavur on 03.07.2026.



The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture - Farmers Welfare, Thiru. R. Vinoth, viewing the Agricultural machinery displayed during the Farmers' Consultative Meeting held at Tirunelveli on 11.07.2026.

