

GOVERNMENT POLICY ON WOMEN UPLIFTMENT IN TAMILNADU**Dr.P.MANGAYARKARASI, Ph.D. (History)****No:17, Whispering Meadows,
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ABSTRACT

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been successfully executing a State Policy for women that manages the formative approaches all things considered and areas which help to take out sex holes and empower women to increase evenhanded access to assets, dynamic and improved personal satisfaction. The requirement for putting forth uncommon attempts for improving parcel of women and along these lines raising the social and financial status of the country. So as to advance the government assistance of poor and penniless women, the State built up a Women's Welfare Department through which the Government measures could arrive at the helpless women. The Tamil Nadu Government has actualized numerous government assistance plans. Numerous projects were structured and actualized. The "Mahalir Thittam", is executed with the help of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Banks and is working through a system of Women Self Help Groups (SHGs), set up and checked with the help of NGOs. The task additionally gets ready for the development of SHG development so as to advance manageability joined with extending of inclusion in urban zones. Mahalir Thittam is a financial strengthening program for women executed by Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited. Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women was first comprised in the year 1993. Women' work is one of the most significant markers of the general improvement of a nation. Both the State and Central Government have enthusiasm for the government assistance of the women. With the beginning of freedom this demeanor of the Government has taken another shape and Social Welfare Programs are

accepting increasingly more consideration in the Five Year Plans. It brought into being a different division to advance Women's Welfare. Tamil Nadu has had its own social, monetary and political conditions separated from worldwide and national patterns for settling on strategy choices in enabling women, Non-Governmental Organizations have assumed a significant job in executing the strategies comparable to women' strengthening.

KEY WORDS

Government - Tamil Nadu – implementing - State Policy - Women's Welfare – Gramasevikas - Mahalir Thittam – Entrepreneurial - Madhar Sanghams - Cradle Baby Scheme - Co-operative Banks - Development Project - Self Help Group.

Introduction:

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been viably actualizing a State Policy for women that controls the formative arrangements all things considered and divisions which help to dispose of sexual orientation holes and empower women to increase fair access to assets, dynamic and improved personal satisfaction. Women's Upliftment in Tamil Nadu which is a term special to this state and nation. It isn't a piece of the Welfare state idea, yet it alludes to exhaustive projects. In Tamil Nadu, the expression "Women's Upliftment " has come to be utilized to allude to a progression of adhoc exercises planned for furnishing women with social, social and recreational luxuries to the degree that the restricted assets that have been designated to them permit.¹ The requirement for putting forth extraordinary attempts for improving part of women and in this manner raising the social and financial status of the country. So as to advance the government assistance of poor and destitute women, the State built up a Women's Welfare Department through which the Government measures could arrive at the helpless women.

New Schemes of Tamil Nadu Government:

The Tamil Nadu Government has executed numerous government assistance schemes. Numerous projects were structured and actualized. Coming up next are a portion of the projects actualized in Tamil Nadu. They are: Welfare Programs for handicapped, Women Maternity Scheme, Free Midday Meals, Free Nutritious Food Program, Free Uniform for School Children, Poor Women Marriage Scheme and Self Help Groups. These projects were observed by the Government every now and then and made changes as indicated by the conditions.² In 1980, the Social Welfare Department was given the duty of Nutrition venture and in 1982 it was endowed with the usage of Nutrition Meal Program. The Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project which was begun in 1980 gives nutritious eating regimen to pregnant and supporting women and children under five years. The Department of Social Defense under the Government of Tamil Nadu is depended with undertaking of offering types of assistance for the advancement of children saw as in troublesome conditions and the girls and women requiring care, treatment and restoration.

In 1984, a Book Scheme was begun to give Textbooks to the students at the essential level. Helpless school children were secured under this free appropriation conspires.³ Free notebooks and slates were appropriated in 1985 in the age gathering of 1 to 3. The free dissemination of outfits to the school children additionally included this plan. Free transport passes were offered to the school children. With the help of Government of India, a program of Applied Nutrition has been begun in the Rural Extension Training Centre's. The significant exercises under this plan are creation and advancement of more prominent utilization of defensive nourishments like milk, fish, eggs and vegetables by numerable gatherings like children and pregnant and nursing mothers. The Gramasevikas and Mukhyasevikas, the conveners of Madhar Sanghams and the Balasevikas of Pre-Schools take dynamic part in

clarifying the significance and advantages of the plan to the village women, helping the pregnant and nursing mothers.

In December, 1983, the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited was made to advance the improvement of women in fields like instruction, family government assistance, business and so on. The Mahalir Thittam – a venture to socially and financially improve helpless women in organization with NGO's and banks, Various Vocational Training Programs are led, to build up the Entrepreneurial expertise of women.⁴ The Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited additionally has set up mechanical units all alone with the fundamental goal of giving preparing to women and to make them actually skillful for better possibilities. To help people just as gatherings of women, the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited has numerous independent work schemes in the fields of creature farming, town and cabin businesses, handlooms, agribusiness and partnered exercises. It aides and helps women business visionaries in choice of practical undertakings, planning of task reports, getting money related help from banks and different foundations and getting different licenses or clearances from Government Departments and Organizations and so forth.

In conclusion, they additionally make Women's Recreation Center's for provincial women to unwind and trade thoughts. The Tamil Nadu Government Girl Child Protection Scheme has been propelled in 1997 during the time of Honorable Chief Minister Mr.M. Karunanidhi after the presentation of Cradle Baby Scheme in 1992.⁵ These schemes were propelled with the point of advancing family arranging, debilitating the propensity to lean toward male children, destroying female child murder and to advance the instruction of young lady offspring of helpless families. Aside from these, the Tamil Nadu Government additionally gives monetary assistance to the helpless women during their marriage,

restriction and after conveyance. It likewise declared financial help to the helpless women rancher in the provincial regions.

Mahalir Thittam:

The "Mahalir Thittam", is executed with the help of Non-Governmental Organizations) and Banks and is working through a system of Women Self Help Groups, set up and checked with the help of NGOs. The venture likewise anticipates the development of SHG development so as to advance maintainability joined with extending of inclusion in urban zones.⁶ Aside from business banks, the Self Help Groups open financial balances in Primary Agricultural Co-employable Banks and benefit advances according to the standards set somewhere near the Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project and Swarna Jayanthi Gram Swaarozgar Yojana Scheme executed by the Rural Development Department have been joined for Rural Self Help Groups and regular rules and standards have been embraced. Thus, in regard of Self Help Groups in urban territories, Swarna Jayanthi Shehari Rozgar Yojana and Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project are being worked in a merged way.

Socio-Economic Empowerment:

Mahalir Thittam is a Socio-economic strengthening program for women actualized by Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited. Mahalir Thittam depends on Self Help Group approach and is actualized in association with Non Governmental Organizations and Community based associations. The Self Help Groups approach was begun in a little manner in Dharmapuri area in the year 1989 with the help of International Fund for Agricultural Development.⁷ Later the plan was stretched out to the recent Salem and South Arcot Districts in the year 1991-1992 and further reached out to Madurai and Ramanathapuram in the year 1992-1993. Following the achievement of IFAD venture, Mahalir Thittam Project was propelled with State Government financing from 1997-1998 and it was continuously presented in all areas of the State.

Vision of Mahalir Thittam:

The vision of Mahalir Thittam of Tamil Nadu Women Development Corporation incorporates social strengthening, monetary strengthening and limit building. Under Mahalir Thittam, the Self Help Groups have now become an extremely energetic development and it was spread over all locale of the State. Advancement of self improvement gatherings become the new undertaking. Endeavors were made, To fabricate limit of hindered women all together that they were empowered to cross all social and financial hindrances and along these lines encouraged their full improvement into strengthening residents, To accomplish the balance of status of women they advanced the vote based, monetary, social and social circles of life and To advance and guarantee the human privileges of women at all phases of their life.⁸ The Tamil Nadu Corporation of Women with its home office at Chennai executed the Mahalir Thittam Project. The Project began from 1996-1997 onwards in a staged way. For execution of Mahalir Thittam (Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project), region workplaces were built up in the course of the most recent quite a long while.

The locale levels are going by a Project Officer helped by six Assistant Project Officers in the practical regions of preparing and correspondence, checking, schemes, showcasing, organization and credit. The all-inclusive Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project will cover the whole territory of Tamil Nadu in a staged way. The prompt objective of Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women is to guarantee all the helpless women especially widows, dejected and crippled people for their government assistance.⁹ Improvement in expectations for everyday comforts of poor country family units and strengthening of women are the expansive goals of this undertaking. This will be through a system of Women's Self Help Groups shaped with the assistance of recognized and reasonable Non-Governmental Organizations. The mind-boggling achievement of the IFAD Project cleared path for the now famously called "Mahalir Thittam" venture.

A G.O. was passed at 1997 by the Government and it gave requests to expand and cover the Tamil Nadu Women Development Project (Mahalir Thittam) in the whole territory of Tamil Nadu in a staged way. During 1996-1997 an entirety of Rs.2.40 crores has been endorsed for the venture to be canvassed in the accompanying 14 locale of Tamil Nadu in particular, Villupuram, Dharmapuri (Krishnagiri), Namakkal, Cuddalore, Ramanathapuram, Madurai, Theni, Karur, Virudhunagar, Salem, Tiruvarur, Thoothukudi, Vellore and Tiruvallur regions for helping one lakh rustic women recipients during 1997-1998 at an expected expense of Rs.1159.41 lakhs.¹⁰ During 1998-1999, because of incredible interest it was stretched out to Tirunelveli, Tiruvannamalai, Erode, Pudukottai, Sivagangai, Nilgiris and Tiruchirapalli regions. In 1999-2000 the plan was additionally reached out to the regions of Kanyakumari, Coimbatore, Dindigul, Kancheepuram, Perambalur (Ariyalur), Thanjavur and Nagapattinam. At last, it was stretched out to Chennai in the year 2001-2002 to cover the whole state.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has stretched out this program to village panchayats and urban regions. Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women actualizes Mahalir Thittam in association with NGOs. The principle objective was to consolidate the wide assets accessible to the state, with the responsibility and quality work of the NGOs. NGOs are another significant unit that demonstrated nature of work and responsibility to this venture at the grass root level. They help to shape gatherings and work persistently with the gatherings to make them solid, firm and manageable.¹¹ They fill in as counsel and facilitator to the gatherings on different issues, for example, social, financial and network activity programs.

Impact of Mahalir Thittam:

Mahalir Thittam has efficiently developed the Self Help Groups development and reinforced their ability through different preparing programs which has brought about noticeable change in the societal position of women when all is said in done and provincial

women specifically. The Self Help Groups development has achieved the accompanying credits are: Increased self-assurance and relational abilities among Self Help Groups women, Greater mindfulness and cooperation of helpless women in different government assistance schemes of the Government, Self Help Groups women embrace diverse financial exercises prompting monetary strengthening, Women have joined breaking the social boundaries of standing, statement of faith and religion, Participation in Gram Sabha and Panchayat Raj exercises and Formation of youth bunches energized by accomplishment of women Self Help Group's. The Tamil Nadu Government has executed the above schemes which have gone far in the turn of events and strengthening of women.¹²

Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women:

Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women was first established in the year 1993. A G.O. was spent in this year 1993. The fundamental target of the Commission is to shield the government assistance of women taking care of general issues identifying with the status of women and to make proposals to the Government for appropriate activity. The Government after cautious thought has chosen to set up a State Level Commission for Women called, 'The Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women'.

The exercises of the Commission are as per the investigate and analyze all issues identifying with the protections given to women under the Constitution and different laws, Present to the State Government every year and at such different occasions as the Commission may regard fit, reports upon the working of these shields and make in such reports proposals for the compelling usage of those shields for improving the states of women and Review, occasionally, the current arrangements of the constitution and different laws influencing women and it prescribe alterations to recommend healing measures.¹³ The Commission gets petitions from women who become survivors of treachery. These petitions are promptly sent to the concerned specialists with a solicitation to lead an exhaustive

enquiry and to bring the guilty parties and to give insurance and alleviation to the people in question and to guarantee equity to them. Numerous women have gotten help and redressal through the intercession of the Commission.

Women and Employment:

Women's work is one of the most significant markers of the general advancement of a nation. Women are likewise utilized in enormous numbers in manors, production lines and plants. A Women's Vocational Training Program was propelled in 1977 under the Director General of Employment and Training.¹⁴ The Program targets improving employability of women in compensation or independent work through ability preparing and advancement. In the Central Sector, One National and Ten Regional Vocational Training Institutes have been set up in various pieces of the nation. These establishments sort out customary aptitudes and professional instructional classes at fundamental, progressed and post propelled levels for women who have passed tenth or twelfth norm and qualify the predetermined qualification conditions set down for different courses.¹⁵ In the State Sector, a system of select Women Industrial Training Institutes has been set up under the managerial control of the State Governments. These establishments give fundamental aptitude preparing to women.

A few Women's Co-usable Societies were set up. Instructional classes for women were sorted out in fish preparing, protections and so forth. The Khadi and Village Industries division took up measures to build work open doors for women in a joint effort with State level Agencies. The above program causes women to do their business or industry without anyone else. Women's Development Corporations' is a focal plan, propelled in 1986-1987. The target of the plan is to give better business roads to women with the goal that they can turn out to be monetarily autonomous and confident. The Women's Development Corporations are relied upon to fill in as synergist operators to make supported pay creating exercises for women.¹⁶

Government's Role in Women's Upliftment:

Both the State and Central Government have enthusiasm for the government assistance of the women. With the beginning of autonomy this mentality of the Government has taken another shape and Social Welfare Programs are accepting increasingly more consideration in the Five Year Plans.¹⁷ The First Five Year Plan made a modest start with this significant program, with a cost of four crores. In the Second Plan, arrangement was expanded to nineteen crores. In the Third Five Year Plan, the distribution was thirty one crores including a measure of three crores accommodated Child Welfare Program. Out of this, nineteen crores were in the Central Sector and twelve crores in the State Sector. In the Fourth Five Year Plan, a measure of fifty crores has been reserved for Social Welfare Program.¹⁸ In that sum, thirteen crores have been accommodated Central Social Welfare Board Programs, one crore for grown-up training and almost three crores for sustenance program for the offspring of 0-3 age groups. The significant thing to be noted isn't the measure of cash reserved for Social Welfare Programs in the Five Year Plans however the physiological change that has been achieved among the social specialists and the network on the loose.

Women's Welfare Department:

The Madras State was one of the first to cut new ground in this circle. It brought into being a different division to advance Women's Welfare. This division had numerous incredible associations and it established the frameworks in 1941. A band of deliberate specialists had composed themselves to teach the laywomen in air-attack precautionary measures. In 1941 a different office to advance Women's government assistance was made known as Indian Women's Welfare and the association was then known as the "Indian Women's Civic Corps".¹⁹ In the Government Order 2547, first read over, the name of the recent "Indian Women's Civil Corps", was changed as "Department of Women's Welfare". It

was begun in the Madras city in the principal occasion, yet later, branches were likewise settled. In 1947 it was renamed as the Department of Women's Welfare.

The Area Organizers and Assistant Commandants of "the Corps" were additionally assigned as "Aide Women's Welfare Officers". They are currently liable for the usage of the Women's Program. The various organizations managing the Women's Program, have since been coordinated and the set-up of the Women's Welfare Department has additionally been re-composed. The State Social Welfare Board has recommended that the Assistant Women's Welfare Officers may now be re-assigned as "Women's Welfare Officers". The Director of Women's Welfare has in like manner submitted recommendations that the posts of Assistant Women's Welfare Officers might be re-assigned as "Women's Welfare Officers". The Government has thought about the proposition of the Director of Women's Welfare.²⁰ They coordinated that the posts of Assistant Women's Welfare Officers of the Women's Welfare Department in the regions be re-assigned as District Women's Welfare Officers with quick impact. This division planned for improving the monetary and social condition of women.

Conclusion:

Tamil Nadu has had its own social, financial and political conditions separated from worldwide and national patterns for settling on strategy choices in enabling women, Non-Governmental Organizations have assumed a significant job in executing the arrangements according to Women's strengthening. Strengthening of women is a level result of different factors, for example, singular endeavors, social demeanor, State's drive and crafted by non-administrative associations. Both custom and innovation have verifiably assumed a critical job in choosing the status of women in Tamil Nadu. Worldwide and National Policy choices have had comparing sway on the strategy choices of the state government. In spite of the measures, gave by these willful associations, the women in Tamil Nadu are battling still for their financial status. Additionally all the deliberate associations, focus on the monetary

upliftment of women and not for expelling the conventional thoughts of women in the general public. Hence it made ready for the legislature shaped by the ideological groups, which alone can accomplish something useful for women.

END NOTES

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